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Curtis Park resident Ginger Rutland releases play based on her mother's memoir

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Camellia Waldorf
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William Land
Park Golf Course
celebrates 90th
anniversary

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Over the Fence



with Greg Brown greg@valcomnews.com

New restaurant coming to former Blockbuster location

Long gone are the blue shirts, khaki pants, and name tags employees wore at the Blockbuster Video on Freepoint Boulevard and Sutterville Road in Land Park. The space on the corner of the retail center that houses Starbucks, Papa Murphy's and Robeks hasn't been occupied since Blockbuster went out of business several years ago.

Well, get ready for something new on the block.

A lease has been signed for an Asian style restaurant with a "hot pot" concept. It's definitely a crowded field when it comes to Asian style restaurants on Freepoint Boulevard. There's a restaurant off Broadway on 18th Street called Heat Shabu Bara that is similar to the concept the new restaurant will offer. A name has been picked out, but it's not official yet.

Look for Land Park locals to flock to this new Asian style "hot pot" restaurant at the beginning of 2016.

Awesome Video makes a move

A local video store that has outlasted Blockbuster and Hollywood Video on Freepoint Boulevard is Awesome Video. It's one of the last movie rental stores of

its kind anywhere really. Last year, it was even a site location for an indie college short film.

Awesome Video has moved to a new location up the street in the former Collected Works spot at 4524 Freepoint Boulevard. I asked owner Maitu Bai, who was busy placing the movie rentals on the shelves so they could open, "What was the reason for the move?" She said simply, "I like the building better, don't you?"

It's definitely cozier.

The building is 2,000 square feet, which is only one-tenth smaller than the previous Awesome Video building. I joked she's probably going to be miss the karaoke music from Blue Moon Café rattling the walls next door and she said, "Absolutely, you said it." I think she had a hint of sarcasm.

The move was more work than Maitu expected. "Right now, movie setup is my main thing so I can get the store ready and the rest will come later. All the elements, all the decorations, all the plans."

So forget Redbox, Netflix and Comcast on-demand. Head on over to the new Awesome Video store location for new releases, classics, foreign, and independent films. Support a local business. You may even run into a friendly

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Over the Fence:

Continued from page 2

neighbor and get a good movie recommendation.

Florez Bar & Grill moving rumors

Another business that has been the subject of moving rumors is Florez Mexican restaurant in the South Hills shopping center in South Land Park. There has been some speculation about Florez moving to the corner of the shopping center to occupy the spot that was best known as Neptune's Table. Sac Mod's Gretchen Steinberg described it on her Echlerific blog as a "once well known, old-school surf-and-turf in the 1960s to 1980s. In its heyday, Hank and Tim Stroh ran this traditional white cloth establishment. Lobster dishes and Cornish hens were specialties."

The space changed hands and then became The Highlander Scottish Pub and Restaurant for a couple of years. The Highlander went out of business. The spot at the end of the shopping center has sat empty for 10 years.

I spoke with Gustavo, who is a server at Florez Bar & Grill, and he said, "It's a fact, we're gonna be there." I was also able to speak with owner Roger Florez at the restaurant and he expressed to me that they'd really like a bigger space and better visibility in the shopping center. Florez Bar & Grill is a bit tucked away in their current location. No deal has been struck at this point, but it would be an excellent new location for the popular Mexican bar and grill.

at 5701 Freepoint Blvd., moved over to the former Merryhill School campus at 7450 Pocket Road. The new location is almost three acres and has access to the levee and the Sacramento River. Lots of nature opportunities for the Waldorf kids! The private Waldorf school purchased the property and will begin the new school year at that location in September.

It's really a quick turnaround considering Camellia Waldorf School had spent the past two years working with the Sacramento Unified School District to move the school to the former C.P. Huntington campus. While that would have provided many benefits, it would not have been owned by the school.

In a letter to parents, School administrator Ardyth Sokolor stated, "It has long been the dream of our leadership to own a permanent home for Camellia Waldorf School. The entire Faculty, Staff, and Board of Trustees recognize the value of this opportunity and are in full support of this move."

There was some talk and speculation that once Camellia Waldorf left the space next to Sacramento Executive Airport, there might be a "Safe Ground type facility" moving into the former 6-acre city nursery located behind the school campus.

This idea was completely shot down recently by Councilmember Jay Schenirer's office. An e-mail was sent to Over The Fence headquarters stating, "There is no plan to locate a Safe Ground facility at the site of the former city tree nursery. We are developing a plan to resume the site as a center for urban agriculture."

Camellia Waldorf School on the move, too

And in another local move, Camellia Waldorf School, which is located

Farm-to-fork off Freepoint?

Now that's a plan that could get the area excited! Sounds like an amazing idea and great use for the



Photos by Monica Stark / editor@valcomnews.com

Shown here is a classroom that has been packed up for Camellia Waldorf's move to Pocket Road.

6-acre parcel that is located in the Mangan Park neighborhood. Nobody really knows about the former city tree nursery. It's sort of tucked away out of site behind chain linked fencing.

I wanted to learn more.

I spoke with Jay's Chief of Staff Joe Devlin and he told me a bit more about the Urban Food Center. "We've been working on the concept of an urban food center for quite a while now."

Devlin told me it would be occupied by a non-profit or a couple of non-profits doing work in food literacy. A place where, in addition to producing food for sale, it would also be a place of learning. A place to go and take classes on compost, gardening, and horticulture.

They have a couple grants out there hopefully to get some start-up capital to get the urban food center up and running sometime soon.

It would also be a place that teaches food literacy to children in the school district. Devlin added,

"It would be place where kids could take both field trips and also put that education piece back into the schools as well. A place for community learning."

The 6-acre site is currently dormant, but imagine the possibilities of an urban food center.

It would be a great resource for the community – a place to pick up compost for your yard or start-up trees and plants for the yard. Maybe even some fruit trees.

The place as a whole would have to be cost neutral to cover all of its overhead.

They are in the process of putting together a business plan. They have a couple of grants in that they hope to hear back on in the next couple of months. "If one or both of those grants pop, we'll be able to start moving forward and implement a plan to activate the site," Devlin said.

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

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William Land Golf Course celebrates 90th anniversary

By LANCE ARMSTRONG
Lance@valcomnews.com

Editor's Note: This is the first article in a series about the history of the Land Park Golf Course.

William Land Golf Course, the nine-hole course at 1701 Sutterville Road in William Land Park, is presently celebrating its 90th anniversary.

During a city meeting held on Jan. 10, 1923, it was an-

nounced that a plan had been adopted for the construction of this golf course and that an architect for the project was to be hired.

The course, which actually opened 91 years ago and is the oldest existing public golf course in Sacramento, was laid out by a notable golf course architect named William J. "Willie" Locke, of San Francisco.

Locke was also the architect for a San Francisco area course at Lake Merced.

William C. Watkins, who resided at 726 9th St. and was a golf teacher for the city parks department, served as the superintendent of the construction of the Land Park course. And he would later become the superintendent of the same course.

In providing an update regarding the construction of the course, The Sacramento Bee ran an article about the place in its Dec. 20, 1923 edition.

The article notes that work was being performed on the sand traps that were "placed around the greens to catch bad shots." Additionally, it was mentioned in the article that the grass on the greens and fairways had reached a satisfactory level due to the then-recent rains.

According to the same article, the course, which was built without bunkers or traps across the fairways, was then expected to be ready for public use in May 1924.

The Bee, in an article in its May 6, 1924 edition, recognized that this plan had been maintained, as it was announced in that article that the course would make its public debut on Sunday, May 25, 1924.

On May 12, 1924, a meeting was held to discuss details regarding the then-soon-to-be-opened course.

In attendance at that meeting was the course's committee: Harrison C. Bottorff, city manager; James Dean, city architect; Frederick N. Evans, city landscape gardener; George Sim, superintendent of recreations; James B. Alexander; Alex Kaiser; John H. Miller; Warren G. McMillin; Frank M. Newbert; Robert Swanson; L. Stuart Upson; and Frank H. Webster.

Work on the construction of the clubhouse, which had a total cost of about \$7,800, began several days after the golf course committee met for their aforementioned meeting. Although the clubhouse was still under construction at the time that William Land Golf Course had its grand opening, the goal to have the course ready for public use by May 25, 1924 was met.

On that day, brief opening ceremonies were held at the course, which was opened at 8

Unfortunately, the lowest bid for the clubhouse project fell about \$2,600 short of the amount that was available for the project.

In being faced with that dilemma, the committee, during that meeting, decided to raise additional funds for the construction of the clubhouse. To accomplish that goal, a fundraising committee consisting of Swanson, Newbert, Miller and Alex Kaiser was organized.

In taking the first step to increase those funds, Swanson, who had already agreed to contribute \$2,000 to the project, said that he would add another \$250 to that amount.

For the purpose of avoiding a delay in the commencement of the building of the clubhouse, Swanson and Newbert underwrote the total amount to be raised for the project.

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Celebration:

Continued from page 4

a.m. The speakers of the event were Bottorff and Upson.

Following the ceremonies, a foursome golf competition was held between the duo of Del Paso Country Club champion Jess G. Childs and K.B. McCarthy, Del Paso's runner-up, and the team of Sacramento Golf Club champion C.P. Hamilton and Dan Banks, that club's runner-up.

A golf competition between committees of the Sacramento Golf Club and the Sacramento Chamber of Commerce followed.

After the completion of the preliminary competitions, the course was opened to the public, as those who had been preregistered for that day began playing on the course at their given tee-off times.

Miller authored a William Land Golf Course themed article, which was published in the May 24, 1924 edition of The Bee.

In that article, Miller described the course, as follows: "It is an excellent course with grass greens and grass fairways. The greens are of the built-up type, well trapped, and are more or less sloping in character, with gentle undulation, which will make putting a matter of considerable skill. The grass upon them, for the



The William Land Golf Course has been a part of the community since 1924.

Photo by Lance Armstrong

most part, will hold the ball true to its line."

In writing about the course's first hole, Miller, in part, notes: "(It) is a straightaway for a distance of 505 yards, the longest fairway on the course. The fairway isn't any too wide and a hook or slice will find the rough. This, however is of such character that the ball may be readily played and an experienced golfer will have no difficulty of getting out with one stroke."

Accompanying Miller's article is a sidebar, which provides the following per-hole

yardage: 505 (No. 1), 382 (No. 2), 156 (No. 3), 338 (No. 4), 401 (No. 5), 297 (No. 6), 470 (No. 7), 195 (No. 8) and 426 (No. 9).

The original costs to play at the William Land Golf Course were 50 cents per day, \$2 per month and \$15 per year.

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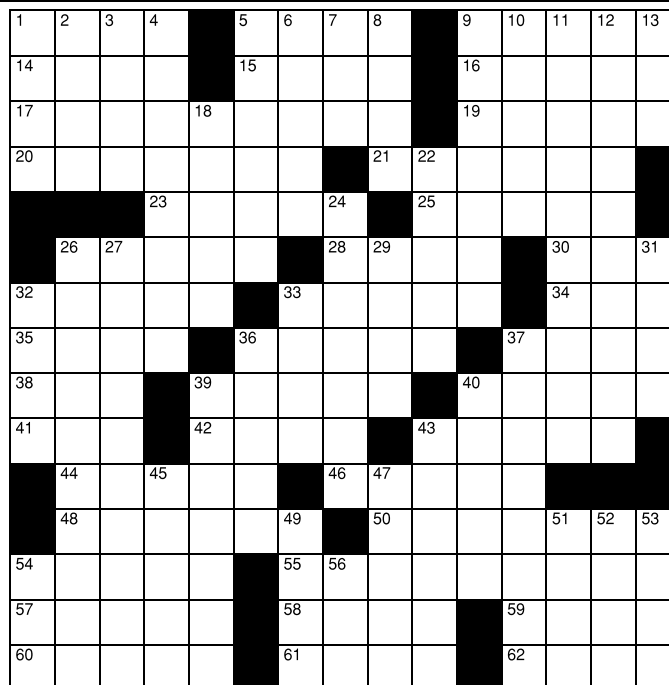
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The Crossword by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- Up to snuff
- Blew the whistle
- Massage locale
- Board partner
- Washstand item
- Snouted animal
- Complex
- Answer a job listing
- Charitable person
- Overly diluted
- Lavin or Blair
- Military cap
- Blink of an eye
- Shirt part
- Pigeon sound
- The items yonder
- Hit the books
- Mischief maker
- Type of lily
- Limerick starter
- Fit as a fiddle
- Con's confines
- Theater offering
- Be one of the crowd
- In a funk
- Freeway exit
- Traffic stopper
- iPhone competitor
- Plains home
- Grabbed apples
- Type of desk
- Biblical tower
- Too soft to hear
- Crop up



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DOWN

- Math figure
- Plant pod
- Clay-rich soil
- Artery obstruction
- Tranquil
- Judgment payout
- Back talk
- Apprehend
- Palindromic principle
- "Trick" joint
- Cave, poetically
- Math figure
- Plant pod
- Clay-rich soil
- Artery obstruction
- Tranquil
- Judgment payout
- Fishing gear
- Sprang up
- Like elm trees
- Crime outing
- Increase in value
- Actress in 1984's "All of Me"
- Be nosy
- Held in reserve
- Go along with
- Take a stab at
- Well-worn
- Tournament type
- Mystical glow
- Start the bidding
- Bugle call
- Bedding item
- Part of NAFTA
- Menial worker
- Tiny amount
- Playing area
- Ring bearer, often
- Portly plus
- Strike out
- Part of DOS
- Skier's lift
- Potpourri
- Trapper's trophy
- Cave dweller
- A Bobbsey twin

See answers, page 18

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Cook Realty Charity Golf Tournament returns for a 23rd year!

The 23rd Annual Cook Realty Charity Golf Tournament will take place on Friday, Sept. 18 at William Land Park Golf Course with an all charity dinner and prize raffle to follow. Hundreds of guests and golfers take part each year.

Since inception in 1992, the Cook Realty Charity Golf Tournament has raised well over \$350,000 for local charities. An important characteristic of this unique event is that over 90 percent of the earnings are turned over to several local non – profits, schools and churches.

Cook Realty Broker Trey Bonetti says the event is successful in raising needed funds for many local nonprofits and valuable community assets. "We've recognized now in our 23rd year how important these funds are and how many groups have come to rely on our help," said Bonetti. "We are extremely proud of the accomplishments of our agents and the part they play raising money for charity in a challenging economy."

Both Bonetti and Golf Director Ed Daniels know it doesn't happen without the help and hard work of literally hundreds of vendors, merchants and service companies from both within and outside the local real estate industry. "Each year we've ask folks to donate time, money or goods and services and they've responded overwhelmingly," says Daniels.

Jocelyn Yap, event treasurer, agrees. "We are grateful beyond words to the many participants large and small that make our event so significant to so many people," says Yap.

The late Charles Covey, then a Cook Realty agent, began the fundraiser in 1992. Each year an award is given in his honor to a community- member who has exhibited selfless work and sacrifice on behalf of those less fortunate.

Each of Cook Realty's agents play a part in securing ample gifts and prizes for the event dinner that evening. It is estimated the raffle helps to bring in as much as half of the total proceeds. "We have been so fortunate to be surrounded by so many fine business people in our community," says Realtor Meena Chan Lee. "Each year they are thrilled with the result of participating. The return on their investment exceeds expectations," said Chan Lee.

Cook Realty wants to thank past major sponsors that include Steve Larson of Farmer's Insurance, Bouey Termite and Construction, Lori Wilson of Property I.D. and Ken Perry of State Farm Insurance.



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The End of the Tour

The MPAA has rated this R

The best of the independent studios releasing movies today, A24, brings us "The End of the Tour" with Jason Segel as writer David Foster Wallace. Wallace, a noted author in real life, was known for his 1996 novel "Infinite Jest" which by 2006, had sold 150,000 copies. In this movie, we are given a dramatization of actual events that transpired when a writer for Rolling Stone magazine, David Lipski, played in this movie by Jesse Eisenberg, is able to convince his editor, with some difficulty, to be able to travel from New York City to meet and interview the intelligent novelist for five days in 1996. Part of that time is spent as

Wallace concludes the publicity tour for the book "Infinite Jest".

The story is told in flashbacks and based on Lipski's memoir of their encounter, titled "Although Of Course You End Up Becoming Yourself". The movie begins 12 years after the days they spent together on the occasion that Lipski hears of Wallace's death. He decides to revisit their days together by digging out his portable tape recorder from deep above his closet to listen to their recorded conversations. Miraculously, after 12 years, the batteries are still good and Lipski begins to listen. We are then in 1996, and the story of the five days they spent together unfolds.

This movie presents an interesting premise about a seemingly simple sub-

ject, the art of the interview. Nothing could be more complex if approached seriously.

The interviewer is motivated by any number of reasons and asks questions to satisfy his need for knowledge or demands of his employers. The subject of the interview is concerned how the finished work will shape his or her own idea of themselves and how he or she may be perceived.

This movie is very well written and Jason Segel's performance is outstanding. How refreshing to have a talking picture with talking. The idea of the movie is interesting and the fact that the events did actually occur in real life adds a frankness to the story that makes it agreeable. Danny Elfman's music is subtle when needed and perfect.



You'll also see Mamie Gummer, Meryl Streep's daughter in a few scenes. Interestingly her character's name is Julie, which by chance, Gummer happened to have played a part with that name in at least two other movies besides this one, the ill-fated "Ricki and the Flash" and 2008's "The Loss of Teardrop Diamond". There are also some delightful moments from Joan Cusack as a publicity handler for Wallace on the last stop of the book tour.

I have pointed out the levels of excellence in this mov-

ie, now I must come to the primary flaw which made it all fall apart for me. The performance of Jesse Eisenberg as David Lipsky fell flat for me. It seems the actor's push to be extra nervous and careful in a very millennial way, driven and yet cautious, seems forced and over the top. The camera work is shaky throughout and it is a distracting disservice to the interesting conversations that that occur before your eyes. Worth seeing, to be sure, but it falls short of fantastic.

The Prospector Prospecting:

CKM's student run newspaper seeks financial support



By CAROLANNE BOUGHTON
Special to the Land Park News

As bricks were laid and neighborhood boundaries drawn, Sacramento's first public high school, C.K. McClatchy, was constructed. With the opening of the school came one of California's first high school sport field complexes and student-run club organizations. In the late thirties, the Sacramento landmark also brought the school district's first student-run newspaper.

McClatchy's paper, *The Prospector*, has reported monumental historical events, such as the start of World War II and the Civil Rights Movement, but it has also continued to provide the high school's student body with pertinent information about student life and the surrounding community. *The Prospector* prides itself on

being a true member of the Land Park community.

Our newspaper is now the last remaining student-run paper in the entire school district. This means that all newspaper decisions – from formatting, article topics, to writing – are all under the management of students at the high school. This fostering environment allows students to harness their composing, editing, and leadership skills. As students progress through their high school careers, they have the enlightening opportunity to observe their school community and the greater Sacramento area through the lens of an inquisitive journalist.

Because *The Prospector* is student-run, the editors and writing staff take the survival of the paper as a personal responsibility. This year's editorial staff plans to broaden the readership of *The Prospector* by distributing free copies of the paper to local businesses surrounding McClatchy and reorganizing the online newspaper to make it more accessible. To accomplish this feat, however, the newspaper desperately needs as much community support as possible.

The Prospector staff and C.K. McClatchy High School is calling upon the Land Park community to ensure that the students' desire for news will always be quenched. *The Prospector's* legacy will live on through your monetary support. All In-Kind donations are tax deductible. All donors will prominently be displayed on the "Friends of *The Prospector*" page in every published edition of the newspaper throughout the school year. Of course, you will also have the satisfaction of knowing that your support kept Sacramento's longest running high school newspaper alive and prospering.

Please send checks addressed to the CKM Prospector to C.K. McClatchy High School at 3066 Freeport Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95818 or visit gofundme.com/782ab6d4 to make an online donation.

Carolanne Boughton is the Editor-in-Chief of *The C.K. McClatchy Prospector*. If your place of business would like to receive copies of *The Prospector*, please contact Carolanne. She can be reached at Editor.CKM-Prospector@gmail.com.

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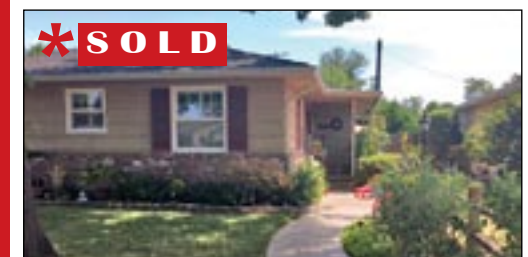
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When We Were Colored:

Retired Bee associate editor Ginger Rutland releases play based on her mother's memoir

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

It's Sacramento 1952 and you're the first black family on your block. Ginger Rutland invites you to come laugh and cry with the Rutlands in, "When We Were Colored," a play she adapted from her mother Eva's legendary memoir.

The play, like the book from which it springs, tells the story of a middle class black woman born and raised in the segregated south before World War II who moves West to raise her children in integrated California after the war.

In this homage to her mother, Ginger Rutland, former television reporter, NPR commentator and editorial writer for The Sacramento Bee, puts her family's story on stage. Performances of "When We Were Colored" will be at Pioneer Congregational Church, 2700 L St., the weekends of Aug. 21 and 28; Fridays at 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays at 2 and 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and are available at www.brownbagticket.com or by calling 443-3727.

Ginger, a Curtis Park resident, sat down with this publication to discuss the creation of the play, her love and admiration for her mother, what it was like growing up going to the integrated neighborhood Sierra School and to shed light on stereotypes of the black experience.

"The stereotypical stories were that blacks were slaves, sharecroppers, that they were lynched, that they came from

welfare mothers. But, not that is not authentic, there's also a huge swath (of the population) that has been ignored," she said upon introducing the play.

From the segregated deep south in Georgia, Ginger's parents and grandparents were upper-middle class, despite her grandfather Isaac West Moreland's societal position as a slave.

Eva's memoir, which was first published in 1964 and used in sociology classes throughout Sacramento, has been endorsed by Willie Brown, Jr., former mayor of San Francisco; Cornel West, activist, professor and author of "Race Matters." After several printings of the book, it eventually went out of print and it wasn't until 2007 when Ginger's father, Bill Rutland, passed away that everybody at the funeral wanted a copy. So, Ginger decided to re-release it but changed the title (with stern consternation from family members) and added family photos, which were absent from the earlier printings.

While Eva's book was first called "The Trouble with Being a Mama," Ginger thought to make the title more evocative of the era and decided to call it, "When We Were Colored: A Mother's Story" as the term "colored" was a polite description of black America.

Found on the back cover of the re-released version of the book, Brown writes: "Eva Rutland's chronicle of child rear-

ing during the transition from segregation to civil rights is warm, poignant, and funny. It is also a powerful object lesson in how and why women — as mommas and grandmothers — have long anchored the soul of Black America."

For Eva's particular situation, she lived her early years in a segregated South, a place where a certain comfort was felt. Around her, she saw middle and upper class blacks working in such professions as doctors, teachers, and funeral directors.

"It was like the Huxtables. Because of segregation, we had to have black business people who became leaders of these black communities.

Some of these were wealthy, but (many) were solidly middle class. There's a lot of them but you never read about them or see them. So mother wrote a story in which a world she grew up. She was protected, loved, happy," Ginger said.

Having lived to age 95, Eva died on March 15, 2012 and her granddaughter, Eva Shields, wrote an obituary for the Curtis Park Viewpoint, which describes her as the "quintessential Southern belle."

Born in Atlanta on Jan. 15, 1917, a granddaughter to former slaves, despite discrimination, Eva Shields writes, "(Eva Rutland) had a happy childhood." In 1943, she married Bill Rutland, a civilian employee at the Tuskegee Army Air Base, and in 1952 they moved to Curtis Park. Eva already had published articles in the leading women's magazine of the day, Redbook, Ladies' Home Journal and Women's Day, "not bad for a black

woman in the 1940s and early 50s."

"She grew up in the segregated South and loved it," continued the younger Eva. "She worried about her children who would have to interact with whites in the integrating West of the 1950s and 1960s. Eva started writing stories about her children to tell white mothers, 'My children are just as precious and just as fragile as yours. Please be kind to them.' She compiled these stories into a book entitled The Trouble With Being a Mama, published in 1964.

"When she was in her early 50s, grandma went blind but she didn't let that slow her down. She bought a talking computer and became one of Harlequin's most prolific writers, eventually writing over 20 books for the well-known romance publisher."

Ginger said Eva's magazine pieces told about the transition

See Rutland, page 14

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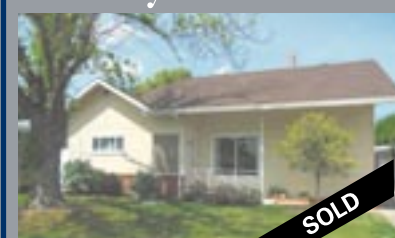
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Rutland:

Continued from page 13

from segregation to integration and as such told stories about her children, the PTA, "how Johnny can't learn his Algebra" and other social problems brought to a relatable down-home level, with questions like: "Will they be accepted at Miss Diddy Wattie's class? What happens they are called a nigger?"

Even though Ginger herself is an accomplished writer, growing up under the same roof as a Victorian romance novelist and magazine writer, to her Eva didn't strike her as out of the ordinary.

"When you are a kid, it's just your mom, but she was the president, the vice president of the PTA. She was the combatant mom and she was the girl scout leader, the little league mom. She was a classic '50s mom. She wrote plays and the PTA would perform them. She wrote morality plays. She wrote a lot. Short stories for magazines.

"But, truly her writing career took off when she going blind when I was in college. She loved Victorian romances that featured lords and ladies. Her favorite author was Jane Austen. She wrote books patterned on that. She had white characters, but had black characters (through out). She would populate the novels with us to remind people that we're there and people just like they are," Ginger said with emphasis.

As Eva feared her children would be a minority in Sacramento, the move out West was brought on by her husband Bill's military involvement.

Hired to work at McClellan Air Force Base, it was that chapter in the Rutlands' lives in which Bill was trying to buy a house. While he saw "better than average track homes for \$250 down near McClellan, Ginger noted, "There were restrictions on blacks, Asians, Jews" and being black, they weren't allowed housing near the base."

So, Bill was driven around town, looking at neighborhoods like Del Paso Heights and Oak Park, but neither of those neighborhoods, to say the least, felt like home. So, he drove himself around other areas and found Curtis Park. And he noticed, Ginger said, "If they are going to sell to Orientals, they will sell to us."

But owning a house in the Curtis Park neighborhood came with a caveat for minorities. "They could only own above 2nd Avenue. Below 2nd, you couldn't," Ginger said.

This was before freeways cut through the area. There was no Highway 50 cutting through downtown. There was no 99. And Ginger loved her home and her neighborhood. "It was a two-story house. It was quite nice, treelined. It was an idyllic childhood. The Yeels lived across the street, and Alfred. He was Japanese. So, there was a Chi-

nese family across the street, Japanese, black and white people all around. It was a very integrated neighborhood."

A student at Sierra School, Ginger recalls the demographic makeup with "some of everything, but there was mostly white people."

While Eva's notoriety grew as a writer, Bill's job at McClellan was "to sell weapons of mass destruction to allies around the world. We're talking the Middle East, Europe, everywhere," Ginger said.

A family on the move, the Rutlands eventually moved to South Land Park with the help from a sympathetic white colleague of Bill's, Ginger said. "The two of them always tried to buy a house and mom found a lot we could afford" at 35th Avenue and Holstein Way, "but they wouldn't sell to her, so she went to a colleague of Dad's and he bought the lot for her. They built (the home) from the ground up."

Ginger started at The Sacramento Bee in 1988 and retired in 2013. Before that she was a television reporter for Channel 4 in San Francisco covering Sacramento news. Then she was at Channel 3 for seven years, followed by a job providing radio commentary for Capital Public Radio.

At The Bee, she was on the editorial board, often writing the opinion of the paper, and she also wrote columns. Her

father's favorite column his daughter wrote was in favor of President Bill Clinton during the Monica Lewinsky scandal, she said. "I wrote columns on gay marriage. You name it. I did stuff on the parking lot at the train station that was a mess, the cost of buses for kids going to school. I wrote a lot about pensions, which I thought were too fat. So public unions hated me, the teachers union.

"We liked charter schools and things like that. You write opinions and if they are any good, they are controversial. You take a stand and there were people on the other side. I tried to be fair, omniscient. In my own head I always said, 'blah blah blah blah blah or not.' I always try to keep aware that we always make mistakes."

Asked what piece she was most proud of during her time at The Bee, Ginger said it was one that probably no one remembers, but was representative of the reason she went into journalism - to expose injustice. About a poor black man who had been charged with hit and run and assault, Ginger said there was something different about this man who wrote her a letter from jail. "He wrote all of these letters, some to the NAACP and one of his letters landed on my desk. As a journalist, you get letters from prisoners and you don't pay attention, but this letter rang so true to me. I called his public defender. The woman who claimed to have been hit had a record of insurance fraud." Meanwhile, the district attorney kept offering him deals, trying to convince him to plead guilty and to get over it. But, the young man wanted to be in law enforcement and knew if he pleaded guilty he wouldn't reach his goal. "The D.A. wouldn't drop it and the people who were in the jury were like, 'huh?' The evidence was that he was a victim of a scam. In the end, he was not only acquitted but was declared factually innocent" by black judge Alice Lytle, a friend of Ginger's.

Ginger wrote a couple of pieces on the young man, first when he was acquitted, then secondly when the judge brought back the case. And while she didn't keep in touch with him, she wondered what eventually happened to him.

While no one may remember those stories Ginger wrote about him, her legacy as a voice of The Sacramento Bee will never be

forgotten and will stand the test of time, just as that of the writing of her mother Eva's book, which will soon be brought to life with the performances of it starting this week at Pioneer Congregational Church.

"When We Were Colored" is a one-act, hour-plus play organized in a series of vignettes featuring three characters, Ginger, Bill and Eva, respectfully played by Brooklyn Solomon, Kelton Howard and Shawna James and directed by Maggie Adair Upton. What follows are biographies of the director and actors, courtesy of Ginger.

About the actors

Maggie holds a masters of arts in theatre from Sacramento State University and has been teaching, acting, directing and managing for the region's theatre for many years. Currently she is a member of the Playwright's Collaborative Steering Committee. Most recently she directed *The Third Date* at the Wilkerson for Ray Tatar; *The Flu Season* and *Time Stands Still* for Ovation Stage, and appeared as Queen Hecuba in Resurrection Stage's *Trojan Women*. At Chautauqua Playhouse, she appeared in *Maternal Instincts*, directed Steve Martin's *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, and will direct a production of *Calendar Girls* there next year. As managing director at River Stage projects, she directed *Five Women Wearing The Same Dress*, *The Waiting Room*, and appeared in *Sympathetic Magic*. Her favorite directing projects include productions at the Thistle Dew.

Brooklyn received a bachelor's of arts in theatre. Her credits include *The Trial of a Short-Sighted Woman vs Mammy Louise* and *Safreeta Mae*, as Victoria Dryer, *Joe Turner's Come and Gone* as Mattie Campbell and *North Star* as Aurelia Taylor. Most recently she was seen in Celebration Arts' productions of *Bourbon at the Border* as May Thompson, (a role which earned her an Elly nomination for best lead actress in a drama) and *The Bluest Eye* as Claudia.

Shawna just completed her freshman year at Boston University where she is pursuing her BFA in Theatre Arts. She has spent most of her summers training professionally at Center REP's Young REP program and Interlochen Arts Camp. Some of her favorite shows include *Every Five Minutes* (Magic Theatre Arts).

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Advertise in California Kids! Serving Greater Sacramento, For more information, call Steve at (916) 429-9901 Published by Valley Community Newspapers, Inc. view it at www.valcomnews.com

Need Home Improvement? Check out the Home Improvement Guide in the *Land Park News*. For Melissa for Home Improvement ad rates, call 429-9901.

Classified ads work

ADVERTISE YOUR RENTALS

Call 429-9901

Faces and Places: 6th Annual Banana Festival 'Viva La Banana' featured Vegas styled fun

Photos by BARRY WISDOM

Thousands of visitors from throughout Northern California attended Sacramento's 6th Annual Banana Festival on Saturday, Aug. 9 and Sunday, Aug. 10, at William Land Park. In keeping with the 2015 "Viva La Banana" theme, the festival incorporated the glitz and glamour of Las Vegas, complete with renowned Elvis tribute artist Rob Ely. The multicultural festival celebrates the cultures of Asia, Africa and the Americas that use the banana as a source of food, art and culture.



- EVENT LISTING SECTION -

Advertise your craft fairs, holiday bazaars, school fundraises, church events, etc. in your Community Newspapers. Call (916) 429-9901 for rates.

Cabrillo Clubhouse
100th year Anniversary

October 4, 2015

Share your history of the hall.

Contact:
Cabrillo Club #5
P.O. Box 189280
Sacramento, CA 95818
J. McKay: 916-421-3312

JFK CLASS OF '75
40 YR REUNION

September 26, 2015

at Scott's Seafood
The Westin-Portofino Tent

7-10 p.m. Early bird ticket raffle!
For more information go to:
www.tinyurl.com/JFKennedy75

CALL AND PLACE YOUR
EVENT TODAY!
(916) 429-9901

CALENDAR

Solution to Crossword:

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

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

Non-Profit Organization is Seeking Local Host Families for High School Exchange Students

ASSE International Student Exchange Programs (ASSE), in cooperation with your community high school, is looking for local families to host boys and girls between the ages of 15 to 18 from a variety of countries: Norway, Denmark, Spain, Italy, Japan, to name a few.

ASSE students are enthusiastic and excited to experience American culture while they practice their English. They also love to share their own culture and language with their host families. Host families welcome these students into their family, not as a guest, but as a family member, giving everyone involved a rich cultural experience.

The exchange students have pocket money for personal expenses and full health, accident and liability insurance. ASSE students are selected based on academics and personality, and host families can choose their student from a wide variety of backgrounds, countries and personal interests.

To become an ASSE Host Family or to find out how to become involved with ASSE in your community, please call 1-800-733-2773 or go to www.host.asse.com to begin your host family application. Students are eager to learn about their American host family, so begin the process of welcoming your new son or daughter today!

ic Knott, adapted by Jeffrey Hatcher. The production begins on Aug. 28 at the Playhouse. The show will run on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. through Sept. 27 (No Performance on Sept. 12, but an additional show has been added on Thursday, Sept. 10 at 8 pm). The performances will be held at the Chautauqua Playhouse, 5325 Engle Road in the La Sierra Community Center in Carmichael. Admission is \$20 General, \$18 Seniors/Students and SARTA members. Premium seating is an additional dollar. *About the play:* Forty-seven years after WAIT UNTIL DARK premiered on Broadway, Jeffrey Hatcher has adapted Frederick Knott's 1966 original, giving it some new character and plot twists. Susan Hendrix, a blind yet capable woman, is imperiled by a trio of men in her own apartment. As the climax builds, Susan discovers that her blindness just might be the key to her escape, but she and her tormentors must wait until dark to play out this classic thriller's chilling conclusion. The direction is by Dean Shellenberger, set design by Rodger Hoopman, with the lighting design by Don Myers. Costuming is by David Borad. Information and tickets are available through the Chautauqua Playhouse website: www.cplayhouse.org or call the box office at 489-7529, during business hours (Fridays noon to 5 p.m.) The playhouse is located at 5325 Engle Road, Carmichael.

Fire Station 16 Open House
Aug. 29: Fire Station 16, located at 7363 24th St., will have an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Meet firefighters and possibly mascot Sparky.

BlackAugust in Sacramento
Aug. 29: Starting at 6 p.m. in William Land Park, 3800 Land Park Drive, BlackAugust features a rally, speakers, art, entertainment, and will be finalized with a march. This kid friendly event is a memorial and a celebration. August is full of his-

torical Black achievements and tragedies. It is one year since Mike Brown's death, 10 years since Hurricane Katrina. Let's come together in August to commemorate it all. Let's come together and learn. Let's come together to work and play. August is a month when the following historical events took place: Haitian Revolution, Nat Turner Rebellion, Fugitive Slave Law Convention, Foundation of the Underground Railroad, March on Washington, Watts Uprising; the first Afrikans were brought to Jamestown as slaves in August of 1619. Gabriel Prosser's slave rebellion occurred on Aug. 30, 1800. The "Prophet" Nat Turner rebellion and executed a slave rebellion that commenced on Aug. 21, 1831. In 1843, Henry Highland Garnett called a general slave strike on Aug. 22. The Underground Railroad was started on Aug. 2, 1850. The March on Washington occurred in August of 1963. The Watts rebellions were in August of 1965. On Aug. 8, 1978 Philadelphia police initiated a shootout against MOVE members.

Curtis Fest
Aug. 30: This year's 9th Annual Curtis Fest promises to be another exciting event where local artists exhibit and sell their work. This free event will be held at the Sierra 2 Center 2719 24th St from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will feature more than 60 artists and artisans showcasing a wide range of artstries, including ceramicists, watercolorists, jewelry artists, photographers, potters, portraitists, fabric and giclee artists. In addition to great art, Curtis Fest also features great food from local vendors, live music from Jon Merriman, Jahari Sai and Matt Lancara & Marc Del Chiaro, face painting by the Happily Ever Laughter fairies and a petting zoo. Call to artists: Artists interested in participating this year's Curtis Fest should register online by Aug 14: <https://app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/SierraCurtisNeighborhoodAssn/curtisfest.html> or call 916-452-3005. Contact Faith Johnstone, events coordinator, at 452-3005 or email: faith@sierra2.org, jade@sierra2.org.

Curtis Fest Artisan Fair provides fun for the whole family

This year's ninth Annual Curtis Fest promises to be another exciting event where local artists exhibit and sell their work. This free event will be held at the Sierra 2 Center 2719 24th St from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday and will feature more than 60 artists and artisans showcasing a wide range of artstries, including ceramicists, watercolorists, jewelry artists, photographers, potters, portraitists, fabric and giclee artists. In addition to great art, Curtis Fest also features great food from local vendors, live music from Jon Merriman, Jahari Sai and Matt Lancara & Marc Del Chiaro, face painting by the Happily Ever Laughter fairies and a petting zoo. Contact Faith Johnstone, events coordinator, at 452-3005 or email: faith@sierra2.org, jade@sierra2.org.

SCNA is one of the busiest neighborhood associations in California. It was formed in the 1970s to rescue the old Sierra School from demolition. Since then, this vibrant, innovative group has worked to bring neighbors together for year-round events and offer a cohesive voice for community concerns. The restored Sierra 2 Center now serves as a focal point for artists, teachers, students, parents, children, seniors and more – all who rely upon its dance studios, gardens, perfor-



Photo courtesy of Faith Johnstone. Fairies will again face paint children at this year's Curtis Fest, which will be held on Sunday.

mance spaces, meeting halls and class rooms to provide them a charming and reliable home. Curtis Park is a residential neighborhood of approximately 2,500 homes, a patchwork of diverse architectural styles situated around a quaint 18.32-acre park.

AUGUST

Chautauqua Playhouse presents "Wait Until Dark" as season opener
Aug. 28-Sept. 27: Chautauqua Playhouse will open its 39th season with a new adaptation of "Wait Until Dark," by Freder-

GOLD RUSH DAYS

HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENTS

LIVE MUSIC PICNIC & BBQ PATIO

STAGECOACH RIDES

IT'S BACK!
LABOR DAY WEEKEND
SEPTEMBER 4-7, 2015

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717-7217

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CalBRE# 01882787

This lovely home is nestled on a graceful tree-lined street! Charming and spacious with wonderful flow. Light and bright updated country kitchen and updated bathroom with separate tub and shower and hardwood floors throughout. Updated roof, plumbing and electrical panel. Generous and lush backyard with a detached building perfect for a shop, office, or studio.

LABOR DAY WEEKEND
SEPTEMBER 5TH - 7TH 2015

CHALKUP TO SACRAMENTO!

Celebrating 25 Years

Raising Funds for local Youth Art Grants

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FREMONT PARK • 16TH & Q STREETS

Over 20 Live Music Acts • Food Trucks • Kid's Zone • Vendors • Beer Garden

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Come tour our newly remodeled, downtown facility featuring:

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- We pay utilities, offer free transportation to shopping, medical appointments, and fun excursions to local area points of interest
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NOW OPEN DOS COYOTES

Finally a Place on R Street for the Entire Family to Eat!

1800 15th Street #D R Street Corridor

Sunday Funday Kids Eat Free!

For the month of September buy 1 Adult Entrée and get a kids meal for free!

Monday-Saturday: Street parking is Free after 6 P.M.
Sunday: Street parking Free All Day

PLANET GYMNASTICS

www.planetgymnastics.net

3202 Riverside Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95818
www.facebook.com/planetgymnasticsofsacramento

GYM SLEEP OVER | August 29th - 6:30pm - 10:30am

Bring your sleeping bag, pillow, toothbrush & a change of clothes! Invite friends, neighbors & siblings! Lots of fun, games, and a movie on the gym wall! We will provide dinner, snacks and breakfast for the kids!

NATIONAL GYMNASTICS DAY! | September 19, 2015

We want to promote the sport of gymnastics and its fitness benefits. We will have an Open Gym 2:00-5:00pm, \$5. New Students will receive a Free Class Trial! Legal Guardian must sign a waiver for new students. Adults are not required to stay for the 5 and older kids. Walking - 17yrs old are welcome!

ANY QUESTIONS CALL 916-447-4966 OR EMAIL PLANET.GYMNASTICS@YAHOO.COM
WWW.PLANETGYMNASTICS.NET



NESTLED IN CURTIS PARK

Just a short skip from the Park, this darling 2 bedroom cottage delights at every turn. From the built-in cabinetry and tray ceilings, to the vintage Wedgewood and cozy breakfast nook, this home oozes charm. On-demand hot water and upgraded electrical panel. \$399,000

STEPHANIE GALLAGHER 342-2288



ELEGANT LAND PARK

3 bedroom 2 bath, you will love the classic features such as coved ceilings, beautiful wood floors, and arched doorways. Spacious layout with a separate living room and family room, formal dining room, remodeled kitchen with nook, lovely brick patio! \$690,000

ERIN STUMPF 342-1372



CURTIS PARK BRICK HOME

This 3 bedroom, 2 bath home will steal your heart. Exposed beam ceiling in living room, filled with natural light, updated kitchen, cozy den with built-ins. Master bath and a 1/4 basement. It comes complete with a Zen Studio and loft in the enchanting landscaped backyard. \$549,000

CHRIIS BRIGGS 834-6483
KAREN SANNDSTROM 803-0530



LITTLE POCKET HOME

Bring your imagination, loads of potential! Fantastic location, huge lot and 3-car garage that includes a drive through! Trees galore including Fuji Apple, Persimmon, Grapefruit, Pomegranate and so much more! 3 bedroom home was altered to accommodate wheelchair and handicapped. \$350,000

PAULA SWAYNE 425-9715



PENDING

HIDDEN GEM!

This 4 bedroom 2½ bath will remind you of a European villa with a beautiful backyard garden! Fantastic kitchen plus casual and formal eating areas. A master suite, family room and home office. A pleasure to see and a treasure to own. \$737,500

SHEILA VAN NOY 505-5395



PENDING

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 updated kitchen have open views of beautifully landscaped rear yard. \$779,000

RICHARD KITOWSKI 261-0811



PENDING

CURTIS PARK AREA 4-PLEX

Minutes from downtown, freeways, McGeorge Law School, City College, Med Center and DMV. Super easy to rent, very well maintained. Four 1 bed 1 bath units, room for 2 cars to park in the back and street parking. Newer roof and gutters, dual pane windows, painted 2½ years ago. \$469,000

LISA MCCAULEY 601-5474



CURTIS PARK DUPLEX

Tons of potential...but it is not for the faint of heart...needs work. A great fixer with many possibilities in a great location and a great price. Huge, deep lot! Second unit is over garage at back of property. Garage has been somewhat finished and was used as a print shop! \$310,000

PAULA SWAYNE 425-9715



SOLD

NEW SOUTH LAND PARK

Rare opportunity to own a nearly brand new home in South Land Park. 3 bedrooms 2 baths, open floor plan; lots of light! Quality wood laminate floors, 6 ft windows, master suite, spacious rooms 2-car garage. Steps from Land Park, Amazing quality home and location! \$438,000

MONA GERGEN 247-9555

for current home listings, please visit:

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