

LAND PARK NEWS

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Land Park man's best friend is Rosebud the Bulldog

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Del Rio trail up for sale

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CKM Athletic Director Rob Feickert is a humble man

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Over the Fence



with Greg Brown greg@valcomnews.com

Rail To Trail in South Land Park

The Del Rio Trail in South Land Park sounds like something John Wayne would have rode a Stagecoach through in one of those old movie Westerns. "Alright, pilgrim. I'll meet you on the Del Rio Trail."

The natural trail has primarily been used by locals as a 4-mile public walking trail. One spot along the trail is nicknamed the "Secret Glorious Place" by a local Waldorf pre-school teacher.

The sights and sounds of birds and bees are everywhere. California poppies and wildflowers blooming throughout the trail. There's also a strong scent of springtime in Sacramento along the trail.

There's a "No Trespassing" sign that everybody ignores

and some janky gates that don't keep anybody out. The trail is lined with backyard fences along the way.

The Del Rio Trail is owned by Regional Transit. They bought it back in the 80s as surplus property thinking one day they'd run the Blue Line through there. These days they have no use for it.

It's now up for sale. I saw the new For Sale sign staked on the corner of San Mateo and Riverside.

The State Parks and Recreation Commission was proposing an excursion train full of tourists chugging through the four mile stretch of the Del Rio Trail on its way to Pocket Road from Old Sacramento. There would be a stop in between at the Sacramento Zoo. Once the neighborhood learned about it they mobilized and expressed vocal opposition to the train traffic traveling through their quiet neighborhood.

It worked. State Parks backed down and agreed to remove the

four-mile neighborhood section from its general plan and a revised plan was adopted last May. The State Parks and Recreation Commission approved the train stations at the Sacramento Zoo and at Pocket Road.

This raises a question as to how will the trains travel from Old Sacramento to Pocket Road without using the South Land Park tracks?

Could there be a round two battle brewing over the tourist trains?

Hopefully, not. Although, there are still concerns from local residents.

A group of neighbors have joined together with the leadership of the South Land Park Neighborhood Association and the City Of Sacramento. They call themselves the South Land Park Trail and Greenbelt Committee. The committee includes residents from South Land Park Hills, South Land Park Terrace, and local high school students. They are cre-

See Over the Fence, page 8

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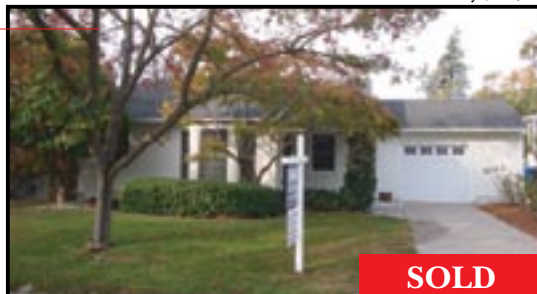
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Photos by James Bahn
 Shown here are beautiful images that you can see in person on May 2 at the Land Park Garden and Tea.

Land Park Garden and Tea tour set for May 2

The Land Park Garden Tour & Tea is just around the corner! Join the Holy Spirit community on Saturday May 2 to tour seven unique Land Park gardens, enjoy a delicious English tea luncheon or shop for that one-of-a-kind gift at the Fine Arts Festival from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Land Park News is thankful to the organizers and volunteers who provided the following garden descriptions. To purchase tickets, visit: <http://www.hs-ps.com/>

Susan Granzella: 3882 West Land Park Dr.

With a stunning front-view of Land Park, this 1940s cottage home provides its homeowner with a perfect place for retirement. The flagstone walkway to the front of the house is closely monitored by three white

birch trees and immaculate perennial and annual plantings. The backyard is surprisingly private, and includes large, mature, orange, grapefruit, fig and pomegranate trees. The space includes banana leaf, Japanese maple, and palm trees, and white roses bloom in the spring. The swimming pool and spa take center stage, along with a canopied barbecue and dining area. The smell of jasmine and sound of a waterfall make this space a perfect retreat for family and friends. Asked to describe how her garden got to be featured at this year's event, Susan said, "I've done nothing, as I just bought the house last year. A very nice young woman from the Land Park Committee came to the door last December and

See Garden Tour, page 5



Garden Tour:

Continued from page 4

said she had heard from the neighbors that I had a beautiful backyard. Apparently she agreed." Susan looks forward to supporting the art and music programs at Holy Spirit, of course, "and to get my backyard in great shape for the summer."

Katie and David Lesh: 2772 18th St.

This unique property greets guests with a meticulously designed Japanese garden in front of this 1935 Tudor style home. From hand-picked moss rocks to the graceful, Laceleaf Maple and masculine Pines, each element has been purposefully selected and placed in its position to create an authentic, traditional Japanese landscape. Making your way up the paver-lined driveway, you will find the Asian theme continues in the backyard, which hosts several custom elements, designed by the homeowners. Sliding French doors lead out to a redwood deck with integrated planter and lattice panels. A rock path leads to a disappearing fountain made of bamboo and moss rock. The hand-carved, stone Kasuga-style lantern, a family heirloom, stands tall over a blanket of bright green moss. Azaleas and Junipers compliment the various Japanese Maples and shrubs, creating a Zen composition that feels balanced and peaceful. The homeowners have spent the last four years, working in the gardens and lovingly restoring the interior of

the home, which was originally purchased by their grandparents who emigrated from Japan in 1960. Inspired by the family's heritage and relying on the passion and expertise of Morisawa Landscape, the result is truly unique to the Land Park area.

Lindsay & Mike Stovall: 1624 7th Ave.

What does a small patch of grass, a brick patio, and pool make? A cozy outdoor getaway! The recently finished sunroom at the back of this Land Park home makes the transition to the covered patio a seamless move from inside to outside. After dinner on the patio, grab an apple or two on your way to the swimming pool, and admire the blossoming crepe myrtles. Roses, boxwood, and annual plantings line the house and detached garage.

Amanda and Paul Bauer: 3773 College Ave.

New homeowners on this lovely corner lot have started to make this space their own. In this colorful space, everything blooms! From roses to bird of paradise, dogwood to camellias, and citrus to iris, the lush and shady landscape brings joy year-round. Don't miss the pond and waterfall, home to visiting birds and frogs. The large sunroom with floor to ceiling windows provide the perfect lookout morning, noon, and night over this private oasis.

Name and address withdrawn by request of homeowner

This expansive lot will impress you! As you enter the garden through a decorative gate built two years ago by J&R Construction, you pass under a giant ginkgo which shades a group of camellias



on Van De Kerckhove. The walkways are Connecticut Bluestone. A peaceful friendly atmosphere of the garden has reigned throughout the evolution of the space and continues to be its most important goal.

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South Land Park resident speaks about his Swiss heritage, lengthy career

By LANCE ARMSTRONG
Lance@valcomnews.com

Swiss immigrant Ferdinand Morant is a man who knows sausages.

This point is certainly difficult and actually useless to argue, considering that Ferdinand, 92, has been making sausages for the majority of his life.

Although retired from his longtime career in that field for nearly a half-century, Ferdinand continues to make sausages in his home for his own, noncommercial enjoyment.

His post-career sausage making is common enough that it was only a slight coincidence that he had made some sausages only a few days prior to meeting with this publication last week.

During his interview with this paper, Ferdinand shared details about his life, including his entry into the United States as a sausage maker.

When asked about how he began that career, Ferdinand said, "Actually, the whole thing started in Switzerland. That's why I came over here."

Ferdinand followed that statement by present-

ing some of his memories about his life growing up in the town of Hasum, which is located a short distance from the larger town of Hauptwil (now Hauptwil-Gottshaus) in the Swiss canton of Thurgau.

"I lived in Hasum," Ferdinand said. "Hasum is a little town that (then) only had about maybe six houses on it in the neighborhood."

"Then there were about two farmers that had houses and barns around there. All the farmers surrounding in the neighborhood brought the milk to us, and we made cheese. My father (who was also named Ferdinand) had a cheese factory there. That's where I grew up. That's why I like cheese."

In addition to his father, who is no longer mentioned in this article to avoid confusion, Ferdinand had a mother named Maria (aka Marie), and three siblings, Margaret, Paul and Pius.

Ferdinand, who during his youth enjoyed practicing gymnastics as a Turn Verein member, playing with a model train and shooting rifles and revolvers, mentioned that a turning point in his life occurred in 1939.

"The cow has milk seven days, so you worked seven days a week," Ferdinand said. "That's what really got to me. I had to help. I got out of school in 1939 and then already World War II started and it was tough. I had to help at home. Our helper had to go to military duty. We had three boys and the other two boys were in France in college. Before they closed the border, they wanted to ship them home. They came back and so the two college kids, they didn't want to work. They were fighting all the time, so I had to do all the work."

"In 1939, I got sick. I had meningitis, and then after the doctor, I had to go home. Then I said, 'I don't want to be a cheese maker and work seven days a week.' I wanted to become a sausage maker. I would go (to work for) six days, but not seven days. So, I got healthy and about a month later, I was in (a sausage making) apprenticeship."

In describing that apprenticeship, which began in February 1940, Ferdinand said that he gained extensive knowledge about meat processing.

Ferdinand also recalled that during that time, he

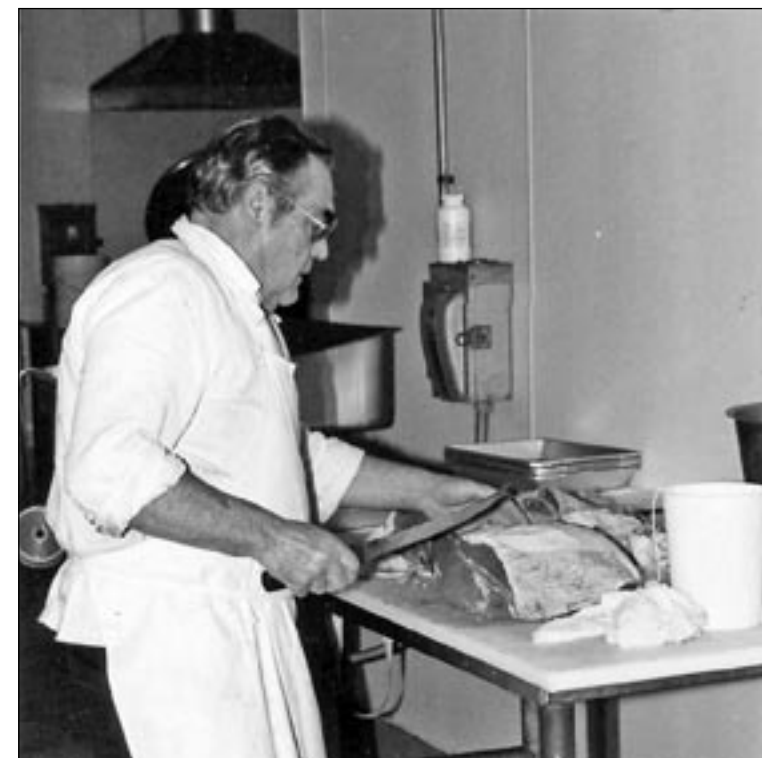


Photo courtesy of Ferdinand Morant

South Land Park resident Ferdinand Morant prepares to cut meat at Morant's Old Fashioned Sausage Kitchen, which he owned from 1980 to 1989.

would attend a professional school each week in Olten, Switzerland.

"One day a week, every week, I had to go (to school) at 8 o'clock in the morning to 4 or 5 o'clock in the afternoon," Ferdinand said. "There is where I learned the basics of the business."

In 1943, at the end of his apprenticeship, Ferdinand took a two-day examination, which included making about 30 pounds of garlic sausage.

After being asked how he fared in that examination, Ferdinand said, "Oh, I got a silver (first place) medal. I was very proud of it, because it was from the Metzgermeister-Verband (butchers' association)."

Following his apprenticeship and examination, Ferdinand worked at various sausage factories and a store in Switzerland at different times.

During that part of his life, Ferdinand dedicated

time to the Swiss army, as well as to learning French in the French speaking portion of Switzerland.

In recalling his decision to immigrate to America, Ferdinand said, "One day, Mrs. Gysin, a woman, a customer said, 'Oh, I got an uncle in the United States who has a butchers' business, too.' And I said to her, 'I wouldn't mind to go for a year to the United States.' So, she said, 'I'm going to write to (Swiss native Jacob "Jake") Gysin (1876-1953) in Alturas (Calif.). He was already 74 and his son, Walter, was running the business.'"

Ferdinand said that in a response to that letter, Jake wrote, "That would be good, because we need some help."

Unfortunately, Jake's wife, Nina, would not sign the affidavit recommending that

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Morants:

Continued from page 6

Ferdinand work at the Alturas factory.

Ferdinand explained that situation, saying, "The reason (Nina would not sign the paper) was because she sent money to a nephew in Switzerland to come over here and he never came. She said, 'I'm not going to do that no more.'"

Although he was discouraged by that response, Ferdinand decided to take a gamble and show how serious he was to work for the Gysins.

A day after learning about Nina's response, Ferdinand went to the Canadian consulate in Bern and obtained a visa to go to Canada, with the intention of making his way to Alturas. He arrived in Quebec in October 1951.

After traveling to Montreal, Ferdinand worked for a short time as a butcher before taking a job as a dishwasher.

In the meantime, he corresponded with the Gysins, who later signed the approval papers recommending that Ferdinand work in the United States.

After working for the Gysins from March through October 1952, Ferdinand returned to his native land, where he married Betty Baumann on Oct. 11, 1952. And together they made their way to Alturas.

While working in Alturas, Ferdinand was recruited to work at the well established butcher's shop, Clauss & Kraus, at 1700 I St. in Sacramento.

In recalling that experience, Ferdinand said, "I got the job there (at Clauss & Kraus) before I even got here (to Sacramento), because (John Clauss, Sr., co-owner of the business) heard about me and he wanted me so badly. I was in Alturas first, and then they found out about me through a salesman who used to pedal their merchandise up into the hills. So, this guy went to Mr. Clauss and said, 'Boy, there's a guy over there from Switzerland you should see. There isn't even a speck of meat on there for a fly on the bone with the job he does.' (The salesman) came back and he gave me his card and

he said that Mr. Clauss said, 'You have a job anytime you come to Sacramento.'"

Ferdinand accepted John Clauss, Sr.'s offer and came to Sacramento to work at his business, which then had about 110 employees.

In addition to working for Clauss & Kraus, Ferdinand joined the Sacramento Helvetia Verein on Jan. 2, 1953, and today he is that Swiss organization's longest term member.

Ferdinand, who was known as "Ferd" to his co-workers and others who knew him well, eventually spent 13 years working for Clauss & Kraus. And for 16 years, Ferdinand was a partner in the proprietorship of Kohler's Pork Store at 2309 Fulton Ave.

During that time, Ferdinand became a member of the United Revolver Club of Sacramento, and he is still a member of that club today.

On July 1, 1980, Ferdinand and his son, Ed, opened their own business, Morant's Old Fashioned Sausage Kitchen, at 5001 Franklin Blvd.

Ferdinand said that it was important to him to offer unique tasting sausages at his business.

"I never bought the (prepared) spices to make (sausages) like every big company now buys," Ferdinand said. "Like a spice company came to me and I said, 'I mix my own spices, because this way nobody has it. If I was going to (use those spices), then it would be like Oscar Meyer and all that stuff. If



Photo courtesy of Ferdinand Morant

Morant's Old Fashioned Sausage Kitchen is shown in this 1980s photograph.

(a salesman) tells me Oscar Meyer makes it, I don't want to be like that. Then there will be no competition. That's why Morant's is still in business."

Ferdinand sold Morant's in 1989 to the German-trained fleisher (meat master) Dirk Müller, who still operates the business.

During the early part of his retirement, Ferdinand became a painter of various types of paintings, including Chinese brush paintings.

Toward the end of his interview with this paper, Ferdinand reflected upon his work at Morant's, where he made sausages

that were enjoyed by many Sacramentans, including immigrants from many parts of the world.

"I just feel like I accomplished something for humanity, for Sacramento, because I could see (many immigrant) people, Italians, Portuguese, Polish people. I made Swedish sausages for the Swedes, linguica for the Portuguese. I made South African sausages. German people came to my store and they enjoyed my product. That makes me so happy. I brought a lot of cultures together, and no matter where they came from, they all appreciated it."

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Over the Fence:

Continued from page 2

ating a neighborhood action plan for the four miles of abandoned tracks that run from Sutterville Road, behind Sprouts, and extends to Pocket Road near Freepoint Boulevard. It would be a multi-use trail. Pedestrians, bicyclists and dog walkers would co-exist in harmony along the urban trail.

In the wider sections of the trail they'd like to create community gardens where a school group or neighborhood could plant organic gardens. Some parts of the Del Rio Trail can get gritty. Wider sections towards the South are brownfields with some trash from Freepoint and illegal camping. The goal is to improve and protect the neighborhood.

Give the trail some TLC.

I met with Brian Ebbet and Sharon Louie on the Del Rio Trail one sunny afternoon to learn more about the rail to trail idea. Brian and Sharon are both members of the South Land Park Trail and Greenbelt Committee, also known as the "rail to trail" team.

"The rail to trail proposal is more than just a local amenity, it's also to prevent the trains from coming through our neighborhood," Brian told me. They want to be pre-emptive and pro-active.

"There's a pot of money out there for bike trails," Brian said.

The project is being considered for future grant funds that have a goal of improving bicycle and pedestrian mobility. The next step for the Rail to Trail team is to reach out to the community and engage with residents.

If you want to be a part of the rail to trail team or have comments or suggestions, contact Committee Chairperson Sharon Louie at Sharon.L6251@gmail.com

Movie Making At Awesome Video

Awesome Video, the iconic Land Park video store on the corner that has outlasted them all, recently became a movie set for some aspiring student filmmakers from San Francisco State University.

For several days a cast and crew took over Awesome Video and shot a short film entitled "I Hate

The Color Red." It's a story about a brother and sister who inherit their parents' video store. They try to keep the video store alive, and in part, their parents alive, too.

The title idea, "I Hate The Color Red", comes from the fact that the video store is in the red. Another reason for the title is Redbox, as well as the red envelopes Netflix uses to deliver their movies.

The film's producer Laura Chenault quipped, "Redbox is the bane of the video store owner's existence."

The director of the short film, Jazmin Jamias, told me it was hard to find a video store big enough to film in.

When she first stepped foot in Awesome Video she was impressed with the size, the look, and all the cool posters on the wall. She thought the store had a nostalgic sense to it.

Jazmin was also excited about finding an old school video store jewel like Awesome Video. "When I saw the 'Criterion Collection' I knew this was my video store."

The owner of Awesome Video, Maithu Bui, agreed to the filming because she has a passion for movies. "This is just like a love affair, that's why I am here. The store is for the neighborhood and this is a neighborhood picture. I hope neighbors see us that way."

Where did the idea of the short film come from? Jazmin was thinking about the things she liked to do when she was younger. "When I was in high school I was going to the video store almost every day," he said.

Jazmin mentioned she had a Blockbuster Video and a Hollywood Video in her hometown of Vallejo. Going to the video store, sifting through the movie titles and talking to other movie lovers is "Something I miss doing," Jazmine said.

When Netflix came out and Redbox followed, the local video stores started disappearing. Hollywood Video, Blockbuster...gone. Now it's all about streaming movies on demand from the convenience of your couch.

Awesome Video has outlasted them all!

"The movie is really about human connection, Jazmin said. That was one of the biggest things I



Photo by Greg Brown
Director Jazmin Jamias and co-director Kristine Gerolaga pose in front of the new movie section at Awesome Video.

wanted to convey". She added, "Sometimes technology takes that away."

Producer Laura Chenault, told me "I devour movies and film and I love Awesome Video, I wish we had one in my neighborhood. I really do."

Once the film is completed I'll let readers know when and where they can see it. I even make a cameo in the film with my five year old son, Freddy. Perhaps a special exclusive red carpet showing at Awesome Video. Wouldn't that be, awesome?

Got an item for Over The Fence? Greg@valcomnews.com

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The Crossword by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Street sign
- 5 Way to pay
- 9 Sandwich alternative
- 13 Seer's deck
- 15 Clickable image
- 16 Visibility hindrance
- 17 Milky, in a way
- 19 Border on
- 20 Educated
- 21 All-inclusive
- 23 False friend
- 24 Ramble on
- 25 Kerrigan or Kwan, e.g.
- 28 Falling-out
- 29 Capitol or Columbia
- 30 Ocean motion
- 31 Come clean
- 35 CBS logo
- 36 Rigging support
- 39 Routing word
- 40 Lavish attention (on)
- 42 Pickling herb
- 43 Not quite right
- 45 Struck, old-style
- 47 Emulate Rodin
- 48 Place to graze
- 51 Fall on _____ ears
- 52 Bronchial woe
- 53 Lottery jackpot, perhaps
- 57 Brake part
- 58 Unproductive path
- 60 Police, slangily
- 61 Turner of film

DOWN

- 1 Tuck away
- 2 Sticky stuff
- 3 Like some exams
- 4 Contaminate, as air
- 5 Parish priest
- 6 Knocked off
- 7 Mama's boy
- 8 Termite targeter
- 9 This and that
- 10 Overly eager
- 11 Blue as the sky (var.)
- 12 Brady boy
- 14 Without wasted words
- 18 Palmist, e.g.
- 22 Enthusiast
- 24 Olympian's quest
- 25 Winter ride
- 26 Fight stopper
- 27 Aid in crime
- 28 Move like a crab
- 30 Old hat
- 32 Sinister
- 33 Talk like Daffy
- 34 Go on and on
- 37 Cuter than cute
- 38 Road material
- 41 Lover of beauty (var.)
- 44 Sound stiffer
- 46 It's the word
- 47 Email option
- 48 Old Turkish title
- 49 Washed-out
- 50 Weasel's kin
- 51 Mideast money
- 53 Chianti, e.g.
- 54 Palo _____, CA
- 55 Bruce and Peggy, et. al.
- 56 Bard's instrument
- 59 Barrister's field

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See Solution, page 24

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Land Park area nonprofits gear up for the May 5 BIG Day of Giving

For 24 hours on May 5, Sacramento will again come together for a BIG Day of Giving. According to the Big DOG website, the goal is to raise \$5 million from 25,000 donors for over 500 nonprofits in a 24-hour giving challenge as part of the national campaign called GiveLocal-America. To participate, local donors can go to www.bigdayofgiving.org to give and support the nonprofits. In 2014, our region's BIG Day of Giving raised more than \$3 million from more than 12,000 donors for 400 nonprofits and ranked No. 2 in the nation. Let's make it No. 1 this year.

On www.bigdayofgiving.org is a powerful online community tool called Giving Edge and it can help you find nonprofit organizations, learn about the impact they are making, and make a donation. Each nonprofit in the database is a partner of GiveLocalNow, a movement to increase local giving.

What follows below is a listing of Land Park area nonprofits that are participating in the Big Day of Giving.

The mission of the **YMCA of Superior California**, 1926 V St., is to inspire all people to a healthy life - in Spirit, Mind and Body. It is a community benefit organization dedicated to strengthening community through programs focused on youth development, healthy living and social responsibility.

Sac Cultural Hub Media Foundation, 2572 21st Ave., utilizes collaborative and cooperative measures to develop and implement activities and programs that educate, empower, and train communities of color in underserved communities.

The mission of the **California Automobile Museum**, 2200 Front St., is to preserve, exhibit and teach the story of the automobile and its influence on our lives. The vision is to be an internationally recognized center of automotive activities, housed in a world-class facility.

Sierra 2 Center for the Arts & Community, 2791 24th St., serves

as a regional incubator of the arts, education, culture and community activities. The organization provides access and opportunity for people of all ages, demographics, and background to explore interests in those areas.

Sacramento Taiko Dan, PO Box 189338, studies, preserves and promotes traditional and contemporary styles of taiko drumming. Taiko is a Japanese style of percussion, which combines music, movement and spirit. The spirit of the drummers produces the powerful sound of the drums, and creates a dynamic and visually exciting.

WarmLine Family Resource Center, 2791 24th St., provides information, education and support to promote and strengthen the foundation of families and children with special needs so they can face the challenges of the present and create new dreams for the future.

Since 1994, **Valley Vision, Inc.**, 2320 Broadway, has strengthened communities through research, collaboration and leadership. It is a nonprofit consultancy focused on economic, environmental and social issues. The vision is a prosperous and sustainable region for all generations.

The mission of **My Sister's House**, 3053 Freeport Blvd, No. 120, is to serve Asian and Pacific Islander and other underserved women and children impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking by providing a culturally appropriate and responsive safe haven, job training and community services.

Slow Food Sacramento, 1010 4th Ave. is a local chapter of an international organization that advocates for "Good, Clean, and Fair Food For All". Conviviality is central to its mission.

The **Sacramento French Cultural Society**, 2634 28th St., is committed to organizing and presenting stimulating, entertaining, and chal-

lenging signature events designed to bring people together in celebration of French culture through film and the arts.

Capital Film Arts Alliance, PO Box 188093, aims to be the region's most respected organization of active film and digital producers, craftspeople and artists within all visual media crafts, and to contribute to the development of the Sacramento-Sierra film industry, economy, and its people.

Galena Street East Productions, 2770 21st St., serves the community through entertainment presented by professionally trained young performers and to provide uplifting programs that educate and inspire. For participants to grow from nervous to brave in every aspect of their life.

Meals on Wheels by ACC, 7375 Park City Dr., promotes the general welfare and to enhance the quality of life for older adults by identifying, developing, and providing culturally sensitive nutritious meals and related activities.

ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Dr., promotes the general welfare and enhance the quality of life for our community by identifying, developing and providing culturally sensitive health and social services for older adults.

The following was a submitted profile of the local nonprofit, ACC.

Agging well at ACC

"I just want to thank you and your staff for providing such a wonderful service for seniors... I want to thank you tremendously... I just can't thank you guys enough!" That comment was left on the voicemail at ACC Senior Services. ACC, which has been in the Pocket/Greenhaven neighborhood since 1987, provides community-based programs and services for seniors and family caregivers. The goals of the programs are to help seniors age well and live as independently as possible. The compliment was left for ACC Rides,

a transportation service run by a handful of staff and 100 volunteers. ACC Rides takes seniors living in nine zip codes in Sacramento County, to doctor appointments, dialysis, grocery shopping, senior lunch centers, and more. Maybe you've seen their wheelchair accessible vehicles with the distinctive round logo, dropping off seniors at Kaiser or at the bank.

ACC offers classes and workshops through the Lifelong Learning & Wellness Program. Classes and clubs include Pickleball, the fastest growing sport for seniors, ping pong, and aqua fit. We hear Hawaiian music played by the ukulele clubs and rock 'n roll by the guitar clubs. The boom boom boom of taiko drum lessons inspires us in the afternoon. Seniors waltz at ballroom dance classe, line dance, and do hula. There are five different types of tai chi classes, four different types of yoga classes, including "Senior Yoga," swimming lessons in the summer, and a whole range of computer, photography, and videography classes. The Utilities Education program helps people understand their phone and PG&E bills and help with disputed bills with the companies.

A special focus of ACC programs is serving family caregivers, individuals and families taking care of a senior loved one. The Bridge to Healthy Families offers caregiver support in the form of care plans, referrals, home safety assessments, in-home respite and more. Volunteers assist in many ways at ACC, from driving for ACC Rides, to teaching classes, to helping in the office. Volunteer Jo says, "There's a variety of things to do, the people are nice, and I feel wanted." Both Jo and Volunteer Shirley say, "I like talking to people and helping out the seniors." Funding for these programs comes from nominal fees, grants, and donations.

This year, ACC is participating in the 2nd annual Big Day of Giving on Tuesday, May 5, 2015. The Big Day is an online 24-hour giving challenge brought to the region by the local community foundations.

Land Park man's best friend is Rosebud, the Bulldog

By GREG BROWN
greg@valcomnews.com



Photos by Greg Brown
Jack Peyton and his English Bulldog Rosie rest near a bench in William Land Park.

If you've spent any amount of time in William Land Park you've probably come across Jack Peyton and his loveable 9-year-old English Bulldog, Rosebud, or Rosie for short. They spend three to five hours a day in the park walking, sitting, and meeting other park goers.

Jack and Rosebud are regulars at William Land Park. They cover every inch of the park. Even the golfers know Rosie. Folks walk right up to Jack and Rosebud, say "hello," and pet the top of Rosebud's wrinkled little head. Her smushed up nose sniffs for a treat from a familiar face. Rosebud is all about the kibbles and dog biscuits. "You have to pay to pet," Jack joked.

Mornings and afternoons are their "go" times. Unless it's one of those scorching hot Sacramento afternoons because that's when they stay in the air-conditioned confines of their home. Bulldogs are very sensitive to heat. Jack parks his Ford Ranger pickup on 11th Avenue and Land Park Drive and walks toward the zoo. They have their regular stops. Sometimes they

walk towards the duck pond, or the WPA Rock Garden. But make no mistake, Rosebud is the boss. She's leading Jack around by the leash. She'd drive the Ranger if she had a license. "She's in charge," Jack said. Wherever Rosebud wants to go, Jack follows.

If he hasn't walked her that day Rosebud starts pacing the room to hint, "Hey, lets hit Land Park, Jack." That's when Jack packs up the kibble and heads on over to the park.

Jack joked to me over the phone that Rosebud is better than a wife. "That's un-

conditional love," he chuckled. "No questions. No feedback." And no unexpected bills from Nordstrom's. Jack lives off Riverside Boulevard and told me occasionally Rosebud makes a beeline down the street to Land Park Pet Supplies. That's HER Nordstrom's! "It's just nonstop, like swoosh," Jack explained. I guess Rosebud gets strong cravings for their kibbles.

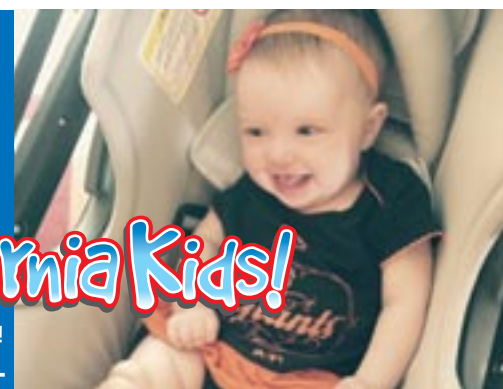
Jack and Rosebud used to walk over to Ford's Hamburgers when it was still

See Rosebud, page 12

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Rosebud:

Continued from page 11

open. Every Tuesday morning before they'd open for business they would give Rosebud a load of bacon strips. Rosebud loved the bacon from Ford's. Sounds a lot better than Snausages, doesn't it? "She does get cranked up about food," Jack said.

Rosebud isn't all about kibbles and bacon. She also eats vegetables. Rosebud is getting her fiber. She eats carrots, apples and tomatoes. Jack learned about her penchant for tomatoes one day when there was a tomato on the ground at the park. On the first day he told Rosebud to "get away from that."

On the next day, bam! She engulfed it without hesitation.

With thick folds of skin, round black wide-set eyes, drooling lips and pointed teeth, Rosebud has the typical Bulldog appearance. She has an extreme underbite no orthodontist could fix. The crooked teeth give the dog character and charm. "She's the ultimate cartoon dog," Jack bragged.

It's difficult to imagine but Bulldogs were bred to fight bulls. Jack told me they called it "bullbaiting." They would bite on bulls' lower lips and hang on. Maybe that explains the pointed teeth.

Evenings are low key for Rosebud. I asked Jack once the day is done,

"How does Rosebud unwind?" After dinner, which is usually between 4 and 6 p.m., she just curls up and goes to sleep until the next day. Dog tired! I assumed Rosebud slept on a plush pink dog bed with a blanket that had "Rosebud" emblazoned on it. A pampered pooch. But, no. She actually has three bed spots. Two of them are just crate liners with a ridge of fake sheepskin. She also has a towel she likes to sleep on. Nothing fancy for Rosebud. Jack added, "The best part about a Bulldog is they snore."

So if you're walking, running, or just enjoying beautiful William Land Park, look for Jack and Rosebud taking a stroll. They'll be near the dog treats.



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Photos by MONICA STARK
 editor@valcomnews.com

Benefitting the C.K. McClatchy band, a mattress sale took place in the school gym on Saturday, Feb. 28. Custom Fundraising Solutions organized the fundraiser. Waving signs, which read, "Mattress Sale: Up to 50 % off Fundraiser @ Mc Clatchy HS" band members in front of the school lead some passersby on Freeport Boulevard to the gym where 23 mattresses were for sale. In seven hours, 15 mattresses were sold, raising \$1,500 for the school, said CFS owner Alex Pimentel who has organized many mattress sales at various schools. The com-

pany, as a whole across the United States, operates about 50 sales a weekend benefitting local schools. New Local Territory, a local CFS franchise, has done five fundraisers in the greater Sacramento area and has 10 more coming up. On Saturday, April 11 a similar sale will be held at Mira Loma for the football program, and on Sunday, April 12, one will be held at Sam Brannan Middle School for the band program. On Saturday, April 18, one will be held at Foothill High School, benefitting the football program. All of the sales go from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information about CFS, contact Alex at 530-227-6356 or email apimentel@customfundraisingsolutions.com.



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CKM music program to raise money for Team Will with concert

The C.K. McClatchy music program will put on a benefit concert on Friday, May 8 at 6 p.m. for Team Will, "a community of cyclists of all skill levels and ages committed to raising public awareness and funds for childhood cancer research and family resources through a mixture of cycling activities and events." As Jorge Munoz, band director, explains, "the music program will raise money for children with cancer and their families. We will collect money and donate to those who cannot afford to go to the hospital. The donations go to research."

This do-goodery is part of a lesson Mr. Munoz is teaching his students — that it is important for musicians to "donate their abilities to the greater good and to the community." He had them form a leadership team. As he told the Land Park News, "(The students) had to figure out the charity. All I do is prepare the music for the concert," which by the way, will be titled Cinematic Impressions and will feature music from movies. From classic films to animation, to science fiction and fantasy, the concert will cover as much as they can within an hour and a half long time frame. There will be a \$5 suggested donation for the concert, but if members of the audience wish to donate more to the cause, then they are welcome to do that. There is no goal amount to be raised, Mr. Munoz says. "The charity was blown away we chose them, but the goal is to sell out the (1,000-seat) auditorium."

The music program at McClatchy includes about 50 students in the concert band, 25-30 in the orchestra and about 35 in the choir, totaling about 100 students. Asked how the program has been going since he took over as director four years ago, Mr. Munoz said, it's going "really well. We've been shifting our focus. We've been playing symphonic music, and classical type music; it's not just the marching band. The jazz band and choir weren't here when I started. Now, we have more opportunity to play for different purposes than a football."

"At the (May 8) show we will have movie clips intermixed in the program. Music will play in between the concert. We will have music from war movies to romantic comedies," Mr. Munoz said. But not to worry, movie clips will not dominate. They will be 2-3 minute clips that will serve as breaks between musical performances, since various performers sing and play different instruments.

The CKM music program will be taking a trip to Southern California about a week after the concert to perform at the Disneyland Resort on May 16 and will include some similar pieces.

If you go

What: Cinematic Impressions, a concert by the music program at CKM

Where: C.K. McClatchy High School auditorium

When: Friday, May 8 at 6 p.m.

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Bond of Brotherhood has inspired Gay Men's Chorus through 30 years

By BONNIE OSBORN
Special to the Land Park News

As they count down the days until their one-night-only 30th anniversary concert spectacular, Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus members are thinking about where they began and how far they've come.

On May 8, the chorus will present "Milestones: Our Journey Continues" before its largest audience, in the largest venue, of its 30-year history, Sacramento's Memorial Auditorium—a far cry from the group's first concert in spring 1985, performed at tiny St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 15th and J.

"I'm proud of the artistic quality that has evolved under Musical Director Steven Johnson and heartened to find how many men who love to sing have found a home with the chorus," said former state Assemblyman and cable industry executive Dennis Mangers of Carmichael, a founding member of the chorus, although he no longer sings with the group. "I am also gratified to find that the environment for the LGBT community has changed to the point where gay men and their straight allies in music are comfortable now calling themselves a 'gay' chorus. Such was not the case 30 years ago, when we were at risk in our employment and subject to other forms of discrimination."

Indeed, the chorus name was a topic of debate off and on for years. Members of a Sacramento gay men's social and networking group, Pillars, attended a concert of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, founded in 1978, which sparked the idea to start a Sacramento gay men's chorus, recalls founding member David Kwong of Natomas, who continues to sing with the chorus.

Some wanted the new chorus to be identified as gay; others, including several who worked as teachers, were fearful of losing their jobs. In the end the group was named Sacramento Men's Chorus. "Even though by our statement, our programs, our supporters, everybody knew it was a gay group, our name allowed us the opportunity to be to work with the larger musical and arts community," Kwong says, noting that the chorus has performed with the Sacramento Choral Society, the Sacramento Philharmonic, Sacramento Ballet and Sacramento Opera as well as at senior centers and LGBT community events over the years. "There were straight members of the chorus then, and there are now," Kwong says.

"I don't think we thought about politics going into it," says Frank Lasso-Lawler of Arden-Arcade, founding member and three-time president of the chorus. "It really was a shelter, a place for people to socialize, have fun and sing."

Twenty-five to 30 men attended the first rehearsals in fall 1984, in an old building in Oak Park then owned by Metropolitan Community Church. There were springs beneath the floor of the second-floor ballroom floor, Kwong remembers, and you sank when you walked across it.

The group did a lot of cabaret shows in the early days, Lasso-Lawler says, performing at Garbeau's Dinner Theatre, closed in 2009 but recently reopened; audience members threw flowers and candy onto the stage.

After rehearsals the group would often gather at Alhambra Fuel and Transport, where someone would play piano and they would sing, Lasso-Lawler recalls. "They gave us free drinks as long as we were singing," he says.

Or sometimes it was the Spaghetti Factory for an after-rehearsal meal, where, waiting out-



Photo courtesy of Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus Archives
This historic photo of the Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus was taken circa 1985 in front of the state capitol with some of the group's founding members, including Frank Lasso-Lawler who is shown in the back row, the first on the left. Dennis Mangers is shown 14th from the left and David Kwong is 23rd from left (or fourth from right). The chorus is celebrating its 30 year anniversary with a concert on May 8 at Sacramento Memorial Auditorium at 8 p.m.

side for a table, they would break into a doo-wop number, and the restaurant would open the doors to let the sound inside. Later they would be inundated with requests to sing at the tables of diners who were celebrating birthdays. Following the first concerts at St. Paul's, chorus members would treat the audience to cookies and champagne. "We didn't sing as well back then but we sure had a lot of fun," Lasso-Lawler says.

But the chorus's early years were also the beginning years of the AIDS crisis. More than 50 chorus members have been lost to HIV/AIDS, including two founding members instrumental in starting the chorus, Steve Mabs and Rick Whitnah. "I think to most members, the chorus is our family," Kwong says. "When we lose a chorus member we all feel it."

The chorus has ranged in size over the years from just 18 singers to its current 70-voices-strong. As it grew, it improved in musical quality and became known for creative productions combining a classical choral sound with professional-quality lighting and staging, exuberant choralography, costumes, and small-ensemble skits. Steven Johnson, who became musical director in 2012, further professionalized the group and pushed it to sell out performances in larger venues, such as Sacramento's Crest Theater.

The May 8 Milestones show pulls out all the stops, featuring guest performances by operatic soprano Carrie Hennessey, the Sacramento Children's Chorus and Aerial Evolution. AMP'D Entertainment's Arteen Kharrat, which counts the Golden Globe Awards and the Oscars among his clients, designed lighting for the production. Rob

Stewart of KVIE's "Rob on the Road" will serve as master of ceremonies.

The 30-year milestone has prompted many of the chorus members to reflect on how not only the chorus but society have changed. "Thirty years ago not that many people knew someone who was gay," Kwong says. "Once you know someone, it becomes more personal, you lose the fear."

"Enjoying the sound of a chorus singing is such a common denominator among all people. When people can accept that the sound of singing is good, it helps tie communities together. Whether a person is gay or not is not a factor anymore."

Lasso-Lawler has detected a change in audience reaction. "We are appreciated for different reasons now," he says. "There were a lot of times in the early years when the audience would come out afterwards and say, 'That was nice.' Now to see the audiences walking out with excitement and high energy, I get a feeling of electricity."

For the chorus members themselves, the love of singing is important, but it is being part of something larger than themselves that keeps them coming back. "At one of our recent rehearsals we talked about why we joined," Lasso-Lawler says. "It always comes back to the brotherhood, the support we give each other."

The one-time-only performance of Milestones will be Friday, May 8, 8 p.m., at Memorial Auditorium, 1515 J Street, Sacramento. Tickets are \$25 general admission, \$40 VIP seating, and may be purchased online at www.sacgaymenschorus.org/, at the Gifted Gardener, 1730 J Street; or from any chorus member.

Rob Feickert is a humble man!

By JIM COOMBS

Rob sets off for McClatchy High School every morning at 6:50 and does not get home until 6:30--game nights after 11:00. This is the life of a high school athlete director, *one who takes great pride in his job and school.*

Dr. Gema Godina, vice principal at McClatchy, commented that, "Rob does all of the dirty work so that our athletes just have to show up and compete. He is one of the hardest working educators I have ever met." Workweeks of 60-75 hours are very common.

"He puts in the same effort for every team, varsity or JV, football or tennis. He is a major part of the collaborative team that makes the Lions' athletic engine run. He is about making McClatchy shine."

And shine it did this year. The McClatchy Lady Lions basketball team brought home the first CIF Girls State Division 1 Championship in the Sacramento City Unified School District history. Rob set the tone for the Lady Lions and all future Lion teams.

Basketball coach Jessica Kunisaki stated, "He emphasizes *the McClatchy way* to all coaches, insists the uniforms be *McClatchy red*, and demands good sportsmanship by McClatchy teams at all times."

As a result the Lady Lions and the CKM fans were complimented by CIF officials for their sportsmanship and championship demeanor during the regional and state playoff games.

The McClatchy way also embodies the student athlete. Three years ago Rob started a senior athletic awards program to highlight the athletes' accomplishments. At this ceremony, senior student athletes who have maintained a 3.75 GPA while competing, are awarded special medals. Every year about 40 athletes qualify.

Jeff Ota, basketball coach and CKM grad, commented, "He is always on me to make sure my paperwork is done correctly. His work is never ending. He's out there lining soccer fields, making sure the baseball diamond is nice, and cleaning gym floors during lunch before our games." "He is nuts."

His first class at 7:30 is a zero period study hall for athletes and students. He has two weight training classes, and last summer Rob and athletic trainer Rohit Sharma created a first class weight room with new weight equipment mounted on personally built plywood platforms with CKM logos.

McClatchy has 20 varsity athletic teams and multiple JV teams for which Rob is responsible. Each year the school is allotted money by the

SCUSD for athletic and transportation budgets for each team.

He meets with each coach to distribute the money for equipment, uniforms, transportation, and officials. Teams also raise money from the community for each of their sports. In total over \$100,000 has been raised in recent years by the teams and parents of athletes to keep the teams competitive.

With the input of coaches, he oversees every team's schedule for the year, making certain that they are in CIF compliance. By the end of school, in June, the entire athletic schedule for the following year is tentatively set.

His daily grind includes teaching four classes as well as ordering buses and other forms of transportation for each day's games. If players travel in cars, parent permission slips are needed for each athlete involved.

Summer vacations are limited for the Feickert family. Rob spends two-three days a week on campus confirming schedules, checking in new equipment, meeting with coaches, and preparing for the fall sports program.

He handles all students' eligibility forms, family medical insurance information, checks each player's athletic physical examination forms, and creates a master list of every team's players.

Each game day during the school year, he puts out a list for teachers and the attendance office of players who need to leave campus early to compete. The amount of paperwork is massive.

During the winter season, he must coordinate gym usage for practice sessions and games for five basketball teams and the wrestling team. This year the girls' gym was closed part of the season. Throw into the mix girls' volleyball (fall) and boys' volleyball (spring). Some accuse him of having a dartboard in his office to determine gym usage.

On game days, he sets up the gym, pulls the bleachers out, cleans the floor, gets the snack bar ready, gets the ticket table ready, gets the officials to their dressing room, and handles any crises as the games progress. Game over, get the gym ready for first period PE and head home.

During the playoffs for the girls' basketball state champions, he ordered roter buses, team vans, handled all of the paperwork and information for the media, and very seldom saw his wife Tracy and daughters, Ally and Madie.

Tracy and Rob met in kindergarten and had the same friends for many years. They began dating after their five-year high school reunion and have been married 25 years.



Rob and Jim Yee at the gym renovation dedication in January.

Photos by Tracy Feickert

"Rob's strong rooted feeling about family values can be traced back to summers spent at the family cabin in Lake Tahoe hiking, fishing, and camping with his brother. Our family had an incredible journey in our motor home in 2011 with a memorable cross-country trip to South Dakota for a family reunion."

The entire family now bleeds McClatchy red and Tracy definitely deserves a medal for being an "Athletic Director Widow."

"He loves his job and during the season, *we see him when we see him.* He takes great pride in putting together a quality athletic program and loves all of the hard work involved," Tracy said.

Ally is a sophomore cross country/track athlete at CKM and Madie will attend McClatchy next year as a freshman. Ally became the girls' basketball manager as the season progressed, and she is known around school as the "Mini AD" for all the help she gives her dad.

Rob, Bob Sertich, and Ally combined to cook a burrito breakfast at their homes and served it in the McClatchy gym for the Lady Lions the Saturday morning of the Northern California finals. The burritos must have worked, because the Lions came back to win the game in the 4th quarter.

Rob was a 1983 star in three sports at Sacramento High School. (Yes a former Dragon.) He was the MVP his senior year in football and played in the Optimist All-Star game. Sac coach Dave Hotel referred to Rob as "coach" because he was always trying to organize the team...maybe a sign of things to come.

He attended Sacramento State and his first teaching years were at Fern Bacon and Sam Brannan middle schools.

He came to McClatchy High School as football coach in 1997, where he also coached a variety of sports before settling in as athletic director the past six years.

He, Bob Sertich, and Rodney Kunisaki were instrumental in starting *Restore the Roar*, the McClatchy athletic booster club, four years ago. Sertich says, "Feickert was the one who provided the vision to bring coaches, parents, and alumni together to support McClatchy athletic programs." Go to restoretheroar.org for more information.

Rob and *Restore the Roar* have implemented many positive changes within the CKM sports programs, one being the creation of a *McClatchy Sports Hall of Fame*.

The plaques listing each year's inductees, among many former college, professional, and Olympic athletes, hang in the foyer of the gym to remind current students that McClatchy has a long and heralded athletic tradition. *This year's induction dinner will be held on Saturday, Oct. 24.*

If Rob worked in private industry 60-75 hours per week and produced the results he does every day, week, and year, he would get a huge year-end bonus. Some of his bonus this year was watching the Lady Lions win the state championship.

The Land Park News, McClatchy community, staff, teams, coaches, and players salute Rob Feickert for his dedication and professionalism. This is our bonus to you, Rob!



Faces and Places: Parade supporting McClatchy Lady Lions

Photos by STEPHEN CROWLEY
stephen@valcomnews.com

Tributes have been pouring in for the 2015 State Champion Lady Lions basketball team of C.K. McClatchy High School. On Tuesday, April 7, the team and coach Jessica Kunisaki were honored by the Sacramento City Council and then feted during a time out at the Kings game. The team received Stellar Students recognition at the Thursday, April 9 Board of Education meeting. On Friday, April 10, the girls rode on a firetruck through Land Park in a community parade which began at 12:30 p.m. The Lady Lions are the first girls team in SCUSD history to win a state championship.



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April 25: The annual Curtis Park home tour will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Advance tickets are \$25 (\$20 Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association members. The cost the day of the tour is \$30, SCNA members \$25. Docent tickets are \$10. Purchase inside the SCNA office, 2791 24th St. For more information call 452-3005.

California Middle School rummage sale

April 25: Cal Middle School is also in need of donated items. They will be holding their own rummage sale on Saturday, April 25 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. You can drop off donated items in front of their auditorium on Vallejo Drive on Friday, April 24 from 1:30 to 8 p.m.

Sacramento Valley Scottish Games & Festival

April 25-26: held at the Yolo County Fairgrounds, Woodland. Gates open at 9 a.m. both days. To organizers, the "Games"

means anything that is a competition related to Scottish culture; athletics, highland dance, piping and drumming, and drum majors. "Festival" represents activities that are to be enjoyed, participate in, and watch; children's area, entertainment, vendors, country dance, fiddling and harps, kirkin', historical area, Scottish animals, and eating. There is something Scottish for everyone, and you don't have to be Scottish to have fun. The theme this year is: A Little Scotland in Your Backyard. It means that you can experience a taste of Scottish culture without having to travel thousands of miles. There will be entertainment, dancing, pipes and pipe bands, music, animals, athletics, drum majors, vendors, and other colorful elements. For more information, visit sacallie.org / sacramentosctgames.org

The Fairytale Town Troupers present: "Once Upon A Time 1959"

April 25 and 26: Fairytale Town's most famous and beloved storybook characters come to life in the Fairytale Town Troupers first production of the season! The year is 1959 and Robin Hood, Cinderella, Jack and Jill and more colorful characters are lost in a fantastical fog after being swept away from their storybook homes. Working together, they overcome their erratic eccentricities to uncover the mysterious force

that united them and find a way home. This show features original songs set to a 1950s beat. Tickets are \$2 for nonmembers in addition to park admission, and \$1 for members. There are two shows each day, one at noon and the second at 1:30 p.m. For more information, visit fairytaletohn.org or call 808-7462. Sponsored by ScholarShare College Savings Plan. Fairytale Town is located at 3901 Land Park Dr.

Fire Station 1 Open House

April 25: Fire Station 1, located at 624 Q St. will have an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Meet firefighters and possibly mascot Sparky.

Sacramento Youth Symphony Premier Orchestra Spring Concert:

April 26: Come hear the award-winning Premier Orchestra play professional repertoire from renowned and beloved composers at 7 p.m., at the Sacramento City College Performing Arts Center. Founded in 1956 as a 55-member youth orchestra, the Sacramento Youth Symphony will be celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2016! Under the artistic direction of Michael Neumann, SYS now has a membership of 400-plus talented young musicians from all over the Sacramento Valley region. We offer beginning through advanced orchestral ensembles and present 20+ concerts per year under the baton of some of the best music educators and conductors in the region. Visit us online at www.sacramentoyouthsymphony.org or call Robert at 916-731-5777 for ticket information.

Rio Americano High School's Race for the Stars

April 26: Race for the Stars is sponsored by the San Juan Education Foundation to raise money for teacher grants for the San Juan Unified School District. The cost to participate is \$30 for adults and \$15 for students. Race for the Stars is a great opportunity for you to raise money for Rio Americano High School while having fun with your family and friends. By participating, \$10 of every adult entry fee and \$5 of every student/child entry fee will directly benefit Rio Americano High School. Race for the Stars will take place at Rio Americano High School at 8 a.m. The registrations will start at 7 a.m. Families are welcome to participate in a 5k walk/run. A kids run will be available for young children as well. In addition, there will be kids activities, entertainment, bike raffle and giveaways. Food and drinks will be available as

well. For more information, visit <http://www.sanjuan.edu/domain/6703>.

Baby/Toddler Stay & Play at Pocket Library (Early Childhood (0-5))

April 28: Fun starts at 10:15 a.m. at the Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library, located at 7335 Gloria Dr.

Sci-Fi Book Club (Book Club)

April 28: Sci-Fi book club will explore the exciting and diverse field of science fiction and fantasy: from aliens and space-ships to dragons and wizards. Please bring a snack to share and join us. This month's title is *The Dragonbone Chair* by Tad Williams. 6:30 p.m.; Carmichael Library, 5605 Marconi Ave.

Mr. Cooper's Sing-a-Long Club at Pocket Library (Early Childhood (0-5))

April 28: A family-friendly performance by local singer/guitarist Mr. Ken Cooper. This program is made possible by the Pocket-Greenhaven Friends of the Library. Fun starts at 11 a.m. at the Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library, located at 7335 Gloria Dr.

Books at Lunch: Middle School Book Group at Pocket Library (Teen)

April 28: Seventh and eighth graders are invited to talk about books over lunch. Meeting starts at 11:25 a.m. at the Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library, located at 7335 Gloria Dr.

Books at Lunch: High School Book Group at Pocket Library (Teen)

April 28: Ninth through 12th graders are invited to talk about books over lunch, starting at 12:30 p.m. at the Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library, located at 7335 Gloria Dr.

Homework Zone at Pocket Library

April 28: There will be free homework help for grades 1 through 8 on a drop-in basis at 3:30 p.m. at the Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library, located at 7335 Gloria Dr.

Homework Zone at Pocket Library (School Age (6-12))

April 29: There will be free homework help for grades 1 through 8 on a drop-in basis at 5:30 p.m. at the Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library, located at 7335 Gloria Dr.

Music at noon free concert at Westminster Presbyterian Church

April 29: Bring your lunch and enjoy fine music. This week there will be music featuring Bay Area pianist Miyuki Otani. Upcoming concert information and "printed" programs can be accessed from www.musicatnoon.org. Westminster Presbyterian Church is located at 1300 N St.

Baby/Toddler Stay & Play (No Storytimes in April) at Pocket Library (Early Childhood (0-5))

April 30: Fun starts at 10:15 a.m. at the Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library, located at 7335 Gloria Dr.

Pocket-Greenhaven Friends of the Library Board Meeting (Adult)

April 30: Interested in knowing how you can help your library? Attend the Pocket-Greenhaven Friends of the Library monthly Board meeting (usually held on the fourth Thursday each month) for more information. Meeting starts at 6 p.m. at the Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library, located at 7335 Gloria Dr.

Minecraft Gaming @ McKinley (Teen)

April 30: Like building and creating new worlds in Minecraft? Come to the library at 3:30 p.m. for Minecraft gaming! Each player will be given their own computer to build new creations in either Creative or Survival Mode. Players of any level of experience are welcome to join. McKinley Library is located at 601 Alhambra Blvd.

MAY

The 3rd Annual JFK Football and Baseball Rib Dinner

May 1: Starting at 6 p.m. join the JFK football team for a dinner, raffle, door prizes (must be present to win!) and games, all happening in the quad of the football stadium at Kennedy. Ticket prices will be \$25 for adults and children and students, \$15. Children 5 and younger are free! All attending will need a ticket for entry. Dinner will include a plate of ribs or chicken, side dishes, a roll and desert. Bottled water or can of soda is included in the ticket price. There will be additional drinks on hand for purchase. Contact Head Football Coach Matt Cos-

See Calendar, page 21

Calendar:

Continued from page 20
for questions or additional tickets, 508-7831, or jfk.cougarfootball@gmail.com.

Fire Station 4 Open House

May 2: Fire Station 4, located at 3145 Granada Way, will have an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Meet firefighters and possibly mascot Sparky.

Intergalactic Expo!

May 2-3: Fans of all ages are welcome at the "Intergalactic Expo". This out-of-this-world event, run by local science fiction fans, is a community fundraiser and special weekend-long celebration featuring a Friday night art show, a Saturday night cosplay dance and a Sunday full-day convention. The expo will also offer photo ops with costumed characters, indoor vendors, outdoor bazaar, costumed parade, script reading contest, live comedy, charity auction, demos, workshops, panels, memorabilia exhibits, art exhibit, board games, video games, kids' arts and crafts, hands-on activities and more! A percentage of ticket sales will go to the Make-A-Wish Foundation, with the goal of raising at least \$5,000. Additional funds will also be allocated for the City of West Sacramento Department of Parks and Recreation children's programs, and other local community organizations. The event will be held at the West Sacramento Community Center and, across the street from it, at the Sacramento City Hall Galleria, 1110 West Capital Ave, West Sacramento.

For ticket and event details please go to www.intergalacticexpo.com

Cowboy Breakfast Hike and Equestrian Ride

May 2: Come and join the Sacramento Valley Conservancy Staff for the splendor of freshly made pancakes, hot off the grill with a steaming cup of coffee at the 8th annual Cowboy Breakfast at Deer Creek Hills from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Returning this year is local Cowboy Poet, Jerilyn Strong. She'll share her clever poems with guests attending, reflecting the area of

Deer Creek Hills. Meet and enjoyed local supporters of Sacramento Valley Conservancy at this working cattle ranch, surrounded by colorful rolling foothills and blooming wildflowers. To complete your visit, top off breakfast with a docent led hike -or- docent led equestrian ride! The Docent led hikes are approximately 3-5 miles. Hikers of different capacities are always welcomed and will be divided accordingly to best suit your pace! Slower, moderate and adventurous paces are offered. Docent led Equestrian rides run approximately 2 1/2 hours exploring the property on your horses back, exploring 4,400-plus acres of this working cattle ranch. No horses are provided, riding your own horse is required. The ride is through open country over a variety of terrain, including water crossings, ascending and descending hills. Most groups are from 10 to 20 people in size, and travel at a walking pace. Cost: Free; Register online: www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org/calendar.asp

Music at noon free concert at Westminster Presbyterian Church

May 6: Bring your lunch and enjoy fine music. This week there will be music featuring Chanteaus Women's Ensemble; Chris Alford, director. Upcoming concert information and "printed" programs can be accessed from www.musicatnoon.org. Westminster Presbyterian Church is located at 1300 N St.

Free! Riverside Concert Series at Camp Pollock

May 7: Come Relax at Camp Pollock! Concert will feature a relaxing musical experience on Sacramento's American River Parkway. Concerts start at 6 and continue until 8 p.m. Bring your own picnic basket and blanket. Bring your leashed dog. Enjoy S'mores compliments of Sierra Service Project! The events are hosted by the Sacramento Valley Conservancy. For more information, contact sacramentovalleyconservancy.org or call 731-8798. Camp Pollock is located at 1501 Northgate Blvd.

Make Mom smile!
Mother's Day is May 10th

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Weekend of Event: \$25
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Saturday, May 2nd

- 9:30 Preschool and Kindergarten Open House, with 10am puppet show
- 11:00am May Day Festivities
- 12:00pm Picnic with food and strawberry shortcakes available for purchase
- 12:00pm-1:30pm School wide Open House

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May 16
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For more programs and events,
visit fairytaletown.org

Got News?
E-mail us, editor@valcomnews.com

CALENDAR

The Theodore Judah Community Theater presents School House Rock!

May 8-9: The Theodore Judah Community Theater presents 'School House Rock!' on Friday, May 8 at 6 p.m. and Saturday, May 9 at 3 p.m. at Theodore Judah Elementary, 3919 McKinley Blvd. Adults are \$5, children are \$2; children age 3 and younger are free. Light refreshments are available for purchase. Proceeds benefit Theodore Judah Arts Program.

Fire Station 2 Open House

May 9: Fire Station 2, located at 1229 I St., will have an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Meet firefighters and possibly mascot Sparky.

Stigma Free 2015 event at the Clunie Community Center

May 9: From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. enjoy a Sacramento youth celebration recognizing mental health from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Clunie Community Center at McKinley Park, 601 Alhambra Blvd. There will be music from 102.5 KSFM, spoken word performances, a scavenger hunt, selfie station, raffle prizes and more. Presented by Sacramento County's "Mental Illness: It's not always what you think" project, this event is free to the public. To RSVP, email info@stopstigma-sacramento.org and for more information, visit www.stopstigma-sacramento.org, info@stopstigma-sacramento.org.

Music at noon free concert at Westminster Presbyterian Church

May 13: Bring your lunch and enjoy fine music. This week there will be music featuring violinist Lubo Velickovic, and pianist Dmitriy Cogan. Upcoming concert information and "printed" programs can be accessed from www.musicatnoon.org. Westminster Presbyterian Church is located at 1300 N St.

Mission Oaks Computer Club meeting

May 14: The Mission Oaks Computer Club will meet from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Dr. The meeting will include a problem-solving clinic, led by Adam Lacey of Applications, Etc. First-time visitors are welcome. For additional information visit our website at www.missionoakscomputerclub.org or send an email to moccc@missionoakscomputerclub.org.

Fairy Tale Town presents a day of "Farms, Friends & Fairytales"

May 16: From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., join Fairy Tale Town for a fun-filled celebration of farm animals and agriculture! At 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. watch Fairy Tale Town's Babydoll sheep get sheared and the wool spun into yarn using an old fashioned spinning wheel. Plus, participate in agriculture-themed hands-on activities, and visit with local area farms and organizations. This program is free with paid park admission. Weekend admission is \$5.50 for adults and children ages 2 and older. Children ages 1 and under are free. For more information, visit fairytaletown.org or call 808-7462. Sponsored by Whole Foods Market and SAFE Credit Union. Fairy Tale Town is located at 3901 Land Park Dr.

Fire Station 6 Open House

May 16: Fire Station 6, located at 3301 MLK Jr. Blvd., will have an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Meet firefighters and possibly mascot Sparky.

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Garden Tour:

Continued from page 5

Anne and Tex Smith: 1338 Teneighth Way

Don't miss this whimsical tropical paradise! A giraffe sculpture by Fredrick Prescott, often the talk of the neighborhood, greets guests on their way to the back yard, where they are met by two more sculptures by the same artist - an elephant and a rooster. A fourth sculpture of an octopus—created by Seattle artist Nicole Ketchum—hangs from a tree. In the front of the patio area is a large fountain and the home's large, Tahoe grey pool with tile imported from Italy takes center stage. The pool house at the back of the property is an original structure, rebuilt by the homeowners. Eco-friendly artificial turf provides a break from the stamped concrete, and potted plants line the fence. Plants include lavender, calla lily, roses and a large bird of paradise. Happy ferns and sprawling greenery add to the tropical effect of this special space. Masks and other artwork hanging from the exterior of the home and poolhouse are from the homeowners' travels to Costa Rica and Vietnam.



Photos by James Bahn
Shown here are beautiful images that you can see in person on May 2 at the Land Park Garden and Tea.

MUSIC & MEMORY

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-Can create conversation
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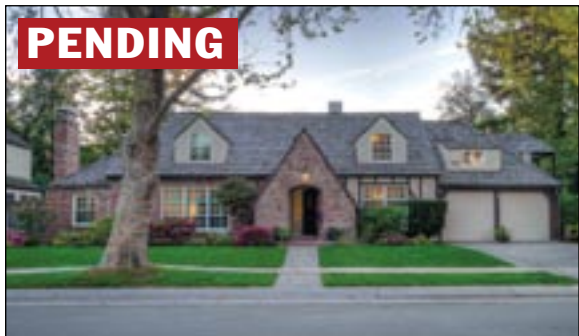
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PENDING

STORYBOOK TUDOR

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SHEILA VAN NOY 505-5395



PRIME LAND PARK

This is a Frank (Squeaky) Williams built home in great location. Features three spacious bedrooms and three full baths; large living room and dining room with numerous individual details. Family room and kitchen have open views of beautifully landscaped rear yard. \$819,000

RICHARD KITOWSKI 261-0811



THE COTTAGES AT CURTIS PARK VILLAGE

Old World charm with all the modern amenities - includes \$20,622 in options! Beautiful new BlackPines Communities home has 3 bedrooms 2½ baths with open space for entertaining, including a wet bar, plus a GE Profile beverage center. Additional features include imperfect smooth walls. Close to 2 parks! \$584,990

TIM COLLOM 247-8048



NEW CURTIS PARK VILLAGE

Quality, BlackPines Communities built 1790sf - 3bedroom 2½ bath home lets in an abundance of natural light with a great open floor plan. Large master suite, grand shower area gives you all the room you crave. Other features include imperfect smooth walls, 5¼ inch baseboards, GE stainless steel appliances! \$574,990

TIM COLLOM 247-8048



SACRAMENTO JEWEL

Beautifully renovated from head to toe - The Didion House - Rich wood, fine detailing and spacious rooms. Historical in in both style, heritage and culture. 4 bedrooms 2 full baths and 2 half baths with new kitchen, three floors, including media room, and a full basement. \$1,395,000

SHEILA VAN NOY 505-5395



CURTIS PARK VILLAGE – THE COTTAGES

This charming home is built by BlackPines Communities, and includes \$19,468 in options!!! Cozy gas log fireplace; loft area upstairs would be perfect for a home office or exercise area. Also includes imperfect smooth walls, 51/4 inch baseboards, and GE Stainless Steel Appliances! \$544,458

TIM COLLOM 247-8048

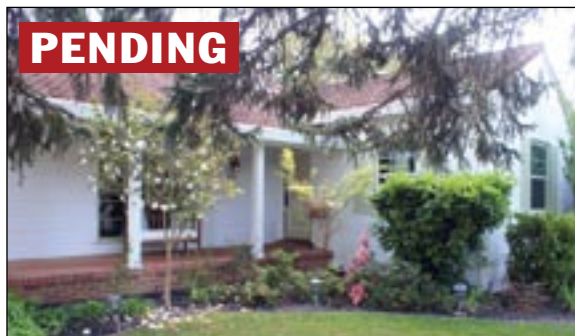


PENDING

BRENTWOOD VILLAGE

Lovely 3 bedroom 2 bath home conveniently located, close to stores and schools. Light and bright with hardwood floors, updated kitchen, formal dining room, living room fireplace, central heat and air conditioning. Private backyard with mature landscaping, 2-car attached garage. \$199,900

PAULA SWAYNE 425-9715



PENDING

CUTE LAND PARK

Charm, charm, charm! 3 bedroom 2 bath home on quaint street with updated kitchen and impeccable vintage baths! Over 1400 sf with Hardwood floors, living room fireplace, formal dining room and central heat and air. Close to Crocker Riverside Elementary school and an easy walk to Vic's Ice Cream. \$435,000

LISA MCCAULEY 601-5474



PENDING

SOUTH LAND PARK

Comfortable ranch style home with lovely brick front. 3 bedrooms 1½ baths, new linoleum in kitchen, laundry and hall bath. Hardwood under carpet. Newer windows, some plantation shutters. Brick fireplace, large laundry room, nice sized backyard with covered patio. \$325,000

KAREN SANDSTROM 803-0530

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