

LAND PARK NEWS

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First clean-up day of the year in William Land Park

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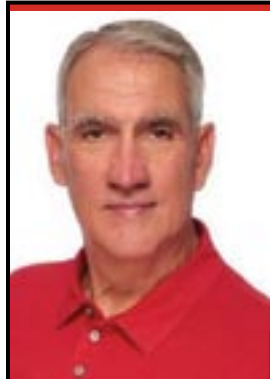


Mid-Century Modern home tour set for June 18

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Bernie at Bonney

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Photos by Donald Satterlee/Donald Satterlee Photography

Shown here are photos in anticipation of this year's Mid-Century Modern home tour, which features homes in Land Park, South Land Park, Hollywood Park and Greenhaven.

Save the date: Mid-Century Modern home tour set for June 18

For the first time ever, the Mid-Century Modern home tour in Sacramento will expand its territory into Hollywood Park and Greenhaven, in addition to featuring homes in South Land Park and Land Park.

This year features a wide variety of mid-20th century living — highlighting the time period's distinctive architecture, design, and lifestyle. Guests will spend a fun day touring some of Sacramento's best mid-century homes, gardens, and vintage vehicles in authentic Sacramento mid-century neighborhoods. Styles range from minimalist to kitsch, moderns to ranch homes, and everything in between, explains Sacramento Modern president Gretchen Steinberg.

"This year's tour is more inclusive and expands beyond architecture. It's also a celebration of the lifestyle — even the products of everyday living from that era — that are also worthy of appreciation," she said.

The seven tour homes include: a rare custom modern home by Sparks and Thaden (1959/1967) in Land Park; two Eichler Homes (1955) designed by Jones and Emmons in South Land Park; a custom modern home (1967) in Greenhaven; a Sierra Builders ranch home (1950) in Hollywood Park; a unique custom South Land Park ranch home built by Floyd Cantrell (1959); and, a distinctive ranch/

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Home tour:

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modern home designed by Leo McGlade and Associates (1962) in South Land Park's Weber Estates.

The tour begins at Alice Birney Waldorf-Inspired K-8 School in South Land Park (designed by Herbert Goodpastor in 1958). Tour guests will be able to view modern and vintage products from local designers and vendors. They will receive a collectible guidebook that features addresses and a map, in-depth historic information, related points of interest, and local vintage resources. Guests will also receive complimentary bottled water (courtesy of Raley's); the summer issue of Atomic Ranch magazine (courtesy of Atomic Ranch magazine); and retro candy, toys, and other small treats along the tour route while supplies last.

Gretchen's favorite aspect of the tours, she said, is the homeowners themselves. "It takes very special and generous people who are willing to share their private spaces. This year's group not only has a great eye for design but also includes folks who are especially devoted to modernism: fogmodern, Hepcat Restorations, Vintage Sacramento, and SacMod. These homeowners are also very smart and creative; they demonstrate that maintaining a mid-20th century home can also be sustainable and economical. We have an example of a water-wise modern garden and a wonderful kitchen

project that incorporates adaptively reused/salvaged vintage cabinets."

A lean organization led exclusively by volunteers, the funds raised go directly toward fulfilling Sacramento Modern's mission statement to promote, preserve, and protect modern art, architecture, and design. The group accomplishes this by conducting tours, film screenings, lectures, preservation campaigns, and educational materials. The tour is the biggest fundraiser — and only happens every three years because it is such a huge undertaking. The funds for this year's tour are going into a collaborative effort to proactively identify and catalog historic modern places throughout Sacramento.

Gretchen said both previous tours (2010 and 2013) sold out and were attended by more than 1,000 guests, but that she has noticed a particular excitement for this year's tour. "We do have a maximum capacity and tickets are selling a lot faster this year," she said.

If you go:

What: Sacramento Mid-Century Modern Home Tour
Where: Tour starts at Alice Birney eK-8 Waldorf-inspired school
When: Saturday, June 18 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Cost: Tickets, while they last, are \$20 for SacMod members and \$35 for non-members.
For more information: More tour details and ticket purchases are online at <sacmodhometour.bpt.me>.



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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 tile stone counters & stainless appliances, inside laundry area, outdoor BBQ with counter. 1803 Bidwell Way. **SOLD**

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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 Freepoint Bakery, Dad's or Taylor's Market. 1800 8th Avenue. \$799,000. **SOLD**

LAND PARK
Over 2000 sq.ft of living space in this lovely home on a .21 acre lot. Four bedrooms, formal living rm w/ fireplace, spacious dining rm., large kitchen with sunny breakfast area, knotty pine game room behind garage w/ fireplace and bathroom, beautiful gardens and original pool. 1800 8th Avenue. \$799,000. **SOLD**

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Sac State partners with Hollywood Park on social emotional learning

Hollywood Park Elementary School has partnered with Sacramento State this school year to provide Social Emotional Learning during PE classes every Monday.

A team of Sac State student facilitators come to Hollywood Park each week to work with students at the school. Students are presented lessons on the five SEL competencies: Self-awareness, social awareness, self-management, healthy relationship skills and responsible decision-making skills.

"The lessons are interactive, fun, insightful and flexible," says Principal Tenley Luke. "The work is grounded in SEL research, theory and practice.

The partnership goes hand-in-hand with the Second Step SEL curriculum being implemented school wide."

'Powerful' anti-bullying assembly at Crocker-Riverside

Students from Sunnyside High School in the Fresno Unified School District staged an anti-bullying assembly titled "Don't Laugh at Me" for Crocker-Riverside Elementary School students on April 8.

"It was quite powerful and led to great follow up discussions in the classrooms with our students and their teachers," says Principal Daniel McCord. "We're looking forward to having them return next year."

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An exceptional cast of young performers set to perform the classic, Les Miserables

Local students, Alex Greenlee and Adan Hensley, are set to play the iconic antagonists, Jean Valjean and Inspector Javert, in the hugely popular musical, Les Miserables, May 20-29 at the 24th Street Theatre.

Director, Liorah Singerman of Young Actors Stage, is presenting the school edition with her Main Stage Senior Cast. The play, Les Miserables, known as a "sung-through" musical, is considered by some to be the world's longest running musical. For example, the London production has run continuously since 1985! It has been seen by over 70 million people in 42 countries and has won over 76 international awards. Based on Victor Hugo's hugely successful 19th century novel of the same name, the story about broken dreams, passion, and redemption, takes place during revolutionary unrest in Paris in the early 1800s. Songwriter Alain Boublil, along with composer Claude-Michel Schonberg, are responsible for the inspiring music, and Herbert Kretzmer and James Fenton are responsible for adapting the original French version into English. Les Miserables! features a long list of wonderful songs, including "I Dreamed a Dream," "The Innkeeper's Song" (Master of the House), and "The People's Song" (Do you Hear the People Sing).

Ms. Singerman has wanted to produce Les Mis (as the musical has been affectionately referred to) for a long time. However, this musical requires a mature cast of exceptional singers, with a lot of experience. This year she has found such a cast. Without her anchors, Alex Greenlee and Adan Hensley, the production probably would not have happened. Alex Greenlee, a senior in high school, has an exceptional voice and a long list of credits to his name. He has been in multiple productions of the Music Circus, has appeared in numerous leading roles for Runaway Stage and River City Theater Company, including "Catch Me if You Can," "Legally Blond," and "Children of Eden," receiving Elly nominations for the latter two. High school junior Adan Hensley also has an impressive resume in musical theater. He has had leading roles in "Thoroughly Modern Millie" for Sacramento Theater Company and "Sound of Music" for Young Actors Stage (YAS). Also, he was quite impressive as Professor Harold Hill in YAS's "The

Music Man." Both of these musical thespians train seriously and are expected to attend excellent theater programs and/or be on the professional stage in short order.

Not to be outdone, the difficult role of Fantine will be sung by Ana Riley-Portal and Kate Brugger, both of whom have a great deal of experience in leading roles for several local theatre companies, including the Music Circus, River City Theater Company, Sacramento Theater Company and Young Actors Stage. Miss Riley Portal has won numerous major singing competitions, and has received accolades for her performances as Maria in "The Sound of Music," Marian in "The Sound of Music," Polly Browne in "The Boyfriend," and Dorothy Brown in "Thoroughly Modern Millie." Miss Brugger has an impressive resume of important roles in local musical theater companies, including the Music Circus and Young Actors Stage. Some of her roles have included Ariel in "The Little Mermaid," Belle in "Beau-



Shown here are Adan Hensley on the left as Javert and Alex Greenlee on the right as Jean Valjean in this year's Young Actors Stage production of Les Miserables, which will be presented at the 24th Street Theatre in Curtis Park from May 20 to 29. Photo courtesy

ty and the Beast," and Millie in "Thoroughly Modern Millie." The role of Cosette will be sung by experienced musical theater performers, Emma May Gordon and Clara McNatt. Miss Gordon has performed for River City Theater Company and Young Actors Stage, as well as in other venues. Some of her favorite roles include the title role in "Annie," Dorothy in the "Wizard of Oz," and Mushu in "Mulan." Miss McNatt, a serious ballet dancer, also has a great deal of experience in local musical theater and has performed in numerous productions, including starring roles as Marian in

"The Music Man," Wendy in "Peter Pan," and Liesl in "The Sound of Music." Others with leading roles in Les Mis include Alexi Ishida, Tylar Traum, Asa Williams, Milan Williams, Julia Avila, and Wyatt Varley. These young performers, as well as the entire cast, are looking forward to sold-out audiences for this popular show. The tickets are \$15 and can be purchased online at youngactorsstage.com or at the door. Performances are Friday, May 20 and 27 at 7; Saturday, May 21 and 28 at 2 and 7; Sunday, May 22 and 29 at 11 and 3 at 24th Street Theatre.

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Ohana Hula: the Spirit of Hawai'i

By LEIGH STEPHENS

"Hula is the language of the heart, and therefore the heartbeat of the Hawaiian People."
- King David Kalakaua (1874-1891)

Observing a teen hula class at the Ohana (family) Dance Group is like spending time in Hawai'i – they give a permission chant to enter every dance wherever they may practice. They are beautiful young women in this class who follow their leader (alaka'i), shaking feathered gourd rattles (ulili), swaying to the music and single gourd drum (ipu) beat, talking story with graceful arms

and hands. The dancers wear black t-shirts with the Ohana logo, colorful calf-length skirts decorated with flowers and palm trees, flowers in their hair, and bare feet.

This teen group leader is Hokulele Fong-Owens, a 19-year-old gentle, graceful young woman who says she's taking a gap year to earn money for her college education. Kumu Pat sits on the side of the class playing the gourd drum.

The heart of this hula school (halau) is Patricia Ke'alaanuheaokalauae Toyama, Hawaiian born master kumu (teacher) and owner who began the school 16 years ago. She is



a handsome woman who personifies the spiritual essence of Hawai'i: aloha, compassion, community, and tradition.

Describing herself as a traditionalist, Kumu Pat says, "Now that I am in my seventh decade of life, it's my turn to share the Hawaiian culture that I have been a part of from birth to present. I was born when Hawai'i was a territory and began dancing hula when I was five-years-old."

She says her family has been in Hawai'i for more than 100 years, and her parents instilled in her the foundations of a moral (pono) life: respect, honor, honesty, responsibility, and compassion. Her mother danced hula and played the 'ukulele, her brother Paul plays the slack-key guitar (kiho 'alu), and her daughter Malia and niece U'ilani are skillful hula dancers.

In Hawai'i Kumu Pat graduated from Sacred Hearts Academy and the University of Hawaii. In addition to family, she credits her hula influence to family friends Leonard Kwan of Oahu and Kevin Brown of Maui. "They nurtured my love of Hawaiian music and hula."

Of the instructor she has studied under the longest, Pat says, "In my hula journey, I have been blessed to be able to study under Loea Kawaikapuokalani Hewett. Training has been a challenge, and I have learned



an amazing amount of Hawaiian culture and spirituality from his lessons." With Hewett she graduated to Master Kumu.

In 1986, with her husband Don Toyama, Pat moved from Oahu to Sacramento to take a job with the State of California in social services. She says she had worked on Oahu with the State of Hawai'i in a similar position, and she saw a career advance by moving to California at a time when California was recruiting for workers in her field.

Pat says she met Don Toyama on Oahu while she was having her car serviced. Don was from Maui. They were both single parents with Pat having a daughter and Don having a son. They married and became a blended family.

When Uncle Don, as the Ohana students call him,

and Kumu Pat retired, they began the Ohana Dance Group together. She says, "Don was always with me in the classes," as she points to the chair where he always sat. In failing health since last fall, Don has not been able to continue. The school and friends are planning an 80th birthday party for Don next month to celebrate his life – a "Hula Luau."

The Ohana Dance Group is a non-profit organization that holds hula classes for young children (keiki), through adults – a multi-generational effort. Pat says her youngest student is three and her oldest is 84. She introduces the student who has been with her the longest – Huapala Wagner, an 11th grader now. In addition to hula, the school offers Hawaiian

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Hula:

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language and 'ukulele lessons.

The Kumu says her school shows no discrimination in taking students or in performing for community groups. She believes in accepting everyone no matter gender, race, age or affiliation. "I ask no questions about their background. This is the Hawaiian community spirit."

The hula is a polynesian dance form accompanied by chant (oli) or song (mele). There are two main positions of a hula dance; sitting (noho dance) or standing (luna dance). Hula movements tell a story or represent movements of nature such as trees blowing in the wind or fish swimming in the ocean.

The dance originated in ancient Hawai'i as a ritual performed for the Volcano Goddess Pele. It is said that her sister Hi'iaka originally performed the dance for Pele. Laka is the goddess most often referred to when it comes to modern hula dancing. Hula history is an oral one and a number of myths exist around the dance.

When the hula began, the chants were performed by men while women played it

out in movement. Instruments used were sharkskin drums, rattles, gourds, and castanets. The costumes were not made of grass, but women wore cloth skirts, were bare-chested and men wore loincloths.

Leis, bracelets and necklaces were worn then as they are now. Traditionally leis were not meant to be worn after the ritual dance. They were offered on the altar of Goddess Laka. The hula was the Hawaiian way of keeping a record of history.

In 1820, when Christian missionaries arrived on the Islands much history was lost because Christian-converted Queen Ka'ahumanu destroyed the temples as pagan and banned the hula. The missionaries viewed the dance as vulgar and sinful, which caused it to be taught and performed in secret. Unable to suppress the hula completely, the missionaries insisted it be done wearing high-neck gowns with long sleeves.

When the last king of Hawai'i, David Kalakaua, came to the throne in the late 1800's, he encouraged a hula revival, which opened the way for additional moves, costumes, texts and songs. He was known as the "Merry Mon-



arch" who loved to travel among the people and enjoyed festivals.

The hula is now described as Traditional and Modern. Of course, there is also the Hollywood version we're all familiar with. Pat says she teaches the Traditional although her groups sometimes perform some modern numbers of current Hawaiian performers.

Continuing its years of support, the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission awarded the

Ohana Dance Group a three-year grant beginning in 2015. The Group is able to bring performers from Hawai'i and continue their own performances within the Sacramento community and the Bay Area. They have performed many rituals including the Pacific Rim Street Fair, the Aloha Festival at Cal Expo, at libraries, in schools, and for veterans' and senior groups.

The Group also awards scholarships to high school

seniors. In 2017, it will be able to give three scholarships.

The Ohana Dance Group studio is located just off Freeport Boulevard at 6235 Bellevue Wood Lane. For more information call 808-782-2483.

Professor Leigh Stephens is retired from the CSUS Journalism and Communications Department and was a visiting professor for 22 years at the University of Hawai'i.

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Bernie at Bonney:

Between 15,000 and 21,000 fill the field, leaving another 10,000 outside

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

"(A democracy is a) government of the people, by the people, for the people"

—Bernie Sanders quoting President Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address

Despite a last minute decision to come to Sacramento, presidential candidate Bernie Sanders drew more than 15,000 maxing the capacity of Bonney Field on Monday, May 9, leaving a reported 10,000 outside the gates. Bernie fans and rally volunteers arrived as early as 10 a.m. for the 8:30 p.m. speech and the line to get into the gates wrapped around the field for the most of the day and early evening hours.

Part of the last group that made it in the gates, Sacramentan Andrea Seppinni exclaimed on social media, "It was worth the wait! #DropOutHillary #feelthebern #BernieinSacramento' ... There were still a lot of people still waiting, but we lucked out!"

Chants of "Bern, Baby Bern" reverberated as people danced and sang and by about 7:20 p.m., the stage began to fill with volunteers, creating a backdrop for Mr. Sanders that symbolized, in a festive way, the grassroots support that has created his campaign, one that has been funded not by billionaires or Wall Street but by every day people.

Igniting the crowd with his opening, Mr. Sanders said, "Millions of Americans want a political revolution. It turns out a lot has changed in a year. The corporate establishment is getting nervous... When they see 15,000 people coming out in Sacramento, they get very nervous. And they should be getting nervous because real change is coming. Over the last year we have won 18 primaries and caucuses."

Addressing the crowd, giving individuals a large task, he boldly stated: "With your help we are going to win the biggest prize of all, the California primary, which elects 475 pledged delegates."

Acknowledging a steep climb to victory, he said with California on his side, there can be that pos-



Photos by Stephen Crowley
stephen@valcomnews.com
Shown here is a collection of photos from Monday night's Bernie Sanders rally at Bonney Field.

sibility. If so, he said, "We will walk into the democratic convention with a majority of pledged voters. Let me tell you we are going to fight for every vote... and we are going to take the political revolution into the convention in Philadelphia."

Criticizing the current campaign finance system, calling it corrupt and undermining American democracy, where "democracy is one person, one vote — not about billionaires and Wall Street and their super-pacts buying elections" — the senator said if elected he will overturn the Citizen's United deci-

sion and move to public funding of elections. "Democracy isn't about republicans suppressing the vote," he said.

"Together we're going to create a democracy which we will have the highest voter turnouts in the world, not one of the lowest."

Mr. Sanders contrasted himself with opponent Hillary Clinton from campaign contributions where she has taken between "\$10 to \$15 million

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Bernie:

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from Wall Street" to his average contribution of \$27. He also spoke on raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour nationwide (versus Clinton's support of a \$12 an hour wage), to banning fracking, lowering interest rates on people's student debt, taxing carbon and offering free community college).

Speaking about Republican candidate Donald Trump, Mr. Sanders denounced the possibility of him becoming president. "He will not become president because he does not understand our strength is in our diversity. That when black and white and Latino and Native Americans, when gays and straight and men and women stand together that is when we are strongest. And the American people understand we are great when we stand together. When my family hurts, we are there for you. That's what America is supposed to be about. Supporting each other always trumps selfishness. At end of the day, love always trumps hatred."

Sitting in the press box for the duration of the speech former mayoral candidate Russell Rawlings, a governmental journalism student at Sacramento State University, said he is overjoyed that he finally has a presidential candidate that he agrees with on practically every issue. "I feel like I did the first day of Occupy Sacramento: awestruck, inspired and ready for the political revolution!" he said.

Phone banking since the very beginning stages of Sanders' campaign, Rawlings hosted his own phone bank and had coffee in his own neighborhood, Oak Park. "I have noticed that Oak Park is very accepting. I see Bernie signs everywhere in my neighborhood."

Since he dropped out of the mayor's race, Rawlings said he will "have more time for Bernie. After next week I will be finished with finals and I can put in the last real hard push. I will be living at the Democratic Party of Sacramento County."

Journalism student Tirtsah Yisrael said she enjoyed Bernie's focus on young voters, stating that she can't see herself voting for anybody else.

Rachele Lizarraga, also a journalism student at Sacramento State said she enjoyed the rally, noting that the student newspaper, The Hornet, may post video at a later date. "I thought the speech was great. I liked how he is so focused on diversity and mentions as many groups as possible. There was good energy and it was laid back. I felt safe. It was not chaotic."

Involved with Sacramento for Bernie Sanders City Farms resident Darrow Sprague took some time while waiting for the senator to take the stage to speak with this publication regarding his involvement with the local group.

"I have seen the candidate go from someone people didn't know about to where lots of people know about him and they're getting behind the issues he's bringing to the table... It's pretty awesome. A year ago, no one in Sacramento had heard of him, except for the hardcore political geeks ... A year ago I launched the Facebook page and it's taken a year to get here. I remember people asking me what will it take to bring Bernie to Sacramento. If we are able get volunteers and make an impact: that will put us on the radar."

To Darrow the most important issues Sanders addresses include wage inequality issues and providing greater opportunities to join the middle class. "(He is) someone who is addressing the challenges that we face. I also think his position on climate change is very important to me. I do think we need a World War II scale mobilization to combat climate change, not something we can do incrementally. The crisis is great. Bernie Sanders recognizes that and wants to make it a priority."

Arriving at Bonney Field at 10 a.m., 10 hours before Sanders took the stage, Darrow described the scene as including "a lot of enthusiastic people," about 100-120 volunteers who gathered in the bleachers to hear from campaign staff regarding different roles for volunteers to fill.

While he's been so involved with the local campaign efforts, Darrow said many of the people who came out to the volunteer efforts on Monday were unfamiliar to him. "It's kind of the nature of the grassroots campaign. A lot of people are doing their thing without it being centralized."

The next morning, on Tuesday, May 10, Land Park resident Shelly Keller described: "I loved this event. So many young people. My favorite things he spoke about were restoring the American Dream, and how human beings are part of nature and we need to protect our environment. You'll never hear that from Hillary or Trump. And I loved when he spoke about war and the crowd responded by raising their hands, making the peace sign. I've never felt more patriotic than I did last night."



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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: Wednesday, April 27 (Robbery): 6100 block of Freeport Boulevard at 12:49 a.m.

The victim was in the above area when an argument ensued with a family member who then grabbed the victim's purse and fled on foot. No injuries were reported. Officers checked the area for the suspect and located him. The suspect was arrested for robbery and multiple outstanding warrants.

(Brandishing): 4800 block of Freeport Boulevard at 4:59 p.m.

The victim was walking in the area when he was approached by

two male suspects who reportedly brandished a firearm at the victim. No injuries were reported. Officers arrived on scene and contacted the suspects. The firearm was not located. After further investigation, both suspects were arrested for multiple charges.

Reporting date: Tuesday, May 3 (Resisting Arrest): 1000 block of Rio Lane at 8:38 a.m.

Officers responded to a location regarding an evicted tenant who was on the property and had previously made threats of violence. The suspect left prior to the arrival of officers. The suspect returned to the property later in the day and was contacted by officers. While officers were contacting the suspect, a physical struggle ensued. The suspect was subdued without injury and arrested for resisting arrest. No injuries were reported.

(Burglary): 5600 block of Freeport Boulevard at 10:42 p.m.

Officers responded to a business on an alarm activation. Officers determined that the suspect had taken property from inside the business and fled prior to their arrival. A report was generated and follow up will be conducted.

Reporting date: Friday, May 6 (Outside Agency Assist): I 5 northbound / 43rd Avenue at 10:49 a.m.

Officers were patrolling in the above area when they located a robbery vehicle from an outside jurisdiction. The suspect fled from officers on foot. A perimeter was quickly established but the suspect evaded officers.

Reporting date: Saturday, May 7 (Robbery): 4600 block of Freeport Boulevard at 12:17 a.m.

An unknown suspect entered the business armed with a firearm, robbed the employee and fled. No injuries were reported. Officers canvassed the area for evidence. The investigation remains active.

(Assault): 2500 block of Broadway at 1:07 a.m.

The victim was in the above area when an argument reportedly ensued with a male suspect armed with a knife. The suspect assaulted the victim with the knife and fled on foot. The victim sustained a non-life threatening injury. Officers canvassed the area for evidence and the suspect. The investigation is on-going.

(Outside Agency Assist): Highway 50 eastbound at 15th Street at 3:31 a.m.

Officers responded to assist CHP with an officer who was struck by truck. Officers assisted with road closures while CHP conducted their investigation.

(Robbery): 2800 block of 12th Ave at 2:34 p.m.

Officers were dispatched regarding a robbery that occurred inside a business. The suspect entered the business, displayed a firearm, and demanded property. The suspect then fled the area on foot. A report was generated and the investigation is on-going.

Senior Discount Eligibility

By STEVE LIDDICK

I was in a downtown thrift store and I gave the clerk my credit card. He rang it up, less a ten-percent senior discount. Automatically. Can you imagine that? Would it have killed him to ask if I was old enough... out of courtesy, compassion, human decency? Older people have feelings too, you know.

It's been a few years since a clerk asked me if I were old enough to qualify for a senior discount. I just routinely get it now, based on what the clerk sees standing in front of him, all gray and wrinkly, with gravity doing its evil.

I like saving a buck or two as much as the next guy, although the next guy is usually younger than I am. It's not that I mind growing older. Not that I can do anything about it, short of stepping in front of a speeding cement mixer. But does the younger generation, hereinafter referred to as Whip-persnappers, have to rub it in on members of the older generation, hereinafter referred to as "The Older Generation?"

In my experience, that happens to me about 99-percent of the time. And, as everyone knows, 84.2-percent of all statistics used to win arguments are made up.

That's not the only age related peeve I could mention. You get to a certain

age and people start referring to the elderly as being at "a certain age." Not to get all paranoid about it, but I know they're talking about me when they say stuff like that.

Young people don't seem to be able to acknowledge the existence older people. When a person gets to "a certain age" they become invisible. If we of The Older Generation are with someone younger, Whip-persnappers address their comments to that person and act as though the older person isn't there. If you're walking down the street, those same people run right into you because they can't see you. Although, to be fair, a lot of that is because they're texting.

I was in a supermarket with my mother a few years ago. Mom was in her late 80s at the time. She was using our shopping cart like a walker when a younger woman pushed her cart directly in front of ours, blocking ours. She let it sit there and walked away, down an aisle, like she didn't even see us. Well, I fixed her. I took her cart and lost it in the produce section. But not before I buried several embarrassing adult products under her other items. I could just imagine her surprise at checkout.

I get pretty steamed up about treatment of the elderly.

And let me tell you, the first guy who talks to me in a loud voice... like I'm deaf or something... and calls me "Dad" is asking for a punch in the nose.

Steve Liddick is author of the time travel novel, "All That Time."

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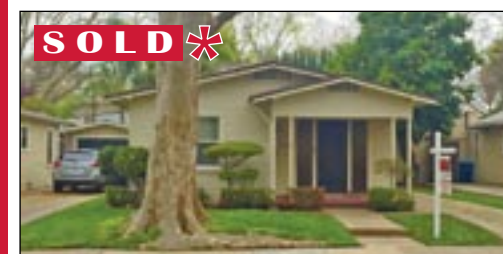


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Belle Cooledge ice cream social set for May 20

By DENISE HOLMES

As always, the Friends of the Belle Cooledge Library will be treating everyone to yummy Vic's ice cream, including "muddy mocha" and "cookies and cream". Yum! Nate, the Children's Librarian, has lined up some special entertainment, including music from the Chicken Lips, magic by Trevor Wyatt and fun crafts with the ArtBeast. Fire Engine #13 will also be making an appearance. Belle Cooledge Park is right next to the library and the event is

scheduled from 6-8 p.m. on May 20. A major feature of the annual Ice Cream Social is the biggest and best book sale of the year. The library has been receiving donated materials for months and they have sorted and selected the very best adult and children's books, CDs and DVDs just for you. Join bargain hunters and book lovers from all over town at the Belle Cooledge book sale. Beat the crowds and the book dealers and arrive early. There is a 10 percent discount on all

purchases for Friends of the Library. Memberships start at \$10 for young people and \$15 for adults. Special thanks to Council-member Jay Schenirer and his assistant, Keilani Paneda. They helped us with permits and necessary equipment. Also, we would like to celebrate all the volunteers who have offered to set up, sell books, scoop ice cream and clean the park when it is over. Please consider becoming a member of the Friends of the Library. This is one of so many events we support every day.

Free event on May 13 at John F. Kennedy

Teacher Erin Gruwell, whose work with at-risk teens was depicted in the movie "Freedom Writers," will appear at John F. Kennedy High School on Friday, May 13, to screen a new documentary that tells what happened to her students after the movie was released.

The event is free and open to the public.

Gruwell's book about her quest to inspire 150 at-risk students in Long Beach ("The Freedom Writers Diary") was the basis for a 2007 film starring Hilary Swank. The new documentary, "Freedom Writers: Stories from an Undeclared War," follows the students from 1994 through the present day.

In her classroom at Woodrow Wilson High School in Long Beach, Gruwell used the writ-

ings of Anne Frank to help her students discover a new way of expressing themselves. Gruwell left the school in 1998 but has kept in touch with her students. She is founder of the Freedom Writers Foundation where she currently teaches educators around the world how to implement her innovative lesson plans in their own classrooms.

Gruwell has written two books on teaching, "Teach with Your Heart" and "The Freedom Writers Diary Teacher's Guide."

If you go:

What: "Freedom Writers" Film Screening with Erin Gruwell

When: 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday, May 13

Where: John F. Kennedy High School, 6715 Gloria Drive

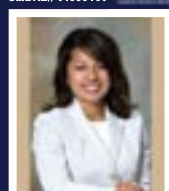
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Faces and Places:

First clean-up day of the year in William Land Park

Photos by STEPHEN CROWLEY
stephen@valcomnews.com

Shown here is a collection of photos from the first clean up day in William Land Park, which will be held every first Saturday of the month, starting at 8 a.m. Meet in the picnic area between the parking lot between Fairytale Town and the WPA Rock Garden.



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Chrysanthemum Society to hold show on May 28 at Shepard Garden and Art Center

The Sacramento Chrysanthemum Society will be presenting their annual rooted cutting sale at Shepard Garden and Art Center on Saturday, May 28 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, May 29, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Last year's sale was nearly a sell out. This year the club will have over 1600 rooted cutting for sale from which to choose. Most cultivars will have pictures representing the bloom that the cuttings will produce later in the year.

Members of the club will be on hand to discuss the various plant bloom styles and assist with your selections. The stated goal of the club is to promote interest in the chrysanthemum and assist in the growing of the plant to successfully create beautiful blooms.

There are 13 classification of bloom type within the chrysanthemum plant family. Within those classifications are many cultivars. The general public is usually most interested in the spider type bloom such as the zaryah bloom, the quill such as King's Delight and Oberlin, and the various incurve blooms such as River City. King's Delight and River City are cultivars that were developed by local (Clements) resident, Ted King, former owner of Kings Mums. Our society is very proud and honored to have Ted as a member for many years and appreciate the contributions he has made to the Chrysanthemum culture.

This year the local club will be hosting the National Chrysanthemum Convention, to be held Nov. 5 and 6 at the Rancho Cordova Marriott Hotel. Growers from around the United States will be showing their best blooms. Show is open to the public.

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Upcoming Belle Coolee Library events

The hours for Belle Coolee Library, located 5600 South Land Park Drive, are as follows: Sunday and Monday: Closed; Tuesday: Noon to 8 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday: 1 to 6 p.m.; Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For details, telephone the Sacramento Public Library at (916) 264-2920 or visit www.saclibrary.org.

One-on-One Technology Help

Thursday, May 12 at 2 p.m.: Is your tablet giving you trouble? Need to email a resume or learn the method for using USB drives? Can't get your school papers formatted correctly? Do you want FREE eBooks? How about FREE audiobooks? If you answered yes to any of these questions make an appointment with our Technology Assistant and learn all there is to know about the awesome stuff we have for you at the Library. Come on by the Belle Coolee location, or call us at (916)264-2920 to schedule your hour long appointment today. See you soon! Registration is required.

Job Coach (Adult)

Thursday, May 12 at 3:30 p.m.: Our job coach will help you look for jobs, get an email address, create and upload a resume and prepare for an interview. No appointment required.

Homework Zone (School Age (6-12))

Thursday, May 12 at 4 p.m.: Teen volunteer homework coaches are available to assist students in grades K-8 with homework assignments. This program is designed to help students in grades K - 8 only.

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Thursday, May 12 at 4 p.m.: Join us Thursday afternoons from 4-5pm to create and code your own computer games. Google CS|First is an 8 week course to develop the skills of early computer engineers. This program utilizes MIT's Scratch software. Intended for Coders 9 and up, registration is required. We encourage you to attend all sessions if you can.

May 13, Friday, 1:00 p.m.

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Belle Coolee Library
5600 South Land Park Drive, Sacramento
Please join us for Mobile District Offices coming up in your neighborhood. My staff can help you work with state agencies and connect you with the numerous resources in our community.

Teen Space (Teen)

Friday, May 13 at 3 p.m.: Grab your friends, hit up the library to hang out, mess around or try a variety of fun activities planned for you - this space is yours! A light snack will be provided. TeenSpace is intended for teens ages 12 - 18.

Saturday Sleuths Book Club

Saturday, May 14 at 2 p.m.: Join us each month as we discuss popular and classic mysteries. The May selection is The Cater Street Hangman by Anne Perry. Light refreshments will be served.

No Baby Storytime (Early Childhood (0-5))

Tuesday, May 17 at noon: Baby storytime takes a break in December and will resume on the first Tuesday of June at 12:30 PM. We apologize for any inconvenience.

NO Toddler or Preschool Storytime Today (Early Childhood (0-5))

Thursday, May 19 at 9 a.m.: During the month of May both Toddler and Preschool Storytimes will take a break. Please join us for our regularly scheduled storytimes starting Thursday, June 9th.

Job Coach (Adult)

Thursday, May 19 at 3:30 p.m.: The library's job coach will help you look for jobs, get an email address, create and upload a resume and prepare for an interview. No appointment required.

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Take a hike! Or a walk on the 'Wildside'

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

Cell phone tethered nature lovers out there will appreciate the latest achievement from three local girl scout troops. Just in time for this year's Walk on the Wildside, the young ladies from Elk Grove created a new technology-friendly mile-long hike that features 14 QR codes posted along the way.

Like the old days with brochures detailing the must-sees on a trail, these smart phone and tablet friendly codes similarly highlight the Bufferlands' main attractions but with YouTube videos. Current attractions include an active heron and egret rookery.

Unfortunately, the posts will be available for one day only, Saturday, May 14, the day of Walk on the Wildside. Then they'll be gone, likely to return next year (depending on the future goals of the girl scouts). Meanwhile the codes will live on.

So, if you hear naysayers yell – "Give your cell phone a rest for crissake. We're in nature" – well, tell them to take a hike ... or a walk on the Wildside!

The free, outdoor festival showcasing local conservation efforts, Walk on the Wildside celebrates International Migratory Bird Day, Endangered Species Day and demonstrates local efforts in protecting and restoring native habitats and wildlife.

And the QR trail is definitely the highlight of the day, as Girl Scout "Mom" Christine Anderson said quite matter-of-factly: "Technology is ruling our lives. We're making Walk on the Wildside more accessible to people."

Trying to make the tech trail useful for kids and adults, YouTube videos linked to the QR codes are geared to an easy level of understanding, but will have subsequent parts where adults can visit websites for more in-depth reading. Using the homepage for Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge and the Bufferlands as well as interviews with docents, the girl scouts undoubtedly did their homework to assure hikers the accuracy of their information.

Because of the nature of the internet, timely information and breaking news about the area will be updated. "On our end for the Bufferlands, we can change things on the fly as needed. If a tree were to fall down, we could accommodate it; we could get it on the internet," Anderson said.

Besides describing the habitat of the Bufferlands, the QR codes explain basic trail etiquette such as asking walkers to "walk" and "stay on the trail."

While distance-wise the trail is short, Anderson recommends Walk on the Wildside visitors to set aside an entire hour because each stop takes about two to three minutes. "It's not strenuous; it's very, very easy. But, it's not wheelchair-friendly. It's a dirt trail."

Asked what her favorite aspect of the annual event is, Anderson said she enjoys seeing the nesting birds, which can be found on a longer hike on the property.

Normally not open to the public, the Bufferlands lie deep in the woods outside of Elk Grove in Freeport. "It's a real great resource a lot of people don't know exist; I go out there for other docent-led hikes," Anderson said. "It's open to the public when they have docents taking you through but those are rare occasions."

With the goal of further teaching the scouts how projects of this magnitude come to completion, Anderson said she's suggested taking the technology trail idea to other places such as the Cosumnes River Preserve.

As for those without smart phones during the Walk on the Wildside event, don't worry. "There are a lot of other trails besides this particular one, so there's a lot of information you can get from the other trails," says Anderson. "You don't necessarily have to do this one to get a good understanding of the place."

Teruko Hansum, a freshman at Elk Grove High School and member of Troop 1978, spoke with Valley Community Newspapers about the technology trail and a recent trip to the Bufferlands where she and other girl

scouts pinpointed locations where they were going to video.

At first hesitant giving up Saturdays to work on the project, Teruko, in the end is glad she did. "This is definitely an important project ... I've been working with my friends and doing a lot of great work in a short amount of time. It's important for people to know what the Bufferlands are and why they are so important to the environment," she said.

Peacocks, owls, invasive and native blackberries, as well as a 400-year-old tree fill the Bufferlands and have stories that docents have shared with the girl scouts, Teruko explained. "There's alfalfa plants that grow there. Sadly, I think they're going to harvest them before the walk. They have flowers that when a bee comes by, the flower will grab on to the bee. And as it is panicking, it pollinates all the flowers and then it lets go. The specialist had a story about when he was a farm boy and how he would get stung by many bees because they got caught by the flowers."

Maintaining the Bufferlands, a docent shared with the girls a story of interdependence. "(The elderberry Long horn beetle) is special because of the type of beetle that lives on the (elderberry) bush. The beetles are going almost instinct because the bush is getting rarer and rarer as years go on," Teruko said.

Producing footage of native and invasive blackberry bushes (which are edgy, not smooth), the Elk Grove High School freshman explains the pros and cons of the invasive, as follows: "They are good and bad: good because they make a lot of food, but on the bad side, they're taking over of the native blackberry bushes."

Breaking the misconception that poison oak has to be red in color or have spots, the YouTube video will explain: "If they come in three let them be. We've got different pictures of each type of poison oak and how to tell the difference between them. As you stay on the trail, you'll be fine," Teruko said.

As of last week, when this interview took place, the girl scouts still had to finish recording. They were also on track to get the QR codes laminated and placed on the specific locations. "(Fellow girl scout) Rebecca (Klung from Troop 2525) is working on going to local printing companies to get donations (for the lamination). If donated, it will get the company name on it."

The first time participating in the event, Teruko remembers attending it years ago. "I went to all the stops and it was pretty cool and I am excited to be a part of the behind-the-scenes action... I have enjoyed it a lot. It's not every day you get to go out and enjoy the land. There are even peacocks on the land and you can hear them too. We saw the peacocks too. We saw a couple of them walking around. I got video of the peacocks."

If you go:

What: A free, outdoor festival showcasing local conservation efforts, Walk on the Wildside celebrates International Migratory Bird Day, Endangered Species Day and demonstrates local efforts in protecting and restoring native habitats and wildlife. Bring the kids. The event includes: wild animal presentations by Wild Things, Inc., folk music by Cliff Compton & Mountaintop, a children's puppet show by Jason Adair, children's activity center, games and prizes hosted by local Girl Scouts, guided and self-guided tours of wetlands and riparian forests, wildlife viewing including one of the largest heron/egret rookeries in the county, environmental exhibitors, children's activity center, games and prizes hosted by local Girl Scouts, Ollie Otter, and an outdoor barbecue hosted by Elk Grove High School FFA and Rotary Club.

When: Saturday, May 14 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Where: Beach Lake Park, Freeport

Who: Regional Sanitation District
Cost: The event and parking are FREE

Matias Bombal's Hollywood

Captain America: Civil War
The MPAA has rated this PG-13

Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures and Marvel Entertainment offer the latest comic book crowd pleaser "Captain America: Civil War" from the director brothers that brought you "Captain America: Winter Soldier", Anthony and Joe Russo. The Avengers, a group of several humans with enhanced features and specialized skills or abilities have wrought much havoc in past movies based on the Marvel comic books in which these colorful superheroes originate. This movie is really non-stop action from start to finish which is mind-bending since it is on the screen and in 3-D for a long 146 min.

Among the actors turned superheroes; Chris Evans is featured in the title role repeating it from other films. He's always fun to watch. Anthony Mackie is Falcon, Elizabeth Olsen appears as Scarlet Witch. Robert Downey, JR recreates Iron Man once more, with an ongoing parade of great movie names; Don Cheadle (War Machine), Scarlett Johansson (Black Widow), and Paul Bettany (Vision). If there is one thing that may be said for this picture, the cast is top heavy with talent.

Other masters of Thespis in this comic book action opera include Jeremy Renner, Paul Rudd, Martin Freeman, Marisa Tomei, John Slattery, Alfre Woodard, William Hurt, and as our villain in this picture, Daniel Brühl (Zemo). Chadwick Boseman looks pretty sleek in his Black Panther suit in this non-stop comic book orgy of action.

International sanctions on these superheroes are demanded by the United Nations following the destruction of the building in the first major action scene in the movie due to the loss of many human lives.

The pressure is on to restrict the activities of the Avengers, and Captain America wishes not to cave to these pressures. The meeting by the Avengers to discuss which side of this they will take; to conform, or go rogue, may be the calmest moment in the picture.

Another fly in the ointment of this splitting of superhero ways is actor Sebastian Stan returning as The Winter Soldier, who may be programmed to follow suggestion by simply hearing a series of coded words to trigger his brainwashing. Villain Daniel Brühl most certainly manipulates him with divisive results for our heroes.

I am positive that this will please Marvel Comic fans who know and love these characters and eagerly await not only for the mandatory cameo from comic book legend Stan Lee, but linger to the end of the credit crawl to see not just one, but two separate scenes that will portend of future Marvel mayhem in current production.

There are many exceedingly popular movies in this vein from both the rival comic book concerns of Marvel or DC Comics, and they all suffer one major flaw in being able to stand alone as a movie on its own merits. The pro-



ducers, and majority of the audience for that matter, are sure to be invested in these stories and characters from past movies or comic books. They assume you already know all of the players.

Imagine for a moment the movie patron such as myself, who may have never read a comic book in their lives, but loves to see name talent doing what they do best. Especially if that name talent is in such a major production full of the latest movie wizardry. Thy hypothetical patron that I suggest will not have any idea of who suddenly appears in a scene, without any explanation of who or what they are. This newly introduced figures are not devel-

oped as a character within the context of the movie's narrative, they just show up and start doing their thing, much to the delight of those in the know that have followed these stories in previous movies and or in the comic books themselves.

Thus, from the perspective of a movie being a self-contained narrative, this movie will not work. It assumes you know what happened before and will engage you to find out what's next. In the process, it only dazzles with loudness, ac-

tion and shiny objects over its long running time, which, with all that time, does not let the great cast have much dialog to showcase their talents. Each action is in reaction to another bit of fast paced movie wizardry. This is definitely a crowd pleaser for the fans, but what moments from this will they remember and or cherish ten years from now? In 3-D and IMAX, in Sacramento, at the Esquire IMAX Theatre. Also showing in other theatres in wide-screen 3-D presentations.



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PENDING



SOUTH LAND PARK HILLS

Delightful home is perfect for outdoor living with the large sparkling pool, personal hot tub and outdoor grill. 3 bedrooms 2½ baths, 1725 sf lovingly maintained. Spacious open floor plan. Paradise is a personal thing but this might be yours!

\$519,000

SHEILA VAN NOY 505-5395

PENDING



INVESTOR SPECIAL

Remodeled 2 bedroom, 2 bath halfplex with tenant in place ... and this tenant would like to stay! Newer tile in interior. New roof and gutters in 2012. Seller would prefer an investor buyer who will allow tenant to stay in place.

\$132,500

CHRIS BRIGGS 834-6483

for current home listings, please visit:

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