

LAND PARK NEWS

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In memorial Bahagia "Baha" the Sacramento Zoo's Sumatra Tiger

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South Hills Shopping Center to see first signs of revival with a community-based coffee shop

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Afro Freak fashion week celebrated in Land Park at Sol Collective

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Stephen Crowley

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Stephen Crowley

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Letter to the Editor

To the editor:

Has anyone mentioned the public restrooms at Land Park? There are approximately six public restrooms that I have asked Steve Hansen's office to consider closing/locking during the hours of darkness. I have been advised by Hansen's office that city parks feels that locking and unlocking the public restrooms (five of six have grill gates to lock with locks already attached) would put a strain on the existing manpower.

I consider those restrooms to have serious health and safety issues, based, partially on my concern and posting in NextDoor Land Park approximately 30-45 days ago. There were over 100 comments of residents who noted the horrible conditions of these public restrooms, seen and observed as magnets for drug use and sales, sex use and sales, lack of cleanliness/maintenance, non-ADA compliant, lack-of-safe lighting during darkness, aka-safety and security issues.

Last night, I purposely drove past four of the noted public restrooms at 7:30 p.m. Two of the public restrooms (Village Green and Duck Pond, which is on the east side of Land Park Drive) had no inside or exterior lighting...completely dark, and the other two public restrooms (Funderland and Fairytale Town) were barely lit. The environment and the conditions of these public restrooms, to me, makes the city a responsible party for a lawsuit, waiting to happen. Even as the public restrooms are non-ADA compliant makes them even more of a target for lawsuits. I would also suggest the city consider upgrading/rebuilding these antiquated, horrible, non-ADA public restrooms with compliant, current facilities. William Land Regional Park is more than just a neighborhood park. Every year thousands of Sacramento residents and tourist, near and far, visit this beautiful park. These public restrooms by no means meet the standards and expectations of a city that wants to be progressive and an example.

Sincerely,
Art Taylor

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Art, community, activism, neighborhood gossip, local events, planned development, restaurants, culture, schools, politics and neighborly do-goodery: the topics within the Land Park area to write about are endless and I often have more story ideas than time.

If you're a student interested in writing, I would be happy to guide you through the process of writing news and feature stories.

Give Monica a call at 429-9901 or send me an email at editor@valcomnews.com



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South Hills Shopping Center to see first signs of revival with a community-based coffee shop

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

Let the Renaissance begin.

If everything goes according to plan for South Land Park residents Tony and Elizabeth Moseby, they will be opening a coffee shop, called Garden Party Coffee & Tea, in the South Hills Shopping Center by summer's end.

But they'd like your help!

They started a fundraising page on Foodstart.com, which "helps restaurants and food trucks raise capital online in small amounts, say, \$50 or \$250. In exchange, backers receive great perks like food discounts, guaranteed tables, and behind-the-scenes tours all redeemable with a physical card they receive in the mail." On the Coffee Garden & Tea fundraising page, folks can donate \$10, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, or \$1,000.

The Mosebys expect a start-up cost of \$96,000 for renovations, used kitchen equipment, furnishing, first-lease payments. With the FOODSTART.COM project funds, this will bring enough money to seek legitimate funding from sources backed by the Small Business Administration loan guarantee.

Their project gross-earning estimates of more than \$400,000 the first year. As of Sunday morning, \$310 of the \$35,000 goal had

been raised. Even if they don't reach their fundraising goal, Elizabeth told Valley Community Newspapers that they continue to go forward. She's a third grade GATE teacher at Pony Express Elementary and Tony works for the state. Their financial advisor told them to keep their day jobs, that is, until the business is financially stable.

Located between Taki's Salon and Brownie's inside the South Hills Shopping Center, the bistro, in an atomic age, modern blend atmosphere, would feature coffees from around the world and specialty coffee beverages from lattes, espressos, to cappuccinos. Black, green, and various herbal varieties of teas will be offered, as well as "tea sandwiches" (finger sandwiches with specialty fillings).

They will also offer cookies, sweet breads, scones with house-made "clotted cream" and butter, as well as seasonal fruits with Devonshire cream or fresh cream depending on dairy regulations.

Garden Party Coffee & Tea will be a community bistro that has a lot to offer in the way of meet and greet, or stay and unwind. Local artists and musicians will be welcome to share their gifts as desired and needed.

The Mosebys have three phases to get the business off the ground.

Phase one would be to renovate and open a site with a much needed coffee and tea cafe with light baked goods; phase two would feature "Formal Tea Sundays," which will create a party site for formal teas for private parties and phase three would be "Waffle Bar Wednesdays" where the bistro would create a fun morning for patrons to come in and make their own waffles at a waffle bar and enjoy a day in the community.

"The Formal Tea Sundays is because I really like formal tea and tea parties," said Elizabeth. "I took my husband to San Francisco to experience (a formal tea). It will be where you sit and have the tea and the treats. It's like an American version of a British high tea. Women and little girls love to have formal tea parties. It's a place for grandmas and moms, little girls and little boys, too, depending on the environment, to dress up. I have fond memories of doing that with my daughter and kids in the neighborhood."

As for the Waffle Bar Wednesdays ... "They would be a funky thing to do... Nothing says hospitality like having a waffle," Elizabeth says.

The Mosebys live in the neighborhood and Elizabeth even grew up nearby and has fond memories of

her childhood. Also, reaching an age to think about retirement, but "not old enough to retire," opening up a coffee shop seems like a perfect fit. "I enjoy working with the public. This would be so great. I have great memories of South Hills being a great shopping mall. We're just sentimental I guess."

She remembers the old Jumbo Market and her



Photos courtesy
Shown here are the dreamers, the movers and shakers who will bring a coffee shop to the South Hills Shopping Center: Tony and Elizabeth Moseby.

See Coffee, page 4

Patricia Webb - Realtor

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Coffee:

Continued from page 4

dad driving her around the neighborhood at Christmas-time to look at the lights. For their anniversary, her parents would have dinner at Neptune's Table.

"I have a lot of good family memories. Being around the airport was so cool seeing the airplanes take off. I have a lot of happy memories from here, so working at South Hills plaza is like completing a circle for me. I would eventually like to quit teaching. There's a younger, new generation of good teachers that could take my place. I could hire old students to work in my restaurant," Elizabeth said.

Last summer during her vacation, Elizabeth took seminars presented by SACRAMENTO SCORE and the Small Business Administration, and it was through their teachings she learned different ways to get funds. "You could get bank loans and they also said crowdfunding. They said it's a very popular way of funding businesses at this time and that the President is actually backing the crowdfunding."

Elizabeth said she called all three owners of the shopping center and she said the

Chen family has been the only one willing to work with her to get a contractor to transform the old cleaners into a coffee shop.

Hoping to see their vision through, Gretchen Steinberg, president of Sacramento Modern and South Land Park resident, said the demand for a coffee shop at South Hills Shopping Center is undeniable. "It is the number one thing that people say they want access to and miss the most. (We) still need an anchor tenant for the Jumbo Market site, but a coffee/tea place is perfect for one of the smaller tenant spaces."

Right now, the South Land Park Neighborhood Association is gathering up suggestions for the broker of the empty grocery store. They put out a call on NextDoor stating their involvement working with broker Bobby Rich in compiling community input on the desired tenants for the vacant Vic's market. They ask folks to send input to slpna@slpna.org with the subject line "Vic's input." The broker has assured SLPNA and Councilman Jay Schenirer that Walmart is not being considered as a possible future tenant. The annual meeting will be held March 30, so stay tuned.

Please send your updated Calendar announcements

...especially if you host monthly events!
e-mail to editor@valcomnews.com

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Art, community, activism, neighborhood gossip, local events, planned development, restaurants, culture, schools, politics and neighborly do-goodery: the topics within the Land Park area to write about are endless and I often have more story ideas than time.

If you're a student interested in writing, I would be happy to guide you through the process of writing news and feature stories. Just give me a call at 429-9901 or send me an email at editor@valcomnews.com

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To participate on this page, call (916) 429-9901 for information

The Crossword by Margie E. Burke

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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- ACROSS**
- 1 Bridge feature
 - 5 Stringed instrument
 - 9 Jane Fonda film, "Monster"
 - 14 Make a bundle
 - 15 Arabian bigwig
 - 16 Green
 - 17 Cybercafe patron
 - 18 Take for a bride
 - 19 Not bold
 - 20 Beat
 - 22 Gym tote
 - 24 Itsy-bitsy biter
 - 26 Ogler's look
 - 27 Formula
 - 28 Chester White's home
 - 30 Understandable
 - 33 Kind of photograph
 - 35 Folklore fiend
 - 39 Part of MADD
 - 40 It may be flared
 - 43 Carry on
 - 44 Energy drinks, perhaps
 - 46 "Carmen" highlight
 - 49 Drone, e.g.
 - 50 Cleopatra biter
 - 53 Shipping hazard
 - 54 Donations
 - 56 What a slow runner may need
 - 59 "Ciao!"
 - 62 Arise
 - 63 Armoire feature

- 5 Bat's home
- 6 Bloodless
- 7 Coin since 2002
- 8 Analogous
- 9 Gave out
- 10 Erupt
- 11 Lash mark
- 12 Catch
- 13 Pole-lowering dance
- 14 Winged
- 15 Golf club
- 16 Breakfast sizzler
- 17 Charge
- 18 Get rid of
- 19 Identifying mark
- 20 Forum wear
- 21 Religious leader
- 22 Top 40 lists
- 23 Graceful bird
- 24 Cut down
- 25 During
- 26 Small stream
- 27 First choice
- 28 Apprentice doc

- 21 Gumbo pod
- 22 Like some talk
- 23 Clique
- 24 Out
- 25 "Wanna ___?"
- 26 Coming up
- 27 Taste, e.g.
- 28 Ottoman title
- 29 Avian chatterbox
- 30 Face-off
- 31 Dashed
- 32 Dastardly doings
- 33 It may be due on a duplex
- 34 Propel a boat

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Notes from Land Park Community Association meeting minute

Editor's Note: What follows is a summary from the minutes of the Land Park Community Association monthly meeting, which was held on Feb. 17 at Eskaton Monroe Lodge, 3225 Freeport Blvd. Members present include: Steve Winlock (President), Sydney Young (Treasurer), John Schade, Beth Sherman (Secretary), Art Taylor, Bob Schae-vitz, Pinki Cockrell, Lisa Riley, Stephanie Duncan, John Puente, Craig Rutledge, and Barry Hogan.

director about having the bike racks that are in front of the zoo moved into the zoo due to children climbing on them.

LPCA meeting and annual election will be held on Wednesday, March 16. Nine seats are up for election. For more information contact board@landpark.org or drjschade@aol.com.

LPCA's Spring Egg-Hunt will be held on Saturday, March 19.

City Parks Department update on William Land

Park: Shannon Brown, Operations Manager of the Department of Parks & Recreation reported that there is \$398,000 in the park trust fund balance, with \$50,000 set aside for park maintenance (including continuing to improve the jogging paths.) BBQ pits on order, cyber-tech garbage cans to save on the trash having to be picked up (from daily to once every three months.) A pond consulting firm was hired about eight months ago to look at the needs of the ponds at McKinley Park and William Land Park. For William Land Park, the boat pond will be renovated with an estimated cost of \$521,000. Additional funds will be requested from the city since there are not enough funds for the renovation (about \$200,000 short.) Among the renovations will be increasing the pond depth. The pond depth is currently only four feet (with 20 inches of sludge.) The depth will be increased to nine feet. Construction will begin July, 2016 and is expected to take about four months.

Report from Councilmember Hansen's Office: Consuelo Hernandez reported that the city has 3 new park rangers (we now have 8 total for the city parks.) The city is working on their annual budget.

Endorsement for McClatchy High School to improve the fields: Presentation by Brian Nelson, Bob Sertich, and Denis Ishisaka, asking for support for updating the athletic facilities at McClatchy High School. "Restore the Roar" is a non-profit organization. The board was unanimous in their support endorsing Restore the Roar's efforts. For additional information or to donate, go to www.restoretheroar.org.

Grant Committee: Barry updated that the McClatchy weightlifters equipment has been purchased and they have been paid. A time will be set up for when the board can come to see the new equipment. The Crocker Riverside Elementary Grant of \$2,500 will be paid out as bills are received.

Taste of Land Park: Bob updated that work on the Taste of Land Park continues and he has been in contact with a couple of bands. Any adults interested in volunteering to help with the event can contact the LPCA for additional information.

Annual Egg Hunt & Hat Parade: The Egg Hunt & Hat Parade will be at William Land Park between 12th and 13th avenues on Saturday, March 19 from 9:30 to 11 a.m.. The board approved a budget of \$1,000 for the event.

Comments and Suggestions from Board members: Lisa Riley announced that on Friday, February 26 is the Taste of McClatchy which supports the baseball program. Contact Lisa Riley at drakeriley6@gmail.com for tickets or additional information. Cal Middle Spring Thing is March 5. Go to calmiddle.org for additional information or to purchase tickets (or contact Lisa Riley at drakeriley6@gmail.com for additional information.)

The Write Place: California Writers Club

By LEIGH STEPHENS

"You can't wait for inspiration. You have to go after it with a club."
-Jack London



Jack London.

In October 2015, the Sacramento California Writers Branch celebrated its 90th anniversary. The branch has 150 members of the approximate 1,800 members and 21 branches of California Writers Club (CWC) throughout the state.

The club, founded in the early twentieth century, is one of the oldest writers' organizations in continuous operation in the nation. Its members are poets, journalists, essayists, technical writers and creators of genre and literary fiction. Members are also editors, booksellers and others involved in related fields. They form a community based on the craft of writing and the realities of getting work published.

Call of the Wild author Jack London (1876-1916) is considered the CWC founder. Its beginnings date to the early 1900s when London and his literary pals gathered at the home of poet Joaquin Miller in the Oakland hills for picnics and conversation. About the same time, the Alameda Press Club led by California poet laureate, Ina Coolbrith was holding meetings in Berkeley. These literary groups merged and in 1909, formed the California Writers Club.

Sacramento CWC Branch President Margie Yee Webb says, "It's exciting to see our members and other writers networking and energized from what they learn at our meetings and the connections they form."

The branch serves the greater Sacramento region and has monthly luncheon meetings, the Writers Network and Open Mic. Other events include an annual Writing Contest and a Meet to Write group. Members also participate in local author events with the public libraries in the community.

Webb is the author of *Cat Mulan's Mindful Musings* based on her cat Mulan.

She says the kitty inspired her to write. Mulan was ad-

opted from the Front Street Animal Shelter at six weeks of age.

She says, "I stalked her with my camera and captured some amazing images. Her expressive, philosophical nature inspired me to create words of wisdom to accompany each photo."

Webb is also the co-creator of *Not Your Mother's Book...on Cats* and co-producer of a video titled *FEMME: Women Healing the World*. The film is an inspirational voyage about women around the world who actively transform and heal the global community. *FEMME* was screened at the Crest Theater in 2013.

Margie Webb says, "I strive to make a difference in what I do. The cat books support pet awareness, and the film supports women. I am now working on another gift book that features quotes about empowering women."

Another club member is international crime fiction writer Michael Brandt who uses the pen name of Brandon Michaels. Brandt is a retired LAPD homicide detective, who lives in the Sacramento area with his wife and daughter. In addition to writing, Brandt has run in more than 100 marathons and describes himself as an extreme adventurer who has traveled the four-corners of the world.

His crime thrillers feature historical and archeological facts and fiction.

One example is *Echoes from the Grave* (2010) that highlights the genocide under Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe.

As an accomplished athlete, Brandt has also written *Women's Fitness, Figure, and Bodybuilding*.

CWC member Shirley Parenteau, a successful children's book author, lives in the Elk Grove community with husband Bill and near her three children and six granddaughters.

And where does her writing inspiration come from? As a child, she says she helped her mother gather neighborhood social news for her mother's weekly column for a small Oregon newspaper.

Her father was a logger, which caused the family to move around a lot. She says her mother always took this in stride and managed to write feature articles for a number of Oregon newspapers.

Parenteau says she began writing travel articles for outdoor magazines, and her successful children's books come from her experiences with her own children and grandchildren.

Her picture book series began with *Bears on Chairs* and has become a big hit in Japan, Germany, and in four Scandinavian countries. Recently Thailand joined the list. The Bears series has birthed collateral bear products such as plush teddy bears, bears on notebook covers, bears on stationary, and bears on backpacks. The ongoing books continue the Bears' romp through beds, the bath, and through birthday parties. The sixth book in the series is *Bears in the Snow* scheduled to be published in October 2016 by Candlewick Press.

In a feature story in the *Elk Grove Citizen* in 2015, Shirley says, "I was in a bookstore with my granddaughter who was three at the time and seemed to be fascinated with the chairs. I thought to myself, Bears on chairs...what would you do if you had more bears on chairs. It all started there."

In 2014, Shirley began another series of middle-grade novels telling the story of the Friendship Doll Project of 1926. *Dolls of Hope* follows Ship of Dolls from the

viewpoint of a Japanese girl who became a protector of one of the dolls sent to her country.

The project was a peace movement in 1926 between children in the United States and Japan. The exchange was a goodwill plan after the Immigration Act of 1924 was enacted to prohibit East Asians from immigrating to the United States.

Dolls of War, the third in the series, is set against the background of World War II when in both the United States and Japan, the dolls became symbols of the enemy.

Parenteau says she has just sent *Candlewick* the first of two middle-grade historical novels set in San Francisco in 1905, before and after the devastating earthquake. Her books can be located at Gifts from the Heart in Elk Grove, where she has launched a number of book parties.

Her advice to beginning writers is, "Read currently published books. Styles change over the years."

CWC member Dr. Amy Rogers is an MD as well as a Harvard-educated PhD writer, scientist, editor and critic. Her writing includes thrilling science-themed novels in the style of Michael Crichton such as *Reversion*, *The Big Thrill*, and *Petroplague*.

Reversion is a novel that asks can rabies cure as well as kill. The book introduces Dr. Tessa Price who knows what it's like to lose a child to a genetic disease. In her work she invents a radical new gene therapy that she takes to clinical trials in Palacio Centro Medico. It is a resort-like hospital on a Mexican peninsula where rich medical tourists get experimental treatments that aren't available anywhere else. While at the Palacio a rabies-like infection is spread from research chimpanzees to humans. Dr. Price investigates and finds a shocking connection to her gene therapy experiment.

Steve Liddick who is on the Sacramento CWC Board of Directors is a print and broadcast journalist who started writing

for *Playboy Magazine* gags. He has written articles for *TV Guide*, *L.A. Times* and other publications. His extensive radio experience includes his work as news director for stations *KRTH* and *KDAY* in Los Angeles. He also served the Associated Press for six years as the Pennsylvania legislative radio news correspondent.

A fulltime writer and editor, Liddick writes adventure novels that include, *All That Time*, *Sky Warriors*, and *Old Heroes*. He lives on a horse ranch east of Sacramento.

Writers need contact and encouragement from other writers, and Sacramento provides such a rich and creative community. For more information about Sacramento California Writers Club and membership, contact President Margie Yee Webb at mywebb@sbcglobal.net.

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POLICE LOG

Compiled by: Monica Stark

The news items below are collected from police dispatchers' notes and arrest reports. The information in them has often not been verified beyond the initial reports. All suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Tuesday, Feb. 2 (Brandishing): South Land Park Drive / Florin Road at 11:16 a.m.

An argument on school grounds occurred between two parents whose children had been in a fight the prior week. A School Resource Officer responded and separated the parents. As the victim was leaving campus an unknown vehicle pulled up and a subject threatened her with a firearm. The victim fled in her car and called 911. A report was generated and the case remains active.

Wednesday, Feb. 3 (Brandishing): 1300 block of Florin Road at 5:55 p.m.

Officers responded to a report of a subject that had threatened employees of a nearby business with a makeshift baton. Officers located the suspect on scene and found him to be in possession of drugs. He was booked for brandishing, possession of a prohibited weapon and narcotic related charges.

Thursday, Feb. 4 (Burglary): 5900 block of Freeport Boulevard at 1:06 a.m.

Officers responded to a burglary alarm. Upon arrival, officers found the front window of the business had been broken out. It appears the suspect entered the business and took alcohol and loose change. The suspect is outstanding and the case remains active.

(Shooting): 2500 block of Kit Carson at 10:46 p.m.

Officers responded to the area regarding a subject who had been shot. While units were en-route to the scene, officers received an update that the victim had been transported to an area hospital by an unknown subject. The victim remains in critical, life-threatening condition and it is believed that this was possibly a home invasion. Due to the severity of the victim's injuries, homicide detectives responded to the scene and took over the investigation. This does not appear to be a random incident and it is possible that the victim knew the suspects. At this time, the investigation remains active and on-going.

Saturday, Feb. 6 (Assault): 5600 block of Freeport Boulevard at 7:14 p.m.

Officers responded to the location regarding a report of an assault. The suspect entered the business, caused a disturbance, and threw a blunt object at an employee. No injuries were reported. The same suspect entered another business in the area, damaged property, and fled prior to police arrival. A report was generated.

Monday, Feb. 8 (Vehicle Burglary): 7500 block of Greenhaven Drive at 4:42 a.m.

Officers responded to the location regarding a report of a vehicle burglary. Officers arrived on scene and detained one of the suspects who was found in possession of stolen property. The other suspect managed to flee prior to police arrival. The suspect who had been detained was arrested on various theft-related offenses.

(Vehicle Accident): 2400 block of Florin Road at 5:25 p.m.

Officers responded to the location regarding a report of a

vehicle accident with injuries. The driver and another passenger were driving in the area recklessly and hit a curb causing the car to overturn. The vehicle came to rest after hitting a parked car. Both occupants were transported to and area hospital to be treated for serious, but non-life threatening injuries. The investigation is on-going and no arrests have been made at this time.

Tuesday, Feb. 9 (Ringing Alarm): 4700 block of Franklin Boulevard at 2:35 a.m.

Officers responded to the location regarding a report of a ringing alarm and determined that the business had been burglarized.

Thursday, Feb. 11 (POD-Stolen Vehicle): Broadway / Riverside Boulevard at 9:12 a.m.

Officers were patrolling in the above area when they received an alert of a stolen vehicle being driven nearby. Officers located the suspect vehicle and contacted the driver who was ultimately arrested for possession of a stolen vehicle and possession of burglary tools.

Friday, Feb. 12 (Robbery): 6900 block of S Land Park Drive at 5:50 p.m.

The victim and suspect were reportedly in an argument at the above location when the suspect stole money from the victim and fled. Officers arrived on scene and located the suspect nearby. The suspect was safely detained and ultimately arrested for robbery.

Saturday, Feb. 13 (Burglary): 1300 block of 17th Avenue at 4:32 p.m.

Officers responded to Funderland and completed a burglary report. It was discov-

ered that a suspect broke into a shed located on the property approximately 12 months ago and took a weed eater and an industrial blower. Following the burglary, the business didn't notify police, they just replaced the stolen items. Today a citizen contacted Funderland and informed them that one of the stolen items was at the local Pawn Shop. An employee responded to the Pawn Shop and confirmed that the item was in fact their missing property. Officers responded to the Pawn Shop and ascertained who pawned the stolen item. This investigation is active and on-going.

Tuesday, Feb. 16 (Child Endangerment): 1500 block of Broadway at 5:02 p.m.

Officers responded to the location regarding a report of child endangerment. The suspect was observed pushing a child in a stroller in the area and ultimately caused the child to fall out. No major injuries were reported. Officers arrived on scene and contacted the suspect who was later determined to be intoxicated. He was arrested for public intoxication, resisting arrest, and child endangerment. CPS was notified and the child was released to a family member.

Thursday, Feb. 18 (Medical Aid Assist): 1400 block of Broadway at 2358 hours.

Officers responded to the above location regarding an intoxicated subject who fell and sustained a non-life threatening injury. It was later determined unknown suspects stole the subject's property and keys to the subject's vehicle. Officers checked the area for the vehicle. A report was generated and the investigation remains active.

Donut Dash to return on Saturday, March 5

Get your healthy appetite for donuts and legs ready for running because the Donut Dash is returning to Land Park on Saturday, March 5, starting at 8:30 a.m. Online registration closes on Wednesday, March 2 at midnight. On Thursday and Friday, you can bring the completed registration form to any packet pick-up location. The same registration form can be used the morning of the event, which benefits the Child Life Programs in Sacramento area children's hospitals. Registration includes the delicious donuts or donut holes from Marie's Donuts, T-shirt, and one-of-a-kind finisher's award.

The event features a competitive and non-competitive races. Competitive participants will begin the event 10 minutes earlier than all other participants and receive the same T-shirt and finisher's award. In order to be an official overall or category (men or women) winner, the participant must be registered in the "Competitive 4 donuts" category AND consume all four donuts at Marie's before returning to the course.

Proceeds from the race are donated to the Child Life Program at Sutter Children's Center & UC Davis Children's Hospital.

Funds are used for programs such as Beads of Courage and Music Therapy in addition to activities designed to help children and families cope with their medical experiences. These programs and activities educate children about their illnesses, prepare them for procedures and surgeries, offer normal childhood play experiences (iPads, toys, games, arts and crafts, movies, etc), celebrate holidays and special events, etc.

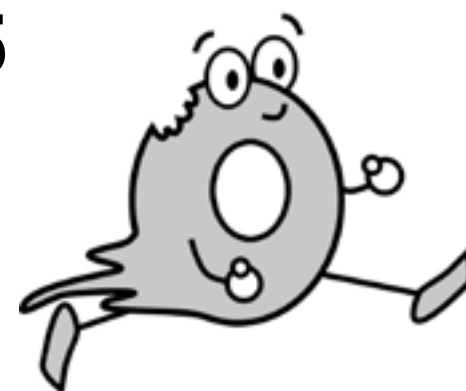
How it all got started.... (source: Donut Dash promotional material)

One evening while watching SportsCenter on ESPN in February 2009, Zack Wandell, a volunteer since September 2004 in the Child Life Program at Sutter, saw a story about a Krispy Kreme Challenge that started in 2004 amongst a group of friends on the campus of North Carolina State University. The concept was simple: run 2 miles, eat a dozen Krispy

Kreme Donuts, run 2 miles back. All of the proceeds were donated to the local Children's Hospital. When Zack heard that, something clicked and he thought "We can do that here!". Soon after, the Donut Dash in Sacramento was created. He spread the word amongst friends to gauge interest, with the promise that if he'd be able to donate \$1000, he'd organize the event.

The first step, a donut shop. Many people that grew up in Sacramento know the BEST donuts around are found at Marie's Donuts on Freeport Blvd. The race would have to involve Marie's so the course is naturally set in beautiful William Land Park. Rather than eating a dozen donuts, he picked 4 and thus, 4 miles & 4 donuts became the new standard for the Donut Dash. For the more health conscious folks, a "lite" division was created so that they could eat 6 donut holes, and still enjoy all the fun.

Donut Dash is a 501(c)3, tax ID 27-1671648. The Donut Dash is run entirely by volunteers, there is no paid staff or consultants, thus maximizing donated proceeds. The costs associated with



the event are kept low and offset by the generous support of our sponsors.

To date, Donut Dash 501(c)3 has donated over \$250,000 (through April 2015) to the Child Life Program. Cash & In-kind donation totals include funds raised by the Donut Dash, The Duck Dash, & other events and opportunities.

2009 - \$1500
2010 - \$3500
2011 - \$15,000
2012 - \$35,000
2013 - \$60,000
2014 - \$60,000
2015 - \$75,000...and counting

For more information, email zack@DonutDash.org or visit www.DonutDash.org.

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Cal Spring Thing set for March 5

If you have driven by Cal Middle School recently, you will notice the school is changing but not only outside, inside as well. In the last two years, Cal has grown by over 150 students, tipping the enrollment to over 840 students, due to enhanced academic programs, stellar inclusive practice model, unique electives course offerings, and championship winning sports teams.

Cal is a beautiful and historic site in Land Park, with traditions steeped in the generations of local families passing through over the decades. With a recent \$3.1 million gymnasium renovation project completed, and expansion of both basketball and soccer programs, Cal is quickly becoming the "destination" middle school for not only Land Park residents, but students from all over the city seeking the "Cal" experience.

To help Cal, continue on its path of excellence for the students and community, friends of Cal are getting ready for the 7th annual Cal Spring Thing on March 5. The Annual Cal Spring Thing raises much needed funds for the school and has become a neighborhood celebration as the community rallies behind its only middle school. The community's involvement has been pivotal in the growing successes of Cal. The Spring Thing will feature small plates served by local restaurants, beer and wine tastings, a live & silent auction, Wall of Wine and Cal student art will be for sale. Also, featured this year will be Cal Culinary program.

The community is invited and encouraged to attend the event, starting at 6:30 p.m. at the Congregation B'Nai Israel at 3600 Riverside Blvd. For more information on the event and to purchase tickets visit www.cal-springthing.com or tickets are available at the Cal front office. Tickets will also be available at the door the night of the event.

Faces and Places: Knit-a-Thon

Photos by STEPHEN CROWLEY
stephen@valcomnews.com

The 5th annual Alice Birney Knit-A-Thon was held for two hours on Saturday, Jan. 30 and featured a bake sale and live entertainment as well. Children in first through eighth grade knitted squares and collected donations for this very important fundraiser that directly supports the children's handwork program. All of the collected knitted squares are made into blankets and given to children in need.



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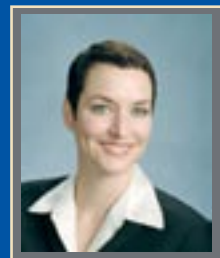
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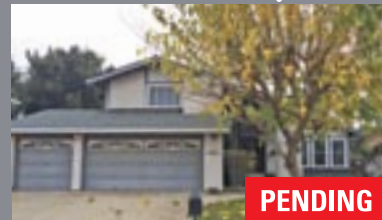
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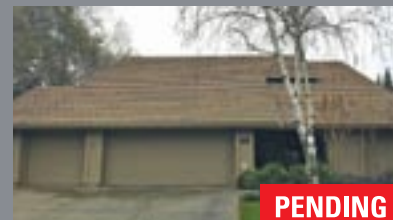


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Faces and Places:
Sweetheart Dance at
the Elks Lodge, No. 6

Photos by STEPHEN CROWLEY

Shown here is a collection of photographs from this year's Sweetheart Dance held at the Elks Lodge, No. 6 on Friday, Feb. 12.



Question for the holiday: Why is your Valentine so special to you?

Compiled by STEPHEN CROWLEY

The question above was asked to the men about their Valentines at the Sweetheart Dance held at the Elks Lodge, No. 6 on Friday, Feb. 12.



"She is the best mother of all five of our children."
Tony Muljat – Anne Muljat – Together 69 years



"She is the best dance I have ever met, and I have danced a lot."
Marty Hotheinz – Serena Zanussi – Together for 5 months



"She is sweet, kind and loving woman."
Tom Rehberg – Loretta Rehberg – Together 50 years



"She has shared her love of bowling, dancing and her love of Church. She has enriched my life so much."
Joe Yee - Mary Jane Yee – Together for 21 years



"She helps me see well beyond my own horizons"
Mike Pleschner – Cathy Pleschner – Together 27 years



"She has the biggest heart, and is always concerned about others"
Ron Brusato – Jerry Landreta-Brusato – Together for 11 years

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By MONICA STARK
 editor@valcomnews.com

A loving mother to five surviving cubs and an ambassador to the fewer than 500 Sumatran Tigers worldwide, Bahagia, known by most as "Baha", died suddenly on Wednesday, Feb. 10, due to trauma received from the Sacramento Zoo's male tiger, Mohan, who became aggressive with her during a physical introduction that morning.

Staff, who had been monitoring the introduction from the outside of the enclosure, quickly sprang into action to separate the two tigers. As soon as staff was able to get the male tiger into a secure location, veterinarians rushed to care for Baha; but unfortunately she had already passed. Veterinary staff tried to resuscitate her but were unsuccessful. Baha has been at the Sacramento Zoo since 2002 and her five offspring from three previous successful breeding introductions live at other Association of Zoo and Aquarium (AZA) accredited zoos.

Since Mohan's arrival in December 2015, staff had been monitoring his and Baha's behavior daily as they had visual contact with each other. Both tigers' behavior indicated that this was the proper time for physical introductions. Based on knowledge and experience from past successful introductions, staff decided to physically introduce the tigers that Wednesday morning. The Sacramento Zoo has successfully housed and introduced tigers since the 1960s, including Baha and her previous mate, Castro.

Tonja Candelaria, public relations coordinator at the zoo, provided an extensive interview with the Land Park News regarding the tragic situation and provided insight into the life and personality of Baha.

Providing context and more information regarding the introduction between Baha and Mohan, Candelaria said, "With Baha, he was showing interest. They were showing positive signs towards each other. They had living quarters next to each other. They would rub up against each other, but they didn't have

full physical contact (until Feb. 10). He was vocalizing towards her. They were chuffing ... and that's one of the signs, and she was cycling. He was interested in her. He wanted to be in the space with her. They (male tigers) can tell when the female is cycling. In the wild, it's the only time they would naturally come together. Initially, (the encounter) was all good. She was in the exhibit first. She could see the door. She wasn't surprised. They looked and approached each other. They chuffed each other. Those were all positive signs. Then, all of a sudden, he became very aggressive."

"We have to remember they are wild. The staff is okay. We're very heartbroken. She meant a lot to a lot of people. It's a very difficult thing for all those involved. If there had been any indication this wouldn't have gone well, they wouldn't have introduced them ... The Sac Zoo is a nonprofit facility and we care about these animals. We never would compromise these animals if we thought this would happen."

To help staff cope with the tragedy, the zoo brought in a grief counselor and other keepers who have gone through similar incidents have supported Baha's keepers. "It's a living collection. Things are born, things pass away. Everyone thinks about how best to manage the grief. We're a very supportive team and we have been supporting each other," Candelaria said.

A wonderful ambassador for Sumatran Tigers around the world, everyone at the zoo loved Baha. "She was a staff favorite, a people favorite. We all cared for her very deeply," Candelaria said.

Born at the Atlanta Zoo, Baha arrived to Sacramento in 2002 and has been described as a sweet tiger and an amazing mother. She had her likes and dislikes, like we all do. She would sit in the window with a cat stare and often would take her time strolling around the exhibit. She taught her babies everything they needed to know and was clear about showing them when it was time for them to leave her side. She was gentle and like any mother, she set rules and boundaries. If a cub needed a time out, she would put her hand on them and sit them down. She was good about letting them

In memorial Bahagia "Baha"

the Sacramento Zoo's Sumatra Tiger

climb on her, nibble on her ears, but when she had enough, she would get up and walk away.

Rabbit was a favorite treat of hers. She was funny about how she would eat food, as she would put it in between her paws, not allowing her cubs touch it. "She was good about playing with the cubs. They would be sneaky with her and she would let them know that they needed to be sneakier next time."

The tiger introduction was planned through the Species Survival Plan, an AZA program that cooperatively manages specific populations with the goal of sustaining healthy, genetically diverse, and demographically varied species well into the future.

Currently, 11-year-old Mohan, who is on loan from a zoo in Memphis, is off exhibit and under observation by Sac Zoo keepers and seems to be 100 percent normal. "There are no issues, no problems." There could be a number of reasons to relocate Mohan. If Sac Zoo was looking to bring someone else in or if there's an exhibit at another zoo that wishes to care for Mohan, then he may be relocated. "He's had a lot happen here. He was being a tiger and we don't blame him for that. But there are varying opinions in the public (about where to place him). We want to make sure we're doing what's best for him. That might be placing him somewhere he will be just as taken care of as he would have been at the Sac Zoo," Candelaria said.

Describing some of the details about how relocating zoo animals work within the AZA, Candelaria said, "All of the our animals are managed by the Species Survival Plan. Someone in the country has information on every Sumatran tiger in the U.S. who knows what their ages are, which facilities have openings, if they are opening an exhibit. When tigers reach age 2, they go solitary," adding that some of the considerations for relocation also include genetics. "We look at all of that, but at the end of the day we decide. We don't buy and sell animals. We're not selling them to another facility. We're really lucky we're a part of the Association of Zoo and Aquarium accredited zoos and are held to the same standards and network where we rely on each other for knowledge and expertise."

Matías Bombal's Hollywood

Touched with Fire
The MPAA has rated this R

Roadside Attractions offers "Touched With Fire", a love story of self-discovery by director Paul Dalio that is complex and beautiful at the same time. The picture opens as we are introduced to a non-successful poet, Carla (Katie Holmes), at a reading for her book of prose entitled "Faded" at a bookstore. She reads from her tome with little response from those gathered who only offer polite applause. Across town, we are also introduced to a man, Marco (Luke Kirby). In addition to writing lyrics to rap songs, Marco has a vivid creative streak which is fueled in part by his manic behavior, as he is bipolar.

Marcos dad, George (Griffin Dunne), arrives for a visit and is concerned by his condition. He asks if Marco has been taking his medications as he looks at the disarray of his apartment, where the power has been shut off and Marco's books are spilled all over the floor. Marco is concerned that the medications will not allow him to feel full emotions, and so he has stopped taking them, much to the concern of his father.

We also see concern in a relationship between Carla and her mother, Sara (Christine Lahti). Sara is a no-nonsense, cold, rigid and concerned mother. Carla also suffers from manic behavior and before long, Marco and Carla find each other in the same mental institution and fall in love. They understand each other completely, but this does not bode well with the doctors and staff who try to separate them. Their parents try similar tactics when they are eventually released.

The movie is told in seasons, with on-screen text describing summer, fall, winter, spring and so on. The story is compelling and the performances great. The photography, by Kristina Nikolova and Alexander Stanishev is beautifully composed. The use of color, light and dark sequences in the movie are suburb, with the two principals at their happiest with brighter colors and lighting. At their most oppressed, in darker colors and lighting. This is a first outing for Paul Dalio as a filmmaker; he himself has suffered from the bipolar disorder and was inspired to stay medicated and creative by Dr. Kay Jamison who wrote a book in 1996 entitled "Touched with Fire: Manic Depressive Illness and The Artistic Temperament". The movie's title comes from the book, but the narrative is entirely Dalio's. He also composed the music, and edited the film.

The importance of this movie is that it serves as ray of hope for those with artistic temperament that suffer from manic depression. Not only was I touched, I was very moved by this and could see the essential value of a movie like this reducing the stigma of this illness in popular culture. It is told as a dramatic entertainment but remains a powerful insight into a world that clouds so many lives. Great for those that have manic depression, and even better for those who do not, in order to understand it. In no way is this a documentary, it is an excellent dramatic movie. I suggest you see it.

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Race
The MPAA has rated this PG-13

Focus Features offers the story of Olympian Jesse Owens, who was the world sensation of the 1936 Olympics held in Berlin, winning four medals that year. Owens is played in the movie by a very likable Stephan James and his coach, Larry Snyder, is played by Jason Sudeikis. The movie begins in the early 1930s where we see the young Owens preparing to go to college for the first time. His mother, Emma, played by Michèle Lonsdale Smith, has fixed up an old blazer for him to wear. His strong and silent father, Henry, played by Andrew Moody, sees him off stoically. He sees his sweetheart and after handing her a few dollars, heads on a bus to Columbus, Ohio to try out for the Ohio State team.

Lynn St. John, Ohio State's athletic director (Vlasta Vrana) and coach Snyder greet the athlete and are stunned by his speed. Snyder thinks him a worthy Olympian. St. John wonders if there will even be 1936 Olympic games as the Olympic committee was seriously considering not participating in the games due to the rise of national socialism in Germany.

In Washington, Avery Brundage (Jeremy Irons), a builder and member of the Olympic committee, is trying to convince Jeremy Mahoney (William Hurt) to work things out. Mahoney is for boycott. The two actors add much depth to the narrative. Given the era and place, Jesse encounters bullying from the other players, who insist on showering before he, intolerant of the color of Jesse's skin. The coach is sure that Jesse could be an Olympic hopeful and encourages him positively. The coach wants to be sure Owens does not mind that neither the Germans nor the Ohio State students may look at him unfavorably. He wants Jesse only to think to win.

The rest of the of the picture fairly represents the actual historical events and makes an interesting parallel between the two historically conflicting African American and Jewish cultures. With the '36 Olympics, the two groups had a greater advisory, the Negrophobia and hatred of Jews by the Nazis.

The relationships between Jewish and African American athletes at the games is one of this movie's best points and is engagingly told. Owens says it best; "On the track, there is no color, there is only fast and slow."

The movie is entertaining with solid, likable performances. The sequences shot at the actual Olympiastadion in Berlin are fantastic, adding



much realism to the picture. The movie does have historical flaws, however. Many of the buses seen in the early part of the film at the Ohio State sequences were too new for the era depicted. The music throughout the movie was not correct in style and arrangement for the mid 1930s, especially in Germany, where Reich Minister of Public Enlightenment and Propaganda, Joseph Goebbels, had outlawed jazz and blues music the year before in 1935.

The oddest historical error occurs with the famous airship Hindenburg, which was most certainly present at the actual event. The Olympic rings had been painted on the side of the airship for the occasion, and its immense size was a symbol the Nazis wanted the world to see. The actual rigid airship had been Zepppelin LZ 129, and was named for past German President Paul von Hindenburg and his name was printed in large, old German typesetting on the front two sides of the Zeppelin. In this movie, as the zep passes over Jesse's head, impressively blocking the sunlight, the name "Hindenburg"

is on the wrong spot of the Zeppelin's outer skin, at the back and underneath, rather than the front and on the sides. A remarkable oversight since they went to the detail to include it in the first place.

On the other side of the coin, the depiction of film director and documentarian Leni Riefenstahl is spot on. She is seen in the movie and did, in real life, make a film about the Olympics in two parts, "Olympia". That movie has images so beautiful and haunting that they remain timeless today. She cared more about her work than politics and insisted to her death in 2003 that her films documented what was, and that her participation was as an artist and not political. A remarkable and strong woman, she is played in the movie by actress Carise van Houten.

Aside from the historical errors and incorrect music, this may be one of the best movies to ever open in February, likely chosen to highlight Black History Month. I encourage you to see it; the performances are likable. It honors the truly great real life story of one of the USA's greatest heroes, Jesse Owens.

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Upcoming Ella K. McClatchy Library events

Hours for the Ella K. McClatchy Library, located at 2112 22nd St., are as follows: Sunday and Monday: Closed; Tuesday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Wednesday: Noon to 8 p.m.; Thursday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.; Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. For details, telephone the Sacramento Public Library at (916) 264-2920 or visit www.saclibrary.org.

a.m. for books, songs, stories and fun. Miss Lindsey and her guitar always make this story time a fun event. Everyone is welcome to "stay and play" after with our fabulous toys.

Full Circle Tolkien Book Club
Saturday, March 5 at 1:30 p.m.: We welcome all readers of the works of R.R. Tolkien to join us for this monthly book club.

STEM Craft for Kids: Leprechaun Catchers (Family/All Ages)
Saturday, March 5 at 2 p.m.: Get ready for St. Patrick's Day by joining us to make your very own leprechaun catcher! We will have various sized boxes, construction paper, markers, popsicle sticks and other craft supplies for you to use your creativity and engineering skills to design your own structure that will capture leprechauns this St. Patrick's Day!

Lindsey and her guitar always make this story time a fun event. Everyone is welcome to "stay and play" after with our fabulous toys.

Neighborhood Knitters Library (Adult)
Thursday, March 10 at 2 p.m.: Do you have knitting projects you need to finish? Do you enjoy a little conversation with your knitting? Join our knitting group, learn some new tricks and share your knowledge with others. We welcome all ages and skill levels.

Preschool Storytime (Early Childhood (0-5))
Tuesday, March 15 at 10 a.m.: Books, songs, stories and fun. Miss Lindsey and her guitar always make this story time a fun event. Everyone is welcome to "stay and play" after with our fabulous toys.

Lego Mania! (School Age (6-12))
Saturday, Feb. 27 at 2 p.m.: Like building with Legos? Join us for our monthly Lego free play afternoon. Lego and Duplos will be provided.

Artist Reception (Adult)
Wednesday, March 2 at 6:30 p.m.: Join watercolor artist David Peterson as he discusses and demonstrates his methods. He will also discuss additional pieces of his work as part of the ongoing exhibit, A Sense of Place, here in the Ella K. McClatchy Library community room.

Full Circle Tolkien Book Club
Saturday, March 5 at 1:30 p.m.: We welcome all who are interested in the works of R.R. Tolkien to join us for this monthly book club.

PreSchool Storytime (Early Childhood (0-5))
Tuesday, March 1 at 10 a.m.: Please join us every Tuesday at 10:00

Preschool Storytime (Early Childhood (0-5))
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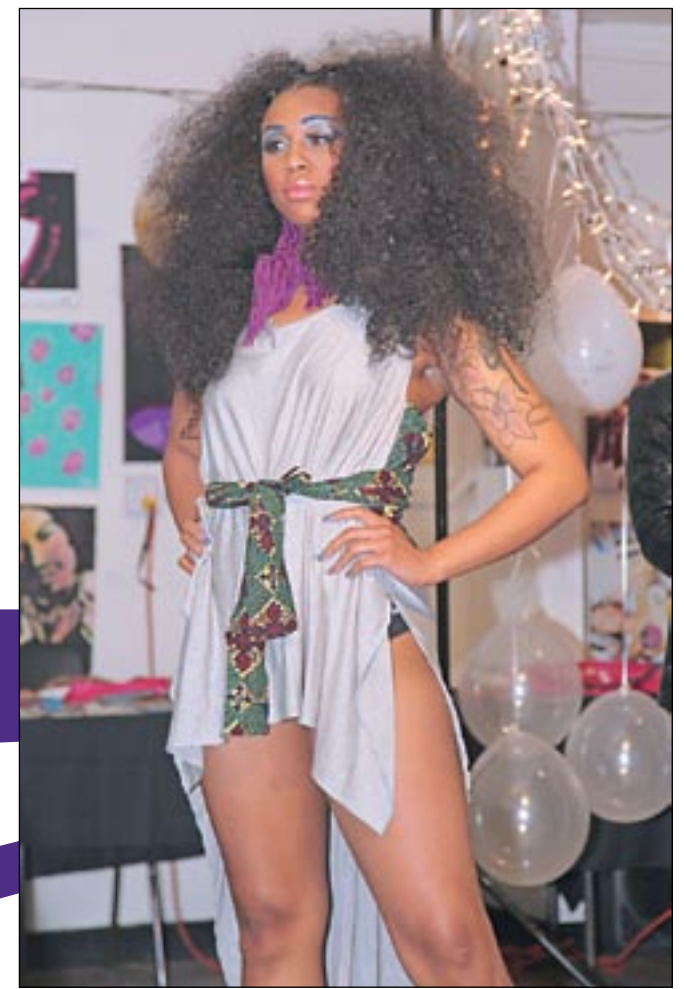
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AFRO FREAK

Fashion Week celebrated in Land Park at Sol Collective

Photos by STEPHEN CROWLEY
stephen@valcomnews.com

Words by MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com



Fashion week would have been nothing without the presence of the African creative genius flare. With styles spanning from Africa to sister lands of South America, India, Australia all the way to London, AfroFreak Fashion Week held at Sol Collective (2574 21st St.) in Land Park included three Saturdays of live vibration, creation and tastes to feed your spirit. It is African celebration month, after all. There's one more chance to catch AfroFreak Fashion Week as the last show will be held this Saturday from 5 to 11 p.m.

Designer and curator Cleo Cartel wrote the Land Park News some information regarding the event.

Between the regulars and those chosen from a model call, the models wore Cleo Cartel or Urban Gypsy original designs.

The first time Sol Collective has hosted this event, Cleo said the event was created to have different programming during Black History Month, not only to focus on history but to also focus on fashion, art, music and food!

"It's time for Sacramento to have options to support the real arts on every level! People are in love with visuals; what better way but to give a live art installation that's all a fashion show is and everyone feels like they are a part!"

Amongst her favorite outfits that were worn during fashion week, Cleo said, "Absolutely, the afrojumpsuits; they're fun, easy to wash and can be paired with any shoe. Love them!" The 10 models at fashion week wore outfits made from textiles originally from Kenya, Nairobi and Nigeria

"It's important to live, love and laugh, support and try cultural things that support and advance our communities. There needs to be Japanese, European, Hispanic fashion shows too. We need to know what drives each other culturally from the food to the politics, to the clothing to the science we need to understand each of our cultures in the communities we live in, in order to thrive."

Marketing coordinator for the event Ciara "CiCi" Anguay, a Pocket resident, said she told Cleo "the show was extra-terrestrial. It was out of this realm even with what high fashion would present. The level of detail. The way she choreographs things. She has the ability. Rappers freestyle and (Cleo's) ability to think on the fly and paint a picture for you that will captivate you and leave you feeling spellbound is amazing. Her artistry is like no other. The degree of the senses that are stimulated when she is presenting you with her craft is extra-

See Fashion Week, page 23



FASHION WEEK

Continued from page 22

dinary. The rehearsals are amazing. Because when you come in there you have no idea how she is legitimately going to use everyone as an instrument to create something very melodic. I loved the whole thing... She stimulates creativity because no one has ever shown us you can do fashion and music and morph them together effortlessly. There's almost always a separation. Because she choreographs things and blocks it as a film director would do, it changes the whole dynamic of your perception of

music, fashion and how it can be integrated together cohesively."

She added that generally shows aren't choreographed. "They're not going to take you on a journey the way she takes you on a journey. The whole thing is beautiful because you don't know what to expect," she said.

Sharing her love for the space, she said she loves Sol Collective. "There's so much heart. It has soul. It does. I am really big on energy that I feel in certain places and (Sol Collective) just has a soulful, warm feeling. It does epitomize their mission statement - arts, culture, activism - and it does embody that because when you go in there you feel it."



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