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LAND PARK NEWS

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Soccer field expands at Cal Middle

■ See page 10

City of Sacramento Pipe Band performed annual gig at Brownie's

■ See page 15







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RHONDA HOLMEN 916-296-8886 # 01189785

AND PARK NEWS

E-mail stories & photos to: editor@valcomnews.com

The Land Park News is published on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month in the area bounded by Broadway to the north, Interstate 5 on the west, Florin Road on the south and Freeport Boulevard/21st

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Students ask hard and soft questions to mayoral candidate Darrell Steinberg

Students from West Campus, the School of Engineering and Sciences and John F. Kennedy high schools, as well as students from Sutter Middle School partook in an hour in which they got to ask mayoral candidate Darrell Steinberg their choice questions. From the role he thinks Sacramento should take on an international level to a question he's never been asked: "What's your favorite Zoo animal?" Darrell seemed to keep the students' attention.

Introducing Darrell Steinberg to the 30 or so folks at Caffe Latte was friend and fellow Pocket area community organizer

Kathi Windheim, who stated the following: "These are people who are interested in what you're about." And about Darrell, she said, "he is one of my favorite people on the planet." To wit, toward the end of the event, Darrell said: "Kathi: If she were running for mayor, I'd back out."

While there have been many a meet and greet with the mayoral candidate here in the Pocket, "We do it a little different," said Kathi.

Encouraging travel, he told students that he has visited probably 25 countries and for instance has enjoyed learning how other countries educate their students. "We have five or six sister cities and we receive visiting delega-

See Steinberg, page 12



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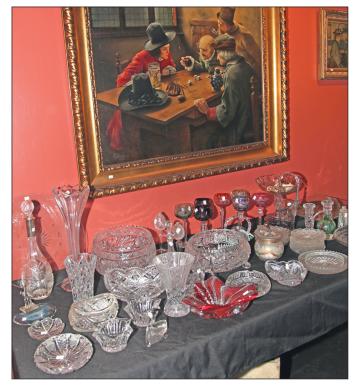
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Faces and Places:

ESH Gallery grand opening celebration

Photos by STEPHEN CROWLEY

Shown here are photos from the grand opening event of the ESH GALLERY (ESH being an anachronism for Estate Sales Help) on Second Saturday, Feb. 13. More or less a brick and mortar showing of estate art, ESH is located next door to the shuttered Coffee Garden. The pieces will be available for sale online via an auction or online store format. Krausse says the hours of operation to experience, view, touch, or smell the artifacts will be more or less 7 days a week, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and sometimes later. Asked to recap the turnout for the event, Jennie said, "We got so much food we opted to invite over the entire AA group across the street and a bunch of homeless folks to eat with us so it would not go to waste. They didn't care much for the art or antiques but we had a great time laughing with them about life's crossroads."





Sue Olson 916-601-8834 sue@sueolson.net CalBRE# 00784986

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This home boasts 5+ beds & 3 remodeled baths. It features a formal living room with fireplace & bay window with bench seating, formal dining room with pretty built-in hutch, remodeled kitchen with sile stone counters & stainless appliances, inside laundry area, outdoor BBQ with counter. 1803 Bidwell Way. \$775,000



LAND PARK

Three bedroom cutie! Formal living room with fireplace, formal dining room, kitchen with eating area, inside laundry, newer central HVAC, pretty backyard with patio and room for a garden, close to transportation, walk to Freeport Bakery, Dad's or Taylor's Market. **1800 Bidwell Way. \$479,000**



GREENHAVEN

Original three bedroom, two bath home. Formal living room, kitchen with spacious eating area, family room with fireplace, laundry hook-up in garage, larger lot, close to transportation and Caroline Wenzel School. 6797 Havenhurst Drive. \$349,000



SOUTH LAND PARK HILLS

This Eichler built home features a great room concept with four bedrooms and two baths, formal living area with fireplace, large formal dining area w/built-in desk, updated kitchen with granite counters, family room w/ built-in cabinets and bookshelves and a large backyard w/ pool. **6465 Fordham Way**



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Donations are used to improve burn treatment and to fund life-altering burn recovery programs, including Firefighters Kids Camp for young burn survivors and the Little Heroes Preschool Burn Camp. This year, Sacramento raised \$137,000 to support burn programs and a new regional burn center.



KW

CalBRE# 01882787

Steffan Brown steffan@steffanbrown.com



Old world columns and mouldings, hrdwd floors and beautiful original windows in front, a large master bedroom bathroom suite, dual pane





The Land Park News is looking for interns

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

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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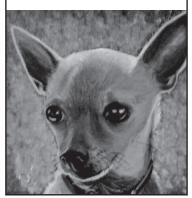
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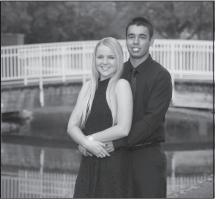
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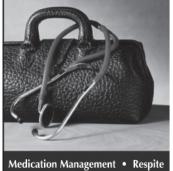
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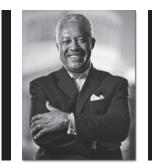
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Local landmark, Joe Marty's, hosts successful sporting public debut

By GARY BAKER

If you look in the sports pages of the local newspaper this time of year, you'll see that baseball Spring training has already started. Similarly, if you look in the windows of 1500 Broadway, you'll notice that Joe Marty's Bar and Grille is also underway with a newly refurbished, baseball-themed atmosphere. With eight flat screen TVs to insure that no fan misses any of the sports action, this local Land Park landmark is ready for the start of regular season.

As in baseball Spring training, where pitchers face hitters in batting practice, you can tell at a glance that Joe Marty's already has its pitch count up for serving customers. However, baseball is not the only sport you can watch this spring at Joe Marty's. March Madness basketball may have its team brackets set for the playoffs, but you need to see also the competitive lineup of food and beer bracketed on both the menu and on tap at this place.

We arrived one afternoon to find the place crowded and noisy, as a sports bar should be, and were quickly seated at one of the dining tables. A plate of "loaded fries" appeared right away and our drinks followed shortly, thanks to our courteous, yet hustling waitress. The manager, Kelly Ariza, was soon seated at our table, since she recog-



Shown here are staff members at Joe Marty's

Photo by Stepen Crowley

nized someone in our group, and proceeded to tell us about the work and effort that went into getting the bar and grille up and running.

As Kelly talked, I could see her point. In fact, it's plain to see that years (three, if not more) of hard work and dedicated planning, construction, decorating and creativity was paying off handsomely for the owners, Jack Morris and Devon Atlee. It was my first visit to the newly renovated Joe Marty's and its ambiance had the feel of an already successful neighborhood establishment, coupled, if not juxtaposed, to the memories of a bygone Sacramento baseball era. So, take a moment, and reminisce with me here back to the days when Joe Marty's was

just down Broadway from the parking lot, outside the left field wall of the old Edmonds Field baseball stadium. Back then you could shag balls by waiting for a "homer" to come flying over the left field scoreboard into the parking lot. And where is the scoreboard today? Well, a replica of it is right where it should be, in Joe Marty's. As you walk in the door, it's up on the east wall, the left field wall. That struck me right away, as did the rest of the layout of the bar and grille and my fantasy ignited immediately.

Imagine, if you will, a baseball diamond in a ballpark, like Edmonds Field, where the entry to the

See Joe Marty's, page 7



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3 bed 2 bath home with vaulted ceilings in the family room, fireplace, large gourmet kitchen, dining room and master bedroom suite with sliding doors to the spacious yard. Off the kitchen there's a 4 season garden room addition extending the square footage in the home and allowing enjoyment of the yard and protection from the elements.



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Joe Marty's:

Continued from page 6

park is in between left and right baselines under the grandstand. Similarly, you enter Joe Marty's at the midpoint of the restaurant crossing the threshold like home plate. Table seating along the Broadway windows, as if down the 3rd baseline, leads out to the left field scoreboard. The bar is like a dugout cut back into the 1st baseline with special reserved cocktail tables in front for patrons who, if standing about the taller tables or at the bar, look like they are in the on deck circle taking batting (or is it drinking?) practice. The kitchen is centrally located at the heart of the diamond like the dynamic battery combination of pitcher (waitresses) and catcher (chefs) tossing a kind of balls and strikes of menu orders through a small window that looks like a ballpark concession (as it should) and reminds you again of stadi-um atmosphere. The framed, black and white pictures (courtesy of Alan O'Connor) of some famous local ballplayers decorate the back wall like the names of former stellar players with retired jerseys that you might find on the centerfield wall of a traditional baseball park. Restrooms are located to the rear well beyond center field and away from the action on the playing field.

Á thoughtful, detailed and captioned biography with a picture of Joe Marty, in Cub's cap and uniform, greets you at the door. This is a place that resonates with baseball history and Joe Marty's dining traditions. The new menu includes, among many other items, a delightful blue cheese and apple pizza, far better, but smaller than the original pizzas served by El Chico. Through "Yelp" connections and a focus group of those who remember it, 'broasted chicken" has now been added to the menu and is served only after 4:00 PM as a daily item, a return of a traditional favorite popular from years ago. \$2 Taco Tuesday (5 -9PM) is, however, the start of something new and has been well received by local Land Parkers who frequent Joe Marty's mid-week. Wednesday

has been designated "neighborhood night" featuring smoker tri-tip and late night happy hour. Thursday is something special with smoked rib BBQ (5-9PM). For locals who ride their bikes, relax as this user friendly bar and grille has a bike parking rack for 20 bicycles and a bike watch flat screen TV focused continually on the rack so you can see your bike while you sit at the bar and enjoy your beer and bar bites. Take-out food orders are available, but why miss the ambiance of the place? So check the web site (gojoemartys.com) for menu items and more calendared events. The bar is well stocked

for late inning relief and the starters are creatively named and described with a baseball theme on the menu. Try, for example, "Run Home Jack" or "Under the Bleachers". A house blended Bloody Mary mix is teamed with Smirnoff vodka, bacon, blue cheese stuffed olives, celery, lemon wedge, and Tajin salted rim and becomes a "Bloody Marty". The bar itself is flanked decoratively left and right by two lockers. Joe Marty's uniform hangs permanently in the one on the left and uniforms of local, famous players will rotate through the one on the right. Dusty Baker's is there now! Neither wine nor beer has been ignored as five different reds and six different whites grace the roster. Visiting players from familiar Yolo vintners include Bogle Chardonnay and Matchbook Tempranillo to mention a few. Beer on tap and in the bottle features local favorites like Track 7 Panic IPA and the imported Stella Artois. With eight rotating taps, no player will be without their favorite. Happy Hour is from 3 to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. Various bar bites and drinks are reasonably priced with nothing over \$6. It's easy to get a rally started, right off the bat, with the five starters listed on the Happy Hour menu. The pretzel bites with mustard (\$3.95) goes swiftly to first along with the Lagunitas IPA (\$4.50) in on the play. "Batter Up", for two players, sharing shots balanced at either end of a baseball bat can easily tilt your game into extra innings.



Joe Marty's transformation has been popular among Land Parkers.

Photo by Stephen Crowley

Breakfast with new hours (9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.), served only on Saturday and Sunday, includes five solid players not to be traded any time soon for another player to be named later. For example, Joe's Omelet with Jack and Cheddar Cheese, roasted Poblano pepper, grilled tomato, tomatillo sauce and the homemade potatoes reminds me of the way you could start the day at the original Joe Marty's 30 years ago. A larger dinner/meal menu features starters and salads coupled to the whimsically titled "something in a bun". All items listed on the menu have either local reference or baseball themed names with mouthwatering detailed descriptions of each. All items are prepared by a newly hired, veteran chef from Fourth Street Grill. So bring the family and enjoy eating a breakfast, lunch, or dinner in Joe Marty's renewed dining atmosphere.

In a recent conversation with one of the owners, Jack Morris shared with me his exciting vision for future events and activities at Joe Marty's, which, as he sees it, is the gateway to Land Park. With baseball season about to start, they have added the MLB Network for regular viewing of broadcasted games. Also, a shuttle service will be operating soon between Joe Marty's and Raley Field for River Cats home games scheduled on Thursday nights. Mark your calendar, Jack mentions, for Wednesday, March 30 for an exhibition game between the Cats and the Giants at Raley Field.

A sponsorship of Land Park Little League and player participation in a softball league is also on the baseball horizon for Jack and Devon's Joe Marty's. However, not to miss any of the season's sporting action, Joe Marty's will host March Madness lottery events for those who enjoy the thrill of watching college basketball games. Jack assured me, however, that not just sporting events will be celebrated. All of this potential is contained in the optimistic energy of the current owner whose advertising prowess promises to keep patrons posted with daily food and events information both online and in the Broadway facing windows. Look in at Joe Marty's when you stop or pass 1500 Broadway and see what's happening. You'll like it whether you're a baseball

Spring training has already started. So put on your favorite baseball cap or buy one with the Joe Marty's logo on it when you arrive. Come take a stroll down memory lane or baseline, if you will, as Joe Marty's Bar and Grille renews itself as a local landmark steeped in baseball history and a tradition of fine, familiar, and favorite foods and drink. As the old sign on the new bar indicates, this smartly refurbished and stylish Land Park lounge has already become the sporting public's rendezvous.





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POLICE LOG

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.

Reporting date: Tuesday, March 8 (Burglary): 2500 block of 5th Avenue at 12:39 a.m.

Officers responded to the residence regarding a report of an attempted burglary. An unknown suspect attempted to gain access to a garage at the location without success and fled prior to police arrival. A report was generated.

Reporting date: Saturday, March 11 (Outside Agency Assist): 6100 block of 13th Street at 2:47 p.m.

Officers responded to the above location at the request of an outside agency regarding an attempt pick-up of a probationary subject who was in possession of firearms. Officers arrived at the residence and contacted the wanted suspect who was safely detained and arrested.

Reporting date: Saturday, March 12 (Vandalism): 2100 block of Broadway at 12:54 a.m.

Officers responded to the location regarding a report of vandalism. The suspect entered the business, damaged property, and

fled in the area. Officers arrived on scene, attempted to detain the man, and a struggle ensued. The suspect was subdued and arrested for vandalism, in addition to resisting arrest.

Reporting date: Sunday, March 13 (Home Invasion): 2500 block of Kit Carson Street at 8:59 a.m.

Officers responded to a residence on reports of a home invasion. The suspect entered the residence, assaulted a family member, and took property from the victim. Officers located the suspect at a location in West Sacramento. The suspect was taken into custody after a brief struggle and arrested for home invasion, resisting arrest and other offenses.

Reporting date: Monday, March 14 (Assault): 4100 block of 24th Street at 7:02 p.m.

Officers responded to the location regarding a report of an assault. The victim was standing in the area when he was confronted by an unknown suspect who engaged in a brief conversation with him. The suspect produced a knife, assaulted the victim in the upper body, and fled from the area prior to police arrival. The victim sustained non-life threatening injuries and was treated at an area hospital. Follow-up is being conducted and a report was generated.

Reporting date: Wednesday, March 16 (Burglary): 2300 block of Fruitridge Road at 9:41 a.m.

Officers responded to the call of a burglary in progress. An employee reportedly heard glass break and upon inspection, located a male suspect attempting to force entry into the business. The suspect fled on foot. Officers arrived on scene and checked the vicinity for the suspect, but were unable to locate him. A report was generated.

(Traffic Stop): Broadway at 24th Street at 7:46 p.m.

Officers were patrolling in the above area when they located a stolen vehicle. A traffic stop was conducted and the driver was detained. It was later confirmed the registered owner loaned the driver the vehicle. The driver was arrested for an outstanding warrant and the vehicle was released back to the owner.

Reporting date: Friday, March 18 (Shots Fired): 4000 block of Attawa Avenue at 1:47 a.m.

Officers responded to the call of shots fired in the above area. No injuries were reported. Officers arrived on scene and canvassed the area for evidence. The investigation remains active.

Reporting date: Saturday, March 19 (Arson): 5600 block of 24th Street at 6:46 a.m.

Officers responded to the location on reports of a subject starting fires on the property. Sacramento Fire Department personnel also responded and conducted an arson investigation. The female adult suspect was arrested for throwing burning materials.

(Shooting): 6200 block of Fennwood Court at 8:36 p.m.

Officers responded on reports of multiple shots heard in the area. Officers arrived on scene and located two adult victims who were not injured. Physical evidence of the shooting was located in the area and a canvass was conducted. A report was generated and follow up will be conducted.

(Prowler): 7000 block of Demaret Drive at 11:06 p.m.

Officers responded to the area on reports of a subject seen hopping a neighbors fence. Officers located a vehicle in the area matching one described by a witness. Officers contacted the occupants of the vehicle at which time a passenger exited and fled on foot. The driver of this vehicle was detained and a search was conducted which revealed ammunition for a firearm. The driver was arrested for unlawful possession of ammunition.

Reporting date: Sunday, March 20 (Assault): 1500 block of McAllister Avenue at 9:23 p.m.

Officers responded to reports of a shooting that occurred at the location. The adult victim reported being confronted by the unknown occupant of a vehicle who displayed a firearm and fired multiple rounds at the victim. The suspect vehicle then fled the area. The victim was not injured. Officers conducted a neighborhood canvass and documented the incident in a report.



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Ella K. McClatchy Library events

The hours for the Ella K. McClatchy Library, 2112 22nd St., are as follows: Sunday and Monday: closed; Tuesday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Wednesday: noon - 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.

Neighborhood Knitters Library (Adult)

Thursday, March 24 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 29 at 10 a.m.: Please join us every Tuesday at 10:00 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.

World War I and the Sacramento Valley (Adult)

Saturday, April 2 at 1 p.m.: When the First World War thrust the United States into a dire global conflict, the Sacramento Valley was quick to mobilize. Many of America's first air units for combat were trained at Mather Field, while local farms filled some of the largest food supply orders for the Allies. Though many banded together, the region's home front was not without tension. With exclusive content from the Sacramento Public Library's Special Collections, librarians Amanda DeWilde and James Scott reveal the struggles and triumphs of the Sacramento region during the First World War.

Full Circle Tolkien Book Club

Saturday, April 2 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, April 5 at 10 a.m.: Please join us every Tuesday at 10:00 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.

Lego Mania Library (School Age

Saturday, April 9 at 2 p.m.: Like building with Legos? Join us for our monthly Lego free play afternoon. Legos and Duplo Legos will be provided.

Preschool Storytime (Early Childhood (0-5))

Tuesday, April 12 at 10 a.m.: Please join us every Tuesday at 10 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.



inda Pohl 916-429-9901 linda@valcomnews.com www.valcomnews.com

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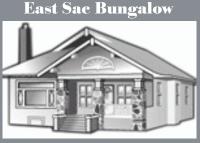


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Soccer field expands at Cal Middle

By COLBY TELL
Cal Middle student

Cal now boasts a new and improved soccer field! Thanks to Teichert, Inc., Land Park Schools Foundation and the Land Park Soccer Club, Cal's front field has been reconditioned for

improved play.

The project included taking down both of the old backstops on the front soccer field, installing portable goals and widening the playing field by eight yards. Teichert, Inc., one of the companies working in the surrounding neighborhoods to finish the installation of new water pipes and mains, generously donated time and labor to the project. The two backstops on the front field, along Land Park Drive, were removed. Taking them out enabled the width of the soccer field to be expanded. The soccer goal posts were also taken down and replaced with portable soccer goals. The portable goals are beneficial, because they are, portable. Being able to move the goals, and rotate the position of the goalie box, will help protect the field from wear and tear. Moving the goals will hopefully ensure that the goalies do not have to play in a muddy pit for the whole season. Mary Rotelli, Chief Operating Officer of Teichert, Inc. is responsible for agreeing to help with this project.

Cal's soccer teams look forward to playing on the field next week and testing out the new goals. They're positive they'll bring them luck this season, as they intend to sink as many

as possible in the nets!

With *The Californian's* focus always on reporting events, promoting school activities and highlighting achievements, we were able to bring it full circle this month by conducting a question and answer session with Mary Rotelli. A leading construction company in Sacramento, Teichert, Inc. was founded in 1887 by Rotelli's greatgreat grandfather, Adolph Teichert, a concrete foreman, who built the original sidewalks around the State Capitol building (which was new at the time)! Over the past 128 years, the company has done thousands of wonderful projects in the community.

Read excerpts from our conversation below.

Teichert's most recent project in the Land Park area is replacing the water pipes, but what project are you most proud of in our community?

One of the projects I am proudest of is the Boys and Girls Club of Sacramento. We were the only state capital in the country without a Boys

and Girls Club, and with the support of Teichert Inc., we now have two—the Raley Branch in downtown Sacramento and the Teichert Branch in South Sacramento.

Why have you decided to designate resources to enhancing our soccer field?

We are honored to be working in the Land Park area, and felt this would be a way to show our appreciation for the support the community has given us and our crews. The Teichert employees who you see on your streets every day are grateful for your patience with their work; installing water meters requires us to dig up streets and vards and sometimes slow traffic down to make sure everyone is safe and that the work is done correctly. We appreciate the kind words and patient reactions that the students, teachers, families, and neighbors of Cal Middle School have had to us making these improvements in your neighborhood.

How important is it to you to carry on the traditions of Teichert and the role it has played in shaping Sacramento?

Carrying on the traditions that we are proud of is what has allowed us to be a successful California company for more than 12 decades. Our core values are Building, Trust, and Tradition, in fact. Some of the traditions that we think about include showing respect and fairness in all endeavors, skillfully delivering on the commitments we make, and being a valuable resource to our community.

What advice do you have for young people, especially teenage girls, who wish to enter your field?

The types of jobs people do range from operating equipment to managing projects to estimating or planning work—all are important to a successful outcome. Most of these require some math, so progressing in math, science and technology is a great way to prepare for careers in this field. It is very worth it: construction is a rewarding, interesting, fun type of work to do. We can see the results of what we do every day; we work alongside talented and highly skilled people—and we have fun doing it!

My job is to oversee the different operations of Teichert, including Construction, Rock Products, Concrete Products, and Pipelines as well as the groups that support them like Human Resources and Mobile Equipment. The toughest part of my day is determining what is the most important thing to do. Each of our





Courtesy of the Land Park Schools Foundation

The Land Park Schools Foundation, Tiechert Construction, and Land Park Soccer collaborated with Cal Middle to remove aging and unused backstops and repair the grass to make room for a regulation sized soccer field. Thanks to the time and equipment provided by Tierchert Construction, the field was torn up and put back together in just a few short hours. Because of Land Park Soccer's generous donations of movable Soccer Goals, the school's athletic fields will now be an enhanced area of play for all students, club teams and recreational users. When our community rallies behind a cause that benefits us all, great things happen!

businesses has a lot going on, and prioritizing my time and effort so I do the most important things first is critical. One of the things I enjoy doing the most is going to what we call "tailgate safety meetings." These meetings happen every day on our jobsites—sometimes more than once—and are a chance for the foreman who leads the crew to talk with the people he is working with about the task at hand and how it can be done most safely. At least once a

week, I try to start my day by attending a tailgate meeting. Some other common things I do include meeting with customers or colleagues to work on common goals; brainstorming the best way to accomplish something (either on my own or with the help of people whose opinion I value); and making decisions on issues confronting our business.

Special thanks to Mary Rotelli for taking the time to provide her insight.



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tions. We travel to China and Russia as well and Sacramento is the capital of the most important economy of the country and we're right on the edge of the Pacific Rim."

Äsked about how he will help provide housing for the homeless, Steinberg, the author of the Mental Health Act, Prop 63, which taxes on million dollar earners sets aside \$2 billion for mental health services, said he's been working with State Senate President pro Tempore Kevin de León (D-Los Ân-

geles) to take 7 percent of that money and instead of giving to counties, they'd set it aside in a repayment fund for Sacramento and create a permanent fund for housing. "As mayor, (Sacramento) would get more than our fair share. We'd work with landlords with vacancies. We're not curing anything, but we will make a significant dent with this problem. As to the youth: This is tragedy and there needs to be a focus on young people on the street. A lot of their parents are dealing with mental health.

"Homelessness doesn't have to be hopelessness," he said.

A supporter of the construction of the new Kings arena, when Steinberg was the Senate President Pro Tem, he introduced legislation that would help prevent legal obstructions to its building.

Though actively involved in government in a government town, Steinberg told the stu-dents at Caffe Latte that "not everyone wants to go into government," that we need to be more of a tourist mecca. "Why isn't Sacramento a destination? From a climate change perspective, we should encourage more smart growth because if we don't, it will expand to El Dorado Hills in Placer ... The arena is a good thing. The arena connects the dots.

Curious why, while Sacramento sits at the confluence of two rivers, there's not more attention on that geographical fact. "How come we only hear of the San Antonio River walkway? Why not the Sacramento River walkway? Economic growth is necessary if we're going to invest in parks, kids and our neighborhoods... We need to build a tax base, spend the city budget on kids." From career-themed academies and free preschool for 4 year olds to a more active parks and recreation and better schools, Steinberg wants more focus on youth. "We need that vitality if we are going to afford to do things. Yes, I favor the arena, but for a broader reason than basketball. I do know the Kings won two games in a row."

As for the serious questions of the day, Amy Toy, a volunteer at Sacramento Zoo, asked: "What's your favorite zoo animal?" and "How is your day going?" For the first, Steinberg responded, "The flamingoes because when my daughter was 21 she loved the flamingoes."

As for his day thus far, Steinberg said it had been going great. "This is my third coffee today." Starting the day in Land Park at a resident's home, he then ventured to the artist lofts on 10th and R streets. Following Caffe Latte, he had to return to Land Park for another coffee to meet with residents. "I am working hard but this isn't work. I never complain. Sometimes I get a little tired. But I am a middle aged man and every morning about 50 yards that way I go work out at 24 Hour Fitness. I do my workout and get energy for the day."

Jacquelyn Da Vila, the editor-in-chief of yearbook at SES, said the following regarding the answer to his question she had regarding the city's role on a global level: "I think Sacramento is diverse and we should take a more important role in the world. I didn't really understand what he was going to do. He said he was going to increase business and make (Sacramento) an international mecca and encourage artists to thrive in Sacramento, which will improve from a cultural stance. He clarified the answers with the answers from other people's questions. I think he has really great policies, but I would want to get more information on other candidates.

"This was my introduction to politics ... I don't go to a very big high school; I don't get outreach from politicians."

Brianna Davis, who will turn 18 before the next election, similarly said she would like it if more outreach was done to youth, especially ones of voting age. "It's good to know where everyone stands and what they think about the candidates."

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Sacramento Heron & Egret Rescue fundraiser to be held at the Grange

There will be a fun-filled afternoon event to help raise money and awareness to support our emergency bird rescue response team called the Sacramento Heron & Egret Rescue (SHER) on April 2 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Sacramento Grange Hall, 3830 U St. in Elmhurst.

This event will include raffle prizes, silent auction, educational and informational displays, guest appearances by several rescued non-releasable feathered friends, and a yummy selection of vegan appetizers including:

- A selection of gourmet vegan cheeses
- Nacheez nachos and taco salad
- Conscious Creamery gelato

+ Sassy Oh Baking Co. desserts and more!

Tickets are \$30 online/\$35 at the door. Purchase your tickets online here:

http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2520482

Space is limited, so be sure to buy your tickets right

All money raised will help SHER be able to purchase the necessary supplies needed to help aid in rescues, temporary care, transportation to the rehab center and all things related to the rescue, recovery and wellbeing of these beautiful migratory birds that call Sacramento their summer

A short history on who the organization is and why they do what they do.....

SHER - Sacramento Heron & Egret Rescue came about in May 2015 after a baby blackcrowned Night Heron came into rescue after being stabbed in the back and left for dead below the trees from which he fell.

Not only was this a serious matter, but volunteers were also struggling to be able to rescue the hundreds of babies that had fallen from their nests at the Sacramento Rookery. Many of them sat below the trees with broken legs and wings for days without rescue.

It was then that two of Sacramentans decided to create a Facebook page that would get the word out about the issues taking place right here in our very own backyard.

Aside from the normal and natural occurrence of falling out of nests, the birds were in jeopardy from becoming victims of animal abuse. The stabbing was not the only issue; sadly there were several other occasions where these helpless baby birds were abused. Volunteers just couldn't let this keep happening.

Thus SHER was launched via Facebook and within a day

there was a team of people who then dedicated the next three months (the remainder of the baby bird season) to going out on twice-daily rescue and recovery, handling the very unhappy task of proper disposal of all the babies that didn't make it from the falls or were killed by free-roaming cats, hit by cars, or died from being too young to survive the night alone, and the very big and taxing task of all the transporting of the bids to the rehabilitation facility in to Cordelia, California called The International Bird Rescue & Research Center, which is about an hour outside of Sacramento.

Now volunteers are gearing up for the season as the spring and summer soon approach. The Herons and Egrets will be migrating back to Sacramento very soon, could be any day now, to take up residence at their nesting site here in town. And soon to follow will be all the baby Herons & Egrets.

It's going to be hot, messy, and raining baby birds come May 2016 and help is needed! These birds nest in colonies in the hundreds, which means there will soon be hundreds of baby and young helpless birds who will need help. And that is why volunteers do what they do. Because no animal should ever have to suffer, and with your help and support, they will be able to help make sure to minimize this.

This fundraiser will help SHER raise money for necessary supplies, help to recruit volunteers for our rescue response team, and spread awareness to the community.











City of Sacramento Pipe Band performed annual gig at Brownie's

Photos by LANCE ARMSTRONG Special to Valley Community Newspapers

The City of Sacramento Pipe Band performed in front of Brownie's Lounge in the South Hills Shopping Center in South Land Park in celebration of St. Patrick's Day on March 17. Formed in 1989, they actually first played at Brownie's in 1988 as an unofficial band. Most of the original lineup changed.













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LPCA egg hunt wrap-up and more hunts this weekend

Co-sponsored by the city of Sacramento, the Land Park Community Neighborhood Association annual Spring Egg Hunt and Hat Parade brought 10,000 eggs to scavenged in William Land Park last Saturday, by 500 attendees including 53 decorated hat parade participants. This year's event featured: Hat parade, Easter egg hunt, live music by Mister Cooper, carnival games, face painting, Mr. Cottontail, and light snacks.

Much credit goes to April Meszaros, previous LPCA board member, community activist and volunteer. April has been the inspiration and leadership for previous years of this event. This year, Art Taylor, LPCA Board member and LPCA member led the event. Wonderful community volunteers who help make the event a success. The city of Sacramento and Councilmember Steve Hansen have also been instrumental in the planning and logistics of this event. The event continues to grow in popularity and size each year.

The thousands of plastic eggs will be filled with candy by Scout volunteers from Troop 136 and Pack 136, led by Matt Guzitis.

If you didn't get your fair share of eggs last weekend with the various egg hunts in town, don't worry, there are at least two more happening in the neighborhood.





Spring Eggstravaganza at Fairytale

Town, March 26-27

Join Fairytale Town for an eggciting weekend featuring egg hunts, prizes, spring themed arts and crafts and more! Daily egg hunts will be held at noon, 1 and 2 p.m., promptly. After each hunt, redeem your eggs for a prize in Mr. McGregor's Garden. No matter how few or how many eggs they collect, each child receives a prize when they return their eggs! Hunt areas are separated by age groups as follows: ages 0 to 3 on the Mother Goose Stage Lawn, ages 4 to 6 in Pooh Corner, and ages 7 to 12 on the lawn behind King Arthur's Castle. Puppet Theater Art will also be on hand performing Bunny Bootcamp in the Children's Theater. Tickets are \$1 for members and \$2 for nonmem-

bers. Show times are at 12:30, 1:30 and 2:30 p.m.

Plus, visit with Peter Cotton-tail on the Mother Goose Stage. Get a printed photo for \$5, or take your own photo. And make springthemed crafts, including bunny ears. Spring Eggstravaganza is free with paid park admission. The eggstravaganza will be held on Saturday, March 26 and Sunday, March 27, 2016 at Fairytale Town from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Weather Permitting.

Helpful Tips:

Arrive at least one hour early to allow ample time for parking and entry into Fairytale Town.

For faster entry, purchase weekend tickets in advance online.

The Express Entrance (located to the left of the main entrance) will be open from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. for members (with membership card) and ticket holders.

Peter Cottontail will be hopping down the bunny trail promptly at 3 p.m. Visits with Peter Cottontail close at 2:30 p.m.

Sierra 2 Spring Egg Hunt set for March 26

There will be a pajama parade at 9:30 a.m.; bunny photos and crafts at 10 a.m.; egg hunt at 10:30 a.m.

This free event includes activities such as a pajama parade, bag decorating and pictures with the Bunny. The egg hunt is divided into two age groups (0-3 and 4-12) so that all children have the opportunity to search for eggs. Photos with the Easter Bunny are 5x7 and cost \$5 (cash only please).

Carleton Tract Two Rivers Hard Cider Company celebrates 20 years with a week of fun events

By MONICA STARK

In anticipation of 20 years of making cider Carleton Tract's very own Two Rivers Hard Cider Company, the mom-and-pop plans to hold a series of events from April 8-15. Expect a lot of cider, music, food, canoes, bicycles and pajamas. Just keep your calendars open. Because by supporting Two Rivers, you will also be supporting two nonprofits: The Alchemist Alchemist Community Development Corporation, a nonprofit "dedicated to nurturing and strengthening the ability of Sacramento residents to benefit equitably from development," as well as Trips For Kids, a nonprofit that brings adventurous fun to underserved youth. The goal is to get Sacramento a local chapter for Trips for Kids.

With a team of five employees: Nick Vellanoweth, Jethro Forbes, Alex Harmeyer, Kyle Lockhart and Camilla Zapata, owner Vincent Sterne has grown his business by leaps and bounds since more than 20 years ago when he pedaled around concerts in the park, selling his craft ciders from the side of his bicycle. Now, if you see him, you might find him driving around a 1958 Volkswagon bus that he takes to local events with the cider flowing from the spouts off the side of the vehicle. (Even with his newer-to-him bus, he's still a bicycle advocate. He lets employees cycle from one sales call to the next!)

Always headquartered at 4311 Áttawa Ave., Two Rivers Hard Cider Company was founded in 1996 by Sterne who really began his business "garage style," but who since then has grown immensely but has always kept it local. Even the apples themselves hail from Apple Hill.

For the health conscious, there are no additional sugars or preservatives in the gluten free cider.

Seventeen years as a publican, a long-time home brewer and craftsman, and an internationally registered beer judge, Vincent was inspired and fascinated by the centuries-old craft of cider making. Always up for

new challenges, he wasn't impressed with what was on the market here and began to try English, French, Spanish ciders and ciders as far away as New Zealand. After many years of experimentation, he finally had what he wanted: a superior hard apple cider.

Nick, who has been working at the cidery for more than eight years, described the changes since he's been there, as follows: "Right now have 54 barrels made of French-American oak, (including) 17 seven-barrel grundies and three 30-barrel tanks. "A lot has changed. We used to have 11 tanks total. It wasn't till two to three years ago that we expanded. Right now what we are doing is we are just getting things more organized to get more room to get people to visit. We have to rearrange a few tanks to take a look."

Two Rivers Cider celebration calendar Friday, April 8: Pedal, paddle and pajama jam at Camp Pollock: Open to the public. This event starts with a bike ride from the cidery, 4311 Attawa Ave., to Camp Pollock, 1501 Northgate Blvd. Bring canoes, stand up paddle boards, and onesies and pajamas. There will be a barbecue! Meet at the cidery at 5 p.m.

Saturday, April 9 and Sunday, April 10: Barbecues and Open House! If you've never been to the cidery, come to the open house! There will be lots of good food and local bands through out the day from noon to 8 p.m. It's all ages and dogs are welcome, too! There will be no entry fee. Just get your drink tickets. Food trucks will be doing their own sales separately. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the aforementioned nonprofits. On Sunday, you can get a crash course on cider. Dubbed Cider 101, you can learn about the company and facts that aren't readily available online.

Monday, April 11: Two Rivers Cider Pajama Party... VCN's friend, Jackie Nadile of Public House The-



Shown here is the Two Rivers Hard Cider 1958 Volkswagon bus that is driven to all cider events and from which staff pours customers' favorite local ciders

ater, will be celebrating the cidery's 20th anniversary with a pajama party at PHT! Come in your jammies and watch Monty Python's "Meaning of Life". There will be cider on tap and plenty of food and fun for all. Show starts at 7:30 p.m. Jackie is offering \$1 off your first beer if you come in your pajamas. NO COVER! It's another excuse to barbecue and try 10 different ciders – drinks not normally on sale. Public House Theater is located in Tahoe Park, 5440 14th Ave. For more information on that, call 662-7262 or email Jackie at publichousetheater@gmail.com.(If you've never heard about PHT, you

can read about it at <valcomnews.com/?p=13535>.)

Tuesday, April 12, Wednesday, April 13 and Thursday, April 14: **Cider 4.20 **: At 2, 4 and 6 p.m. each day, Two Rivers will be hosting 4.20 for

all industry members (owners, bartenders, waiters/waitresses) to learn about Two Rivers Cider, their ingredients, quality, etc. Gain a general knowledge of the products in order to communicate to potential customers.





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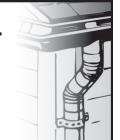
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Check out the Home Improvement Guide Call Melissa at 429-9901 for ad rates.

CALENDAR

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

Matsuyama Elementary School will have a Mobile Clothing Drive **Fundraiser**

There will be a Mobile Drop Box on campus at 7680 Windbridge Drive, Sacramento from March 8-21. Donations can be dropped off 24/7. This fundraiser promotes recycling, gives back to the local community AND raises money for our school. ACCEPTING DONATIONS OF: Usable clothing (all sizes), shoes, jewelry, belts, purses, backpacks, bedding and linens, toys, DVDs, and other small non-breakable items.

Sutter's Fort looking for volunteers

Do you have an interest in early Sacramento history? Do you get excited at the idea of dressing up in Pioneer clothing, churning butter, or making barrels? If so, volunteering at the birthplace of the city of Sacramento may be just for you! Sutter's Fort will soon begin Docent training classes for those interested in interpreting pioneer California history to the

public. For more information about training dates and requirements, please contact volunteer coordinator Llonel Onsurez at (916) 323-2015 or llonel.onsurez@parks.ca.gov

Free trees

Sacramento Tree Foundation, in partnership with SMUD, provides free expert tree selection advice and energy saving shade trees to SMUD customers. Call the Sacramento Tree Foundation at (916) 924-8733 or email shadetrees@sactree.com to make your appointment to receive up to 10 free shade trees. Your appointment can be online or in person and an expert Community Forester will work with you to find the best places and tree varieties to plant that will provide the most shade for your home. About two weeks after your appointment, once you agree to the planting plan, your trees, stakes and ties will be delivered to you. This is a free service provided in partnership by SMUD and Sacramento Tree Foundation to help SMUD customers save energy. For more information, call Sacramento Tree Foundation at (916) 924-8733 or visit www.sactree.com. Properly planted trees can save help you save up to 40 percent on summer cooling costs, increase your property value, clean the

air, reduce stormwater flooding, and make your neighborhood a better place to live. Call Sacramento Tree Foundation at (916) 924-8733 or visit www.sactree.com for your free trees.

Sons In Retirement (SIR) Branch #93

Luncheon programs are held on the third Monday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at Elks Lodge No.6. SIR is a luncheon club with 141 branches and a membership of 18,000 men who are retired from full-time employment. Activities included weekly golf tournaments and bowling league teams. For more information or an application call Chairman Dick West at 919-3858.

Free Yoga Night at Sacramento State

Sacramento State's The University Union UNIQUE Programs is pleased to announce an evening of relaxing yoga with fitness instructions from The WELL at Sacramento State on Thursday, March 17, 2016 starting 7:30 p.m. in The University Union Ballroom. The event is free for Sac State students and the general public. The first half hour will be an introduction to yoga for beginners. Immediately following will be yoga appropriate for all fitness levels. Yoga will develop inner and outer strength, increase stamina and flexibility and help you get centered through a blend of different yoga traditions. This class links body, breath and mind with focus on alignment. Co-sponsored with Group Fitness at The WELL, the campus recreation and fitness facility at Sacramento State. For more information, please visit www.SacStateUNIOUE.com or call the University Union Info Desk at 278-6997.

The Sacramento Traditional Jazz Society (STJS) monthly music event

Every second Sunday of the month, STJS has music at the Elks Lodge No. 6, 6446 Riverside Blvd., from noon to 5 p.m. Each month STJS has a different bands, there is three different rooms to listen to music. Nominal fee for members is \$8; non-member price is \$10.

Nar-Anon meeting for families and friends

The group meets to learn about drug abuse, share problems, encourage the addict to seek help, replace despair with hope, improve the family attitude, help regain your self-confidence. For more information, call the First United Methodist Church at 446-5025, ext. 101. Meetings are Tuesday evenings from $6{:}30$ to $7{:}30$ p.m., $2100\,J$ St.

Rotary Club South meeting

The Rotary Club of South Sacramento meets at noon for lunch every Thursday at Aviators Restaurant at Executive Airport,6151 Freeport Blvd, Sacramento, CA 95822. Rotary is one of the largest service organizations in the world dedicated to community service both locally, and internationally. Please call JR Springer at 425-9195 for additional information.

Beginning tai chi gong

These exercises use the principle of chi flowing properly throughout the body to maintain the equilibrium of yin and yang, Regular practice of these forms will develop better balance and flexibility, gain strength, promote deep relaxation, and improve health. This beginning class will also learn the 24 Yang Style Tai Chi and Yi Jing, a traditional Health Qi Gong. Pre-registration and prepayment required or \$7 drop-in fee at the door. Class will be held on Tuesdays from 4:00-5:00 pm at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more details, call (916)393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.org.

Soroptimist International **Sacramento South**

Meets the second and fourth Tuesday at Executive Airport, Aviators Restaurant at 12:15 p.m.

Widow persons monthly buffet and social

Widowed Persons Association of California, Newcomers' Buffet and Social is open to any and all widows and widowers, the third Mon-

day of each month at 5:30 p.m. The buffet will be held in the private dining room at the Plaza Hof Brau, corner of El Camino and Watt Avenue, cost varies as the choice is from a nohost buffet menu. There is no charge to attend the social other than the meal chosen. For more information, call 916 972-9722. Widowed Persons Association of California, Sunday Support, is open to any and all widows or widowers, every Sunday from 3 to 5 p.m. in the meeting room of the WPAC office, 2628 El Camino Avenue, Ste. D-18. Enter from the back parking lot. For more information, call 916 972-9722. Saturday, Nov. 7, Widowed Persons Association of California Workshop, "Coping with the Holidays," 2 to 4 p.m., the doors open at 1:30 p.m.. A second session will be held Tuesday, Dec. 1, from 7 to 9 p.m., doors open at 6:30 p.m. The workshops will take place at 2628 El Camino Ave., Ste. D-18, Enter from the back parking lot. For more information or to register, call 972-9722.

March

Music at noon

March 30: Free music programs, offered at Westminster Presbyterian Church at noon on Wednesdays. This week enjoy music by Free music programs, offered at Westminster Presbyterian Church at noon on Wednesdays. This week enjoy music by a nostalgic swing band.

KVIE Public Television Presents KVIE Uncorked, An Evening with Frankie Moreno

March 31: Las Vegas Headliner of the Year Frankie Moreno, accompanied by his band mates and back-up singers, will perform at KVIE Uncorked, on Thursday, March 31, 2016, from 7:30 to 10:00 p.m. at the KVIE Studios in Sacramento. Open to the communitv. KVIE Uncorked, An Evening with Frankie Moreno, is a special night benefiting KVIE Public Television and celebrating food, wine, beer, and music. Guests can enter a raffle for wonderful prizes, enjoy delicious refreshments, and experience the fun sound of Frankie More $no-all\ while\ supporting\ local\ public\ television.$ General admission guests will enjoy the studio concert and a dessert reception. Tickets are \$75 for general admission. VIP guests can enjoy a pre-show reception, meet and greet with the band, studio concert, and post-show acoustic set in the courtyard. VIP tickets are \$150. The VIP pre-show reception opens at 7 p.m. To purchase tickets, or for more information, visit kvie.org/uncorked.

Yee Fow: Chinese Pioneers: The **Old City Cemetery Committee** presents a tour that explores **Sacramento's Chinese pioneers**

April 2: The Chinese immigrants to California endured more discriminatory laws

See Calendar, page 21

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McClatchy High school class of 1966

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cowan_j@sbcglobal.net and Vera Malkovich at borka@comcast.net

Crockett-Deane Ballet & Deane Dance Center present... "The Story of Sleeping Beauty"

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The Center at 2300 Sierra Blvd. (916) 453-0226 DeaneDanceCenter.com

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

Calendar:

Continued from page 20

and taxes than any other ethnic group, but managed to maintain their community in the face of tremendous organized opposition, legal and otherwise. Old City Cemetery Committee will introduce you to Chinese doctors, merchants, boxers, baseball players, church-goers and gangsters. The cemetery is located at 1000 Broadway, Sacramento. There is ample free street parking on surrounding streets, with limited parking within the cemetery. Tours are free; however, donations are appreciated and benefit cemetery preservation. For more information, call 448-0811. The mission of the OCCC is to join hands with the community to restore, beautify, preserve, and protect the Historic City Cemetery, while maintaining access by descendants of the deceased, and to provide educational services to all visitors to the Historic City Cemetery of Sacramento. The tour starts at 10 a.m.

Over 100,000 "Gently Used" Books Available at Friends of Library Book Warehouse Sale

April 2: An ever-changing inventory of more than 100,000 "gently used" books, videos, and audio books will be offered for prices from 50 cents to \$2 at the warehouse of the Friends of the Sacramento Public Library. The warehouse is at the rear of the Friends' "Book Den" store at Suite E, 8250 Belvedere Ave., just south of 14th Avenue between Power Inn and Florin-Perkins roads. Plenty of parking is available, but visitors should be careful not to park between the "No Parking" signs on the south side of Belvedere. Sale hours on Saturday will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with a preview and sale on Friday April 1 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. for Friends members only (You can join at the door for \$15). Income from the sale helps pay for programs, equipment, and materials local libraries need but can't afford. With more books constantly needed, the Friends will be glad to have yours, too. See a staff member on how to donate. The book store will also be open during the sale as well as weekly on Thursdays 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Items there are priced from \$1 up. For more information, call 731-8493 or go to bookden@saclibfriends.org.

Healing Arts Festival Supporting Sacramento SPCA at Their First 2-Day Event

April 2-3: The Healing Arts Festival will be holding its first of two events this year – this time a 2-day event. They will be collecting donations and fundraising for the Sacramento SPCA. The Healing Arts Festival, a metaphysical, spiritual, and holistic expo has been

PLEASE Recycle

a staple in the Sacramento community since 1999. After changing ownership in late 2014 the event continued to expand. Now, for the first time, it will be a 2-day event allowing people to come to both days with one admission. The Sacramento SPCA has been a favorite fundraiser for the attendees and exhibitors of the Healing Arts Festival. This will be the third spring in a row they will be collecting donations for this cause. Last year the event added the SPCA mobile adoption van so that people may see who they are supporting and maybe adopt a friend. This year the mobile pet adoption will be available on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Healing Arts Festival will take place at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center at 6151 H St. On Saturday, April 2, the event will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The attendance fee is \$5 for the weekend or free with an item donation. The Sacramento SPCA's wish list is available on the Healing Arts Festival's website (www.healingartsfestival.com/fundraising-community-support) Financial gifts above the \$5 entrance fee are always welcome. For more information about this fundraising event, please visit the Healing Arts Festival website at www.healingartsfestival.com.

Ching Ming celebrated at East Lawn cemeteries

April 2-3: Ching Ming is an important time of ritual and honor for the Asian culture. In celebration of Ching Ming, all three East Lawn cemeteries will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. In addition, in each park from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. there will be raffle prizes and free giveaways. At East Lawn Elk Grove Memorial Park on Saturday only, there will also be a Buddhist Monk officiating from Sacramento True Buddhist Temple. Guests are welcome to ask the Buddhist Monk questions. This is a free service. Please come and honor your loved ones on these two special days.





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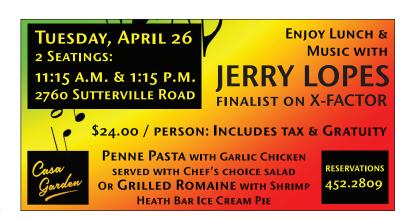
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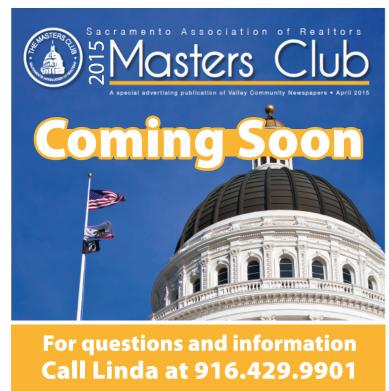
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Meeting Morrie

By JAMES PEYTON

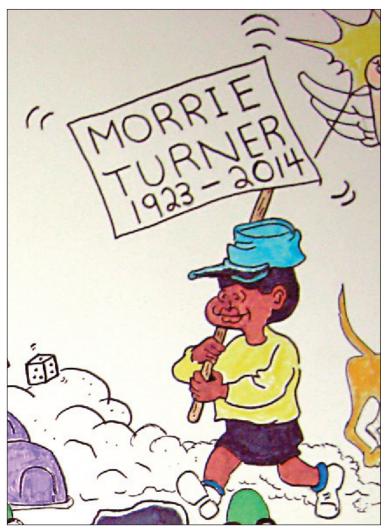
It was 1985 at Nicholas Elementary in Sacramento. Or was it '84? The principal was one mustached Ron Nishimura. We had an assembly that day, and this time it was a special treat. It was a cartoonist whose strip was in the newspaper. Up on the stage, the stage that looks nearly the same even today, talking to us kids about what he did, was a man named Morrie Turner. He wrote and drew a newspaper strip called Wee Pals. My best friend, Julian Newman, was into the same things I was...drawing, comic strips, comic books, and cartoons. We watched Voltron and Transformers, and TV shows like Manimal and Automan. We loved breakdancing and Michael Jackson like most of the other kids. But this man was an actual artist. That is what we wanted to be. This was quite interesting to us; it made it seem like we could do the same thing. We had our own drawing company, "11 Comics", consisting of nothing more than our combined drawings and some photocopies that we tried to assemble into our own comic books. We would draw all the time at



James Pevton with cartoonist Morrie Turner.

school, in class, together after school if I remember right, and so on. I read the newspaper funnies at home sometimes, and remember comic strips like Peanuts, Garfield, and Orbit. So, I had read Wee Pals in the newspaper and was familiar with the strip. There were also the Wee Pals paperbacks, with reprints of the strips. I don't think we had the cartoon here. It was really cool, fascinating even, to have a real artist show up at our school. As a child, I still understood the message of the strip, what he was trying to do, and how it was about people of all races and nationalities living together and getting along together.

It was inspiring to see him and hear his presentation, not only about equality, but because we wanted to be artists like him, to be employed doing the creative stuff we wanted to do for fun. He brought



A tripbute to Morrie by James Peyton.

some drawings and pictures of at least a few of his various characters. A few of the main ones stood out by their look, such as Nipper with the hat always slouching down over his eyes and Oliver, the one with the glasses. The drawing of the character holding the sign accompanying this article is a shout out to Morrie, made by myself, taken from a drawing I made for my Dad's birthday.

Morrie Turner talked about his strip and what it was all about, a message of equality, about how he made the strip and the drawings, and I think he took some questions. Honestly, though I can't remember what they were, or even a lot that was said. I remember I wrote to Charles Shulz later on, and was surprised when a letter came in the mail. I was more surprised when there was no writing on it, just a xeroxed copy of some Peanuts figures on an orange paper, and that was it. Even as a child, I knew he probably didn't get my letter, felt sad about it, and figured a secretary must have opened my letter and sent me that. But actually seeing Morrie Turner in person, was something I never forgot. And over 25 years later, I saw him again at the Sacramento Comic-Con, before

it moved out of the Scottish Rite Temple to McClellan Air Force Base. Actually, it was at least 28 years ago when I saw him. It was Sunday, March 3, 2013. Walking around, looking around at all the people dressed as Star Wars characters, I noticed an old man at a booth with a younger lady. I recognized him right away and then I saw some Wee Pals stuff and a sketch he was probably doing for a fan. I softly approached and said spoke to him. I told him the story that more than 20 years ago, an artist came to our school and I saw him, and he seemed to enjoy that. I took two pictures with him, and was very glad to see him again. I researched about him on the net after the show, and discovered that there was a Wee Pals cartoon. Wow! I never got to see that. I sure wish I would have spoken to him more or seen more of him, as he died less than a year later. He seemed like a very nice man, and I am glad even to have just met him.

According to "WP" or "Wax Poetics Magazine", Issue 61, Spring 2015, pg. 23, Jeff Chang writes: "He was still working on new strips almost all the way up until his passing on January 25, 2014, at the age of ninety." Rainbow Power!!

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Hello, My Name is Doris The MPAA has Rated this R

Roadside Attractions offers "Hello, My Name Is Doris," which is based on a 2011 short film called "Doris and the Intern" by writer/director Laura Terruso. The short was featured in the Sarasota and Bermuda International Film Festivals.

Writer/director Michael Showalter has expanded the story from the short film into what is a showcase of wonderful fun for its star, Sally Field. She plays a spinster, Doris Miller, who has spent the last few years taking care of her mother, who we learn has died by the opening scene, which takes place at the funeral. There, Doris' brother Todd, played brilliantly by Stephen Root, along with his wife, try to convince Doris to sell her mother's home, which happens to be where Doris lives among her clutter and that of her mother before her. Naturally, there is a cat, too.

Bereft and feeling pressure, she continues at her office job of the past 20 years to get by, a job which she has to take a ferry and additional public transit to get to and from work. There must be something else in life for her. Her lifelong friend, Roz, is played by Tyne Daly in what is a delightful return to feature movie work for the actress remembered for her many films and television show Cagney and Lacey.

Doris goes to a Willy Williams selfhelp seminar and meets the speaker at the reception to follow. Peter Gallagher plays Willy Williams, saying just the right words to get Doris to lose her inhibitions and come out of her shell. Nothing is impossible, he assures her, if she just looks at things from a different perspective by turning impossible into "I'm Possible".

Armed with new enthusiasm of any possibility becoming real for her, she sets her sights on a very young man just brought into the firm, John Freemont, played by Max Greenfield. They met in a crowded elevator where they are forced to be in such close proximity that she becomes smitten. She devises many schemes to have any chance to be near him, and hilarity ensues.

Before you think that this is some sort of broad physical comedy, I've not yet related the sweet nature of this movie and the wonderful performances of both Sally Field and Tyne Daly.

Sally's spinster will resonate with you. You know someone like Doris Miller in your own life. The bittersweet challenges she faces in living in the home in which she grew up. With all of her own clutter on top of that, her own parents is something she cannot separate herself from due to a deep emotional connection. Yet, she has the determination, often with the most hilarious results, to follow through on her new-found passion for the new young man in the office. Then... she discovers social media.

Armed with knowledge from John's social media pages, she learned how to align herself to his interests for better chances at connection. The movie has charming daydream sequences, reminding me much of the Danny Kaye picture "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" that lead you down the path of an ideal outcome, only to snap you back to the reality of the story suddenly and always with a good laugh.

This is a sweet spin on a spinster from Sally, and a touching heartfelt comedy that is just the kind of wonderful story that you don't see enough of these days at the movies.

EMBRACE OF THE SERPENT

This film has not been rated.

Oscilloscope Laboratories has a studio logo not unlike like the classic Toho-Scope logo of the Golden Era. In glorious black and white, it sets the stage for remarkable cinematography to follow that will show you a world that you literally have never seen before: the Amazon River in Colombia. The movie's Spanish language title is "Abrazo de la Serpiente" ("Embrace of the Serpent") You've never seen the Amazon in this way: lyrical, poetic and mysterious in rich black and white tones. In this captivating visual experience, we are told a story of the Amazon in an entirely new way. From the perspective of a native Colombian of the Amazon, Karamakate.

Karamakate is played by two men over different periods in time, yet in both, he leads a white man as a guide in search of flora and fauna of the Amazon, and in particular the rare health restorative plant "Yakruna" a hallucinogen vine, epiphyte of the rubber tree. The sap of trees on which it grows is of higher purity. Karamakate the younger is played by Nilbio Torres, a 30-yearold actor who speaks little Spanish as he mostly speaks Cubeo. This is his first movie. He had previously worked in agriculture. The elder Karamakate is played by Antonio Bolívar Salvador. Bolívar in real life is one of the last survivors of the Ocaina people. Besides playing one of the main characters, he also served as interpreter for the Tikuna, Cubeo, Huitoto languages and even English, as he became a teacher of the international actors.

The "white men" of the movie visit the famous snake shaped river as have others in movies past, with in interest in rubber or natural history. The movie cuts between the two tales set apart by many years. This gives you the non-traditional sense of timelessness of the Amazon and how the indigenous folks that live there view time and space; not at all as in western thought. It becomes clear in the narrative that the natives view both white explores as one man, one spirit and not two.

The movie begins to tell of a 1909 Illness of Thedor von Martius, (Jan Bijvoet) based on real life German explorer Theodor Koch Grünberg (1878-1924). "Martius" was snagged by this illness while trekking through the Amazon. One native begrudgingly agreed to help him search for a spe-

cial plant to help him. The real Koch-Grünberg wrote: "It is impossible to know if the infinite jungle has initiated in me the process that has taken so many others to total and incurable insanity If that is the case, it only remains for me to excuse myself and ask your comprehension, for the display I witnessed in those enchanted hours was such that I find it impossible to describe in words of its beauty and splendor. All I know is when I came back, I was another man."

This is a movie of three personal journeys against all odds and nature and the wonder that is the Amazon. David Gallego's photography is a character in the movie, just as timeless and complex as the river and its now lost peoples.

After the main title appears on screen, our second "white man" (Brionne Davis), also German and a student of Martius appears with reflex 1950s camera offering a clue to the time period of his part of the story. He is Evan, and based on the real life person Richard Evans Schultes (1915-2017). He meets the meets older Karamakate, who sees in him the same soul of the man that he had taken through the wilds so many

years earlier. They revisit spots seen in the earlier journey with startling differences that have occurred over time. In one such case, the initial visit was to a Catholic mission. The later visit shows it overrun by cannibals in a harrowing and remarkable sequence.

In one scene of profound Karamakate wisdom of the jungle, Martinus's compass is stolen by natives, and he insists on keeping it. He'd not escape with his life if he were to persist, and is advised to just leave as Karamakate says: "You can't forbid them to learn. Knowledge belongs to all men."

The travel diaries of Theodor Koch Grünberg and Richard Evans Schultes are recognized today as the only known records of large portions of Amazon cultures. The movie was nominated for Best Foreign Film at this year's Academy Awards, but lost to "Son of Saul". The film's director, Ciro Guerra, risked life and limb with cast and crew by taking motion picture film cameras on lactation in the real Amazon. He released this statement:

"Whenever I looked at a map of my

I was overwhelmed by great uncer-

Half of it was an unknown territory, a green sea, of which I knew nothing. The Amazon, that unfathomable land, which we foolishly reduce to simple concepts. Coke,

drugs, Indians, rivers, war.

Is there really nothing more out there?

Is there not a culture, a history? Is there not a soul that transcends? The explorers taught me otherwise. Those men who left everything, who

risked everything, to tell us about a

we could not imagine. Those who made first contact, During one of the most vicious holocausts man has ever seen.

Can man, through science and art, transcend brutality? Some men did. The explorers have told their story. The natives haven't.

This is it.

A land the size of a whole continent, yet untold. Unseen by our own cin-

That Amazon is lost now. In the cinema, it can live again."

This movie is a stunning and remarkable experience into another world and time reality so unlike our own. Beguiling, yet hard to comprehend, I was fascinated and horrified, enchanted and frightened. I'd never had the desire to see the Amazon in person, the snakes alone would make me expire at their mere sight. Yet this was a remarkable look at a life so foreign on our own planet and the famous river that has lured adventure since it beckoned discovery to the first intrepid souls that tried to unravel her mysteries.



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