



Design ideas to keep you in your home See page 16

Vol. XVIII, NO. 4

February 19, 2009



Matsuyama Elementary School held its annual fund-raising spaghetti dinner last month with a 'Where in the World' celebration of cultures. Students showcased their cultural heritage with a fashion show and dances from around the world. Colorful multicultural art pieces made by students decorated the school's multipurpose hall. Desserts from all over the world were sampled by those who attended the school-community event. Next up for the school is its Cherry Blossoms Festival, from 4 to 6 p.m. Friday, March 6. Families are invited for craft-making and student performances. Matsuyama is located at 7680 Windbridge, phone 433-5535.





Huge tribute to Obama's inauguration See page 5



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By Miranda Menestrina THE POCKET NEWS

espite the cold weather and rain, hundreds of teachers, parents, students and community members turned out for one of the last community meetings with the Sacramento City Unified School District School to express their fears about the future of the district and generate ideas on new revenue and how the district can save money.

The Feb. 10 meeting at Sacramento Charter High School was the tenth of 11 community meetings in the district's five "study areas" (north, south, east, west and central) that have

See Education, page 23



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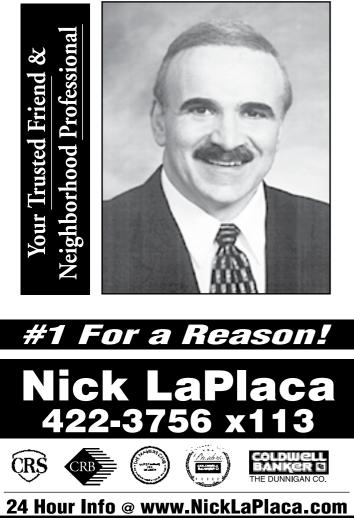
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Environmental economy How to make your own green cleaning products on the cheap

leaning products for the home are typically expensive and can often be harmful to our health and the environment. We can easily make our own green cleaning solutions that cost a fraction of what typical cleaning products run and our safer for us, our family and the environment.

You will need to purchase some spray bottles and have a Sharpie to label them for storage.

Glass and window cleaner

 cup white vinegar
 cup water
 One-half teaspoon dish soap (optional)
 to 8 drops of essential oils (optional)
 Old newspapers

 Put all ingredients in spray bottle and attack
 those dirty windows. The dish soap will dissolve the waxy buildup left behind by
 typical glass cleaners. Once
 the buildup is gone there is

no need for the dish soap. Clean with old newspapers instead of rags to minimize streaking.

All-surface spray

Use this product on counter tops, walls and spills. 2 teaspoons Borax Hot water One-quarter teaspoon castile soap

Mix the Borax and hot water until Borax is dissolved and then add the soap. Let it sit for a minute or two before wiping up.



All-purpose liquid cleaner

cars and other large jobs.

1 tablespoon baking soda

2 tablespoons liquid soap

1 gallon hot water

Use this product for floors,

1 tablespoon of Borax (optional)

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Good for grout, stove tops, and anywhere else a mild scouring product is called for. 2 tablespoons baking soda Liquid dish soap White vinegar

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Program launches with fund-raiser Faith community asked to help families avoid housing disasters

By Elizabeth Valente THE POCKET NEWS

istrict Four Councilman Rob Fong has teamed up with the Sacramento Ending Chronic Homelessness Initiative to help families permanently avoid or escape homelessness.

The program, Faith and Homeless Families Initiative, is aimed at helping 30 families avoid homelessness by matching them with faith communities to mentor and help provide short-term rent assistance, financial management tools and obtain self-sufficiently.

"We have asked the Sacramento faith community to adopt homeless families, in order to get women and children off the streets," said Councilmember Fong. "We have more than 1,200 people who

LE

are homeless. I am really looking at working to address that problem."

The program was launched on Wednesday, Feb. 18, during a fund-raising reception at the Crest Theatre, where for \$20 a ticket people viewed the screening of the documentary "Where God Left his Shoes," a movie starring John Leguizamo. The story is about a man struggling to move his family out of a homeless shelter and into better accommodations in a housing project.

"The response has been overwhelming," Fong said. "We are very excited about expanding the reach of this pilot project so that someday soon all families will have housing here in Sacramento."

The need grows

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According to a spokesperson at the Sacramento Ending Chron-



Councilman Rob Fong: 'We have more than 1,200 people who are homeless. I am really looking at working to address that problem.

ic Homelessness Initiative, more families have become homeless this year from the current economic and housing crisis. Emergency shelters across the city and county are turning away families because they do not have enough space and beds.

Director Tim Brown says this initiative is a win-win for all involved.

"It will empower families to begin the journey to self-sufficiency," he said, "and community members can put their faith into action. And public resources will



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Steps to be taken

Key components of the Faith and Homeless Families initiative include:

• Short-term rent assistance.

• Seven financial planning and mentoring sessions provided by trained volunteers from faith communities.

• Case management and support from the Sacramento Ending Chronic Homelessness Initiative.

> be leveraged to save families from homelessness."

Unlike other programs, the FHFI program will serve families who, in better economic times, were able to secure sustained employment and housing; but, in this recession, are unable to do so.

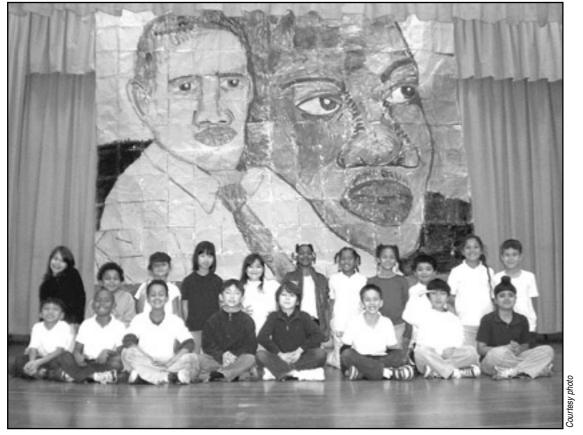
"This is not a population that is targeted by the 10-year plan to end chronic homeless in the city and county," said Fong. "I am looking to shed some attention to the local (city) issue right now."

Fong hopes in the near future to introduce a plan that will help put a roof over the heads of many homeless families living around the city, but it will have to wait because of the budgetary issue.

"It's terrible (to know) people go hungry in our city," he said. "We have to come up with a way to help and use it to address the homelessness issue."



Neighborhood that



Giant celebration

Lisbon School, 7555 South Land Park Drive, prepared for the presidential inauguration day by having all students participate in a variety of activities. Bob Batten's second and third graders' mural that celebrated Martin Luther King Day and the inauguration of Barack Obama made local television on inauguration day. The students implemented their knowledge of ratio and the use of grids to create the 25-foot-square mural. It consisted of 180 individually drawn sections that required teamwork and art skills. 'The students were completely blown away once the project was completed,' said teacher Batten. 'They had no idea how incredibly beautiful this project would turn out.'

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/isit www.ccppns.org/convention for more info or register directly at www.regonline.com/playforlife!

Retirement & Assisted Living

Office staff takes furlough day **Councilman vows public safety as priority during fiscal woes**

he economic news continues to be challenging for the city. Even after last year's deficit of more than \$50 million, rounds of retirements and some layoffs, the news for the coming budget cycle is not good. The nation's recession and the state's fiscal crisis both impact the city and its financial forecast. When council approved the fiscal year 2008-2009 budget that took effect last July 1, cuts of 4 percent in Fire, 8 percent in Police and 20 percent in most other city departments took effect.

The projected deficit is, for this next fiscal year, again in

COMSTOCK



the vicinity of \$50 million. Furloughs for non-represented city employees took effect Jan. 1. My office staff members are taking one unpaid furlough day each month.

A balanced budget is required by July 1. The next

Pocket Area

Resident & Specialist

Councilman Robbie Waters DISTRICT 7 UPDATE

> Budget Workshop at City Council will be 6 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 24, in the City Council Chambers. My priority continues to be public safety, especially the need to increase police patrol in our neighborhoods. The meeting is open to the public and I welcome your comments.

Closer to home, we are bringing budget information to the community with the Area 2 Community Partnership

Meeting at 7 p.m., Wednesday, March 11, at the Pannell Center, 2450 Meadowview Road. Please join us.

New 311 service a winner

Many of you have already tried the city's 311 service to reach a city operator. I know this because we did aggressive outreach in our district when the service began and now other parts of the city have caught on to this great service. The 311 service is available 24/7/365. Calls to 311 from city residents now average 32,000 per month.

Use the service to report broken streetlights, code enforcement and solid waste problems as well as questions, and even to find a phone number you've lost.

If in doubt, call 311. It's a terrific service and I'm glad our residents are using it.

Calendar of events for 2009

Even with the troubling financial forecast, District 7 events will continue and some are already scheduled. Please add these dates to vour calendar.

Our annual Spring Egg Hunt is Saturday, April 11, at Parkway Oaks Park (next to Lisbon Elementary) and begins at 9:30 a.m. The annual Friends of the Library Book Sale at the front parking lot of the Elks Lodge will be Saturday, April 25, in the morning. Our 15th annual Pocket Parade will be on Saturday, July 4, at 10 a.m. Mark Sunday, July 26, at 6 p.m. for the annual Jazz Concert - location to be announced. Last, but certainly not least, mark Tuesday, Aug. 4, for National Night Out.

is Park are just about completed. Improvements include more picnic tables and a shade structure to enhance playtime at the park for adults as well as youngsters. A big thank you to the folks who turned out at two community meetings to review plans and made sugges-

Sunday School: 9:15 am • Sunday Worship: 10:30 am • Wed, Evenings 6:30 pm. AWANA (Children's Ministrey) • Youth - Jr. High - Sr. High

See Waters, page 7



Please RSFP: 916) 733-6510

-How memory works

Continued from page 6

tions. The rehab is better because of your input.

District 7 students shine

It's no surprise that we have some great students in our community but listen to this: Of the six winners for the Freedom's Sisters Essay Contest, three of them live in District 7._

Congratulations to Kymberly Chann of Matsuyama Elementary, Brittany Joe of Horizon Charter, and Justine Cortez of Samuel Jackman Middle School. These fantastic students each won a \$500 U.S. Savings Bond. The Freedom's Sisters exhibit focused on exceptional African-American women in U.S. History and was located at the Central Library. We honored these students at City Council on Feb. 17 and I invite you to join me in supporting and congratulating these fine young students in our community.

School/library construction update

Foundation work at the School of Engineering and Sciences progresses smoothly at the construction site at Gloria Drive and Swale River.

The school is scheduled to open at the new campus in January 2010 at this point in the schedule. Construction of the library portion of the joint use project should begin this spring. Join us at a community update meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 23, at the Interim Campus of the School of Engineering and Science, 6620 Gloria Drive (previously Bear Flag Elementary) in the Multi Purpose Room.

Airport expansion

The construction work at Sacramento International Airport is underway now. In order not to be inconvenienced by construction, check the project's website at www.bigbuild.org, which includes a helpful Frequently Asked Questions page.

Pocket-Greenhaven Friends of the Library

The next FOL meeting will be at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 26, at Lisbon Elementary School, 7555 South Land Park

Drive in the Teacher's Conference Room. Call my office for more info. The meetings are open to the public and I encourage you to join this active community group.

Keeping our quality of life

Are you concerned about lacking upkeep on nearby properties? Bugged by a vacant house? Suspect criminal activity at a certain address? Vehicle with "For Sale" sign parked in the street? Call 311 and report the activity. Or call my office at 808-7338. You can remain anonymous.

We need you to partner with us, neighborhood associations and neighborhood watch groups to send the message that we are a family-friend neighborhood and crime will not be tolerated.

Need more info?

My office sends out helpful community information on an e-mail list. To join the list, visit the main city webpage at cityofsacramento.org and use the "email alert" link to sign up.

Boards and commissions

Following is a listing for openings on boards and commissions. The date in parentheses is the date applications are due.

Please check the city web page at www.cityofsacamento.

org and click on the Boards & Commissions icon on the left side of the main page for updated information throughout each month or call the City Clerk's Office at 808-7200. Applications can be found on the Boards and Commissions page.

- Animal Care Services Citizens
- Advisory Comm (3/27/09) • Human Rights/Fair Housing Comm (2/27/09)
- Sacramento City/Coun-
- ty Bicycle Advisory Comm (2/27/09)
- Sacramento Heritage Comm (2/27/09)

• Transportation Programming Guide (2/27/09)

Councilmember Waters' mailing address is City Hall, 915 I St., Sacramento CA 95814. Phone is 808-7338. E-mail is rwaters@cityofsacramento.org. Website is www.cityofsacramento.org/council then choose Robbie Waters.



Please send your updated 2009 Calendar Announcements

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



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'It didn't have to be this way' Mayor takes city to task for its previous 'wild spending,' current deficit

t's no secret: the national economic downtown has taken a wrecking ball to our city's finances.

Property tax revenue has plummeted. Sales tax revenue is on a downward spiral, down from a projected \$53 million to \$47 million. A 23 percent decline in new vehicle sales has slashed the city's take of the license fee by a similar figure.

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Making matters worse is the protracted impasse between the state's leaders on the state budget. Top that off with our region being the epicenter of the national foreclosure crisis, and you can begin to understand why the city is grappling with its worst budget deficit challenge in a generation. Services to the East Sacramento neighborhood are on the chopping block.



Budget disappointments

It didn't have to be this way. Many other cities in California aren't facing the same struggles. Just a couple hours south, Fresno -- a city with similar population in our same valley -- has a budget surplus.

surplus. The likely result will be greater efforts to keep the community's streets safe, and a cushion to protect against a continued downturn in the economy.

That's exactly the type of discussion I would like to have

The initial diagnosis was offered for free -- an amazing opportunity. Then, if efficiencies would be found, the city would pay the firm half of the realized savings. For example, if they found \$500,000 in savings that were realized by the city, then they would get half. In other words, there would be zero net cost to the city.

Unfortunately, that proposal was voted down. The majority on the council have delayed action, meaning no savings from an audit could be realized for this fiscal year. I am hopeful that this proposal will be resurrected.

'Wildly overspending'

As we head into the heat of the budget debate, some say they want a "full-service" city. In good times, they'd be right: our city should be able to provide a full-range of services to all our residents, particularly those who need them most.

And, unfortunately, the absence of urgency on their part has led to our city wildly overspending. In the last few months, we've spent more than \$250,000 to count the city's trees and hundreds of thousands for what the city's own press release called "state of the art" cat housing.

I'm not against either of those projects -- in good times.

But these are extraordinary times. Sacramento families are losing their jobs, their homes, and their savings.

That's why we have to make difficult decisions. And those who tout wanting a "full-service" city know that simply





Mayor Continued from page 6

Continued from page 8

means deep cuts across the board, particularly in public safety.

Safety priority

My priority is simple: I believe the core function of city government is to keep our citizens safe. That means more police on the streets, not less. It means fire stations that are open are ready to save lives and property instead of being idled one or two days a week. It means having a city with a fully engaged economic development team instead of a skeletal crew that won't be able to compete with our neighbors.

During the next few months, I will be fighting for these priorities.

We face some extremely challenging days ahead. In the coming months, we will need to develop a plan to balance the fiscal year 2010 budget. That will require a series of painful cuts to our programs and services, as well as layoffs that may run as high as 400 to 500 city workers.

I do not look forward to the difficult choices ahead. However, I am committed to providing the leadership required to navigate this crisis.

Mayoral access

That begins by listening to you. Each month, I hold office hours across the city so you don't need to trudge to City Hall. I also appear online on News 10 every Wednesday, either at 11 a.m. or 5 p.m., to take your questions online; I also take questions on KFBK radio every Wednesday at 3 p.m..

We are all in this together, however. All of us, every citizen and every city worker, will be asked to make sacrifices. That's why your creativity and ingenuity are essential. (Have an idea to make our government work better? E-mail me at mayor@cityofsacramento. org.)

As a third generation Sacramentan, I know our city has faced difficult times before. As we have done in the past, we will emerge from this crisis stronger than ever.

Charter reform update

Last month my column was focused on an effort to mod-

ernize our city government. More than 74,000 signatures were collected for two initiatives -- a record amount of signatures gathered in time to put these measures on the ballot if a special election were called by the governor and legislature in June.

These measures would have brought evolutionary -- not revolutionary -- changes to city government.

Under the first measure, the mayor and council would be directly accountable to you for the way city government is operated -- not an unelected city manager. Sacramento's city government would be modernized for the first time since the 1920s in a structure similar to California's other major cities. (In 2002, the city charter was changed to give the mayor a full-time salary, but did not provide full-time responsibilities.)

More than 62 percent of the nation's top 50 cities have this type of government. Which

is why the proposal was embraced by a broad array of supporters, ranging from the former Republican Mayor of Fresno, Alan Autry, as well as Democrat Gavin Newsom of San Francisco. Jeannine English, the former director of the state's Little Hoover Commission supports it, as does community leaders and the Sacramento Police Officers Association. Even supporters of my former mayoral opponent, such as Randy Paragary, are backing this initiative.

A city budget analyst

The second proposal would create an Independent Budget Analyst, similar to the respected Legislative Budget Analyst that serves the State Senate and Assembly. This budget analyst would scrutinize the city budget and provide recommendations to us for savings, providing an independent review from the city manager's assessment.

However, it's clear that the city budget must be the top pri-

ority of the City Council. And unfortunately, some on the City Council found that these measures were a distraction to the work that needs to be done in balancing the city's books. I love our community too much to allow the dissent on this issue to spill over to the budget deficit we need to tackle.

For this reason -- and the likelihood of a June election declining with every passing day of the state budget impasse -- we've decided to stop actively collecting additional signatures.

As a reminder, it was never our intent to hold a special election to vote just on this issue. To save Sacramento taxpayers money, we intended to "piggyback" on a statewide special election -- saving at least \$500,000. That remains our intent. And if the governor and Legislature decide on a special election for November 2009, we're likely to submit the signatures for these measures so they qualify for that contest.

I remain hopeful that the City Council now can put politics aside and focus on our city budget. It is essential that we do so.





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Local student selected for state conference

ocket-area Eagle Scout Steven Pham has been selected to participate in the April 2 to 5 Asian Pacific Youth Leadership Conference at the state Capitol.

Pham, 16, and a straight-A junior at Christian Brothers High School, will join a select group of 50 juniors and seniors from public, private and charter high schools throughout California to attend this 19th annual statewide youth conference, which is sponsored by the Asian Pacific Youth Leadership Project, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting youth involvement in community and public service.

Pham, a life member of the National Eagle Scout Association and a long-time member of local Boy Scout Troop 259, was selected based on his leadership potential and extensive community involvement, both within and outside of Boy Scouts.

During the Youth Leadership Conference, Pham will participate in a mock legislature that includes the election of peer legislative leaders, lively debate of current educational and public policy issues through the introduction of legislation,



Steven Pham: Selection based on leadership.

and the lobbying of bills during committee hearings and the Senate floor session as well as attend workshops to gain first-hand knowledge of the legislative process and political activism.







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Laws, bills and props Keeping tabs on the newest laws—local and beyond—concerning real estate

New rules.

This article summarizes many of the new federal and state laws affecting the real estate industry this year, as well as 2008 emergency legislation that went into effect immediately.

Eminent Domain (From Proposition 99, passed June 3, 2008)

Responding to Kelo vs. City of New London -- where private property taken by eminent domain was turned over to another private person for a development project -- Californians passed Proposition 99. Under this new law, government agencies cannot take owner-occupied residences by eminent domain to transfer to a private person except for certain very limited exceptions.

These exceptions include protecting public health and safety; preventing serious, repeated criminal activity; and responding to an emergency.



John Woodall LYON REAL ESTATE

Landlord/Tenant (AB 2052 effective Sept. 27, 2008 to Jan. 2, 2012) Victim of Domestic Violence and Termination of Tenancy

This law authorizes a tenant to notify the landlord in writing that he/she or a household member was a victim of an act of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and intends to terminate the tenancy. It requires the tenant to attach a copy of a specified report to the notice.

The tenant is not responsible for any rent following 30 days from the date of the notice. The notice to terminate the tenancy

must be given within 60 days of date the order was issued or the report was made, or as specified.

Identity Theft The 'Red Flag Rule' Final Rule Identity Theft

Transactions Act of 2008 (effective Nov. 11, 2008 for compliance)

Under the Red Flags Rule, financial institutions and creditors (includes mortgage loan brokers) must develop a written program that identifies, detects and responds to the relevant warning signs - or "red flags" - of identity theft. Examples include unusual account activity, fraud alerts on a consumer report, or attempted use of suspicious account application documents.

Public Pools and Spas

This new federal law requires new and existing public pools and spas to be equipped with antientrapment drain devices. The law applies to multi-family apartment complexes and not individual homes. A willful violation of the drain cover standard could result in significant criminal penalties, including fines or imprisonment.

California rules for single family homes: New or remodel pool or spa permits require similar anti entrapment grates and two suction drains. Check with your city building department for details

Fire "safe zone"

SB 1595 (effective Jan. 1, 2009) Revised Owner/Tenant Responsibilities in High Fire Hazard Severity Zones/State Responsibility Areas

A person who owns or controls an occupied dwelling/structure in a forest, brush or grass-covered area within a very high fire hazard severity zone or state responsibility area must maintain a defensible space no greater than 100 feet from each side of the structure, but not beyond the property line unless required by state or local regulation, or under certain circumstances an insurance company.

Home Owners' Associations Solar Energy

AB 1892, 2180; (effective Jan. 1, 2009) Any governing document of a homeowners association that effectively prohibits or restricts the installation or use of a solar energy system is void and unenforceable. Reasonable restrictions are permissible.

Notification of a Notice of Default (SB 1511 effective Jan. 1, 2009)

This law permits a homeowner's association to request that it be notified of the recording of a notice of default and to receive a copy of any trustee's deed after the trustee's sale for property it has an interest in.

Amended Written Notice **Re: Assessments and Foreclosure** (AB 2846 effective Jan. 1, 2009)

This law amends existing HOA's notice provisions to also include a statement notifying members that an owner may pay under protest any disputed charge owed to the association and by doing so specifically reserve the right to contest the disputed sum in court or otherwise.

The owner may also pay the disputed amount and other costs levied under protest and file an action in small claims court to recover them. Nothing in the section added by this law impedes an association's ability to collect delinquent assessments.

Landlord/Tenant AB 2949 (effective Jan. 1, 2009)

Landlords/REO Lenders and Abandoned Animals: This law requires a person or private entity that discovers an abandoned animal in or about the premises of real property that has been vacated due to a lease termination or foreclosure of the property to immediately contact animal control for the purpose of retrieval and care. (Note: This law impacts banks with REO properties and their real estate agents.)



Monthly Income

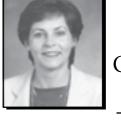
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COURTYARD ENTRY Enter through a secure gated courtyard. Enjoy the spacious living room w/skylight, lit niche, unique brick hearth & hardwood flrs. Large family room is brightened by 2 skylights & wall of sliding doors that open to backyard. Oversized quarter basement and bonus room in backyard. See www.2715LandParkDr.com \$525,000

PAULA SWAYNE 425-9715



SPECTACULAR LAGUNA WOODS Quality built custom home in desirable Laguna Woods in Elk Grove. 5 bedroom 3 bath two story home on .31 acre lot with 3-car garage and room for RV. One downstairs bedroom with full bath and an enormous bonus room. See www.5507LawnviewWay.com \$638,000

MONA GERGEN 247-9555



ENJOY THE SACRAMENTO RIVER Located at the End of the Court! Open your Gate and Walk along the River! Beautiful open, light and bright. Large open kitchen & family room, sunken living room, wet bar, large dining room, romantic master with fireplace. Wonderful views. Must see this property. See www.19AlstanCt.com \$879,000

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WISTERIA PLACE ELK GROVE Beautiful Garden Glen model built by Lennar Homes in 2004 with bountiful upgrades including hickory wood & tile floors upgraded carpet, granite kitchen counters, stainless steel appliances & more. Trellised patio. See www.9662CountryFalls.com \$409,000

NANCY WEGEE 600-5458



CROCKER ELEMENTARY Open and inviting floor plan flows from front to back affording views of the picturesque front yard to the inviting pool and patio in back. This home has beautiful hardwood floors, central heat & air, dual pane windows and a 1-year old roof. See www.937RobertsonWay.com \$499,000

CHRIS BRIGGS 834-6483



HOLLYWOOD PARK

You'll love every detail from the hardwood floors, the updated kitchen and bath, the crown molding and baseboards to the meticulously landscaped yards and great location. Don't miss the numerous fruit trees. Includes a large 2 car garage and a covered patio for evenings outside. Enjoy! See 2208MurietaWay.com \$300,000

KELLIE SWAYNE 206-1458

NATOMAS ON THE LAKE Welcome Home to Natomas living **PENDING** living room and plantation shutters. Designer toucnes from the paint color to the wall art. Custom cabinets for the media equipment. Wood floors throughout the home. Spectacular infinity edge pool, with an awesome view of Sundance Lake. See www.10SageGrouse \$399,000

DEBBIE TOWNE

WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY Newer 5 bedroom 3 bath Meritage built home. Media buffs will love the pre-wired home theater/ bonus room with gas fireplace and media center. Lovely curved staircase. Gorgeous master suite with huge bathroom. See www.9892Castelli.com \$435.000

CONNIE LANDSBERG 761-0411

CRAFTSMAN BUNGALOW Close to Med Center, Light Rail & Restaurants. The meticulously maintained 2 bed home with spacious floor plan and large living and dining rooms perfect for entertaining. The backyard is your own private sanctuary perfect for entertaining or just relaxing. Simply a must see! See www.3433 VStreet.com \$325,000

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ANATOLIA BEST BUY Single story Anatolia home. Upgraded, well maintained, landscaped yards, granite kitchen with stainless steel appliances, 2 car garage. Bonus room off of kitchen perfect for home office. Fabulous price! See www.12007EratoCir.com \$265,000 CONTINGENT KARA LABELLA PARKER 716-3313 LUBBY NIFUL 530 5981

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Real Estate Expert JULIE THOMPSON



Regatta@jtscommunities.com

JTS has Answers to Homebuyer's Questions

Q^{Why} Should I buy a JTS home right now?

A JTS is the highest quality at the best value. With interest rates at historic lows and JTS pricing, the timing could not be better. JTS is taking up to \$144,000 loss on each condo due to today's market conditions. In addition, JTS is also offering an "Affordability Package" in the form of below market financing that can help make your payments for up to 30 years. We have sold record numbers in the past 60 days and the Foreclosure Pricing won't last long.

Q^{What} is the JTS "Economic Stimulus" Program?

A JTS is offering home buyers the opportunity to save hundreds of dollars a month with fixed rate loan programs and no out of pocket closing costs. Using the preferred lender, homebuyers could have up to 6% of the purchase price of the home to help subsidize their monthly mortgage investment.

Q^{How} many homes has JTS sold?

A JTS has been a local builder for over 40 years and is passionate about the Sacramento area. The company motto is "Working together to achieve excellence." Their commitment to excellence has helped them close \$300 million in sales and has won them numerous awards including Community of the Year as well as Builder of the Year. While many builders are going bankrupt and even bailing on their unfinished communities, JTS is continuing to build and invest in the greater Sacramento area for homebuyers. PAID ADVERTISEMENT



Why go through the hassle of buying a foreclosure property when you can purchase a NEW JTS Communities' home at CLOSEOUT PRICING and the LOWEST PAYMENTS IN THE INDUSTRY!!

Regatta has Below Builder Cost Pricing!



JTS Communities' Regatta at The Rivers has had considerable sales success recently with their nationally recognized combination of "Below Builder Cost Pricing" and their newly created "Affordability Package."

The Sausalito plan is featured this week:

Original Value \$471,241 Builder's Cost \$373,237 Foreclosure Price \$279,990! "Regatta's luxury residential condominium home buyers have been excited to be able to get the lowest possible price on a new JTS home along with unbelievable monthly payments," states Julie Thompson, Community Sales Manager at Regatta.

"Our preferred lender can structure a personalized loan that will fit your family's needs, along with their budget and pocketbook," explains Thompson. "Our consultants can show how inexpensive a JTS Communities lifestyle home at Regatta can be. Once only available to the top 5% of incomes, JTS has modified their pricing and Affordability Packages to where 60% of all potential homebuyers



qualify! This is a remarkable combination of price and terms!"

*To visit the sales office and get more information on the low monthly payments available at Regatta, please see the Community Sales Manager. Regatta is open Saturday–Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Except for Wednesday when they are open from 1 p.m. to 5p.m. For more information contact the sales office at (916) 484-5225, or visit; www.RegattaAtTheRivers.com or www.LiveAtTheRivers.com



"Foreclosure pricing" means that the sales prices for new JTB homes are comparable to prices seen in foreclosure sales. It does not mean that the homes are bought or sold in foreclosure. All homes are to be sold by JTB Communities, Inc. or Regatta at The Rivers. "See loan officer on site for details. 20% down payment required for monthly payment. 5 year fixed rate interest only adjustable rate mortgage. Principle, taxes, insurance, and HOA's or Melio Roos' payments are not included. Please see The Mortgage Quild's on site loan officer for details this weekend. "Restrictions apply. Please see sales associate for full details.



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QUALITY NEWER HOMES"



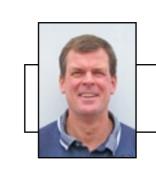
Think ramps, wide doors, low counters **Convenient home designs and modifications make it last a lifetime**

new term that basically means that design should consider the needs of all ages and abilities.

No matter the age, height, or physical ability, homes should be usable for all. Making homes safe and accessible, as well as aesthetically pleasing, are goals of universal design.

Another by-product of universal design is that people can live in their homes for longer periods of time, since the home meets their needs regardless of their physical condition. Homeowner's, who are elderly, who become ill, or anyone who may be challenged as a result of an injury, can also benefit from universal design components.

With constantly escalating health care



KENT EBERLE

costs, the longer that people can stay in their homes and function independently, the better.

Down to basics

A few of the basic principles of universal design are that the home's features offer equitable use, flexibility in use, simple and intuitive use, perceptible information, tolerance for error, low physical effort, size and space for approach and use.

Examples of universal design features are grab bars in convenient locations, variable countertop heights, disappearing doors at base cabinets to allow for easy access, lever door handles, wider doorways and hallways, ramps (no Examples of universal design features are grab bars in convenient locations, variable countertop heights ... lever door handles, wider doorways and hallways and ramps...

steps), minimal rise or nearly flush door thresholds, and minimal rise or no transition moldings to dissimilar floor materials.

Also important are adequate clearances for wheelchair passages, adequate lighting, lowered light switch-

See Design, page 18

JUST LISTED By Reneé Catricala

Tucked away in a quiet location...Single level 4 Bedroom home. Quality built, well maintained with nice curb appeal. Inviting central entry with tile adjacent living & dining rooms. Spacious family/kitchen combination with fireplace, built-in bookshelves, dining area and newer laminate floors. Sunny kitchen with lots of counter space & pantry. Large laundry room, loads of storage throughout. Yard with covered patio and swimming pool. See it now! With Interest Rates So Low It is A Great Time To Buy Or Sell A Home.

Call Reneé Today!

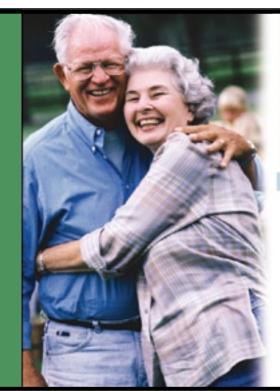
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Direct (916) 203-9690 www.ReneeCatricala.com 730 Alhambra Blvd., Suite 150 Sacramento, CA 95816

SOLD: 344 Cedar River Way - 399,000 I'm now taking listings! Do you know someone who wants to sell? Having trouble making your house payment? Considering a short sale? I can help!



1297 Valley Brook Ave - \$325,000

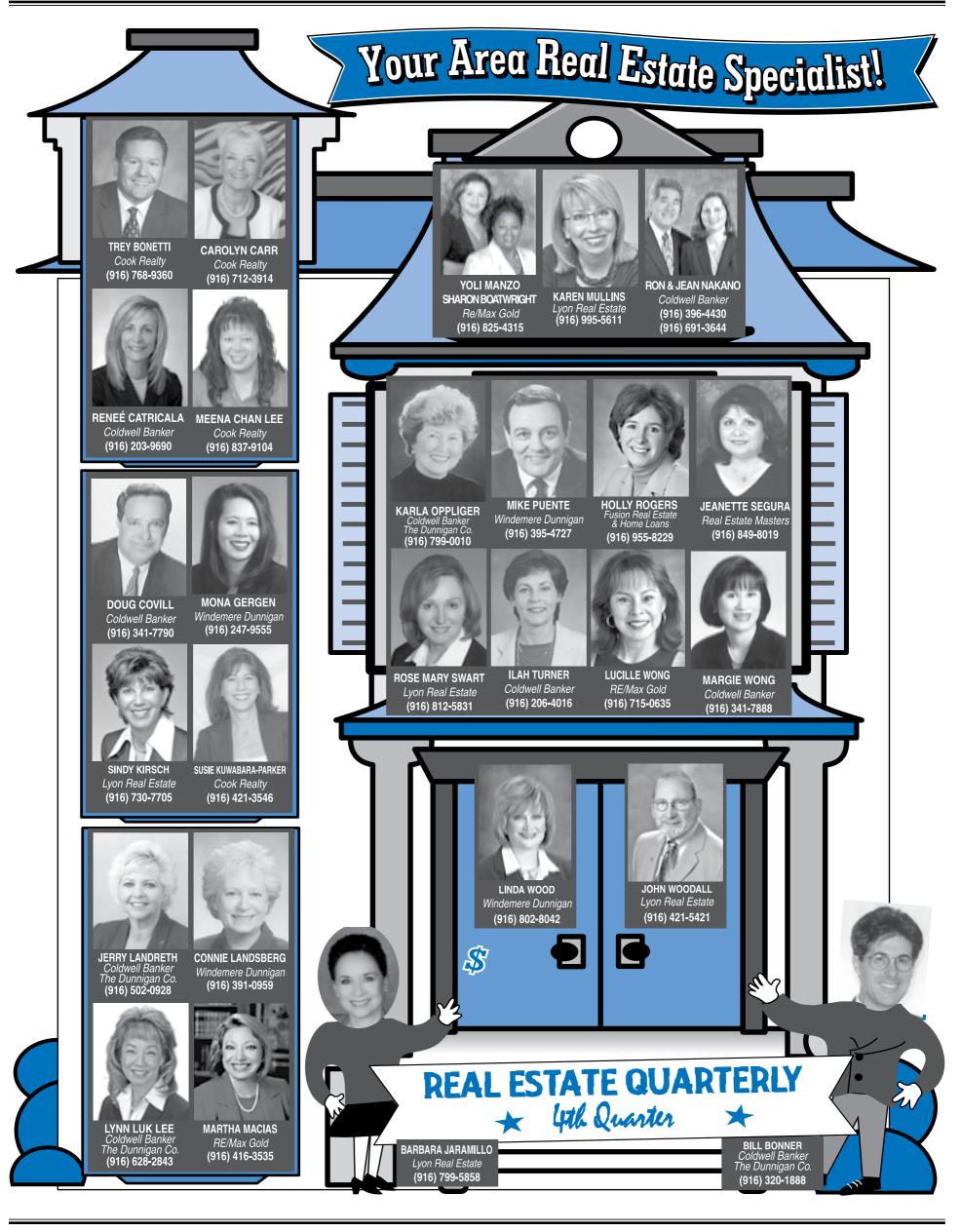
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- Alzheimer's or dementia • Peaceful courtyard with gazebo
- & walking paths
- Three nutritious meals w/entree choice
- Bus for outings & scheduled appointments







Helen Tarasco on SHORT SALES

Do you need to sell your home but owe more than the current value? You've heard about foreclosures and bank owned properties.

But what is a short sale?

A short sale is typically executed to prevent a home foreclosure. Often a bank will allow a short sale if the bank believes that the short sale will result in a smaller financial loss than foreclosure.

For the homeowner, advantages include avoidance of a foreclosure on their credit history and partial control of the monetary deficiency. A short sale is typically faster and less expensive than a foreclosure.

In a short sale, the bank or mortgage lender agrees to discount a loan balance due to an economic or financial hardship on the part of the mortgagor. With a short sale your credit recovery time is shorter than a foreclosure.

This negotiation is all done through communication with a bank's loss mitigation department. Costs for the process typically include Realtor's commission; the bank absorbs title and closing costs.

Hire a Realtor with short sale experience. It's one strike against you if the listing agent has never handled a short sale. A short sale is a complex, litigious process. Call Helen Tarasco to schedule your free private consultation.

Helen has the experience necessary to reach your goals.



Real Estate Quarterly



CAHSEE California High School Exit Exam Student Success Program

The CAHSEE Student Success Program is your key to pass the High School Exit Exam and begin your college career.

AIM HIGH

You can still pass the California High School Exit Exam! Sign up for a series of FREE tutoring sessions at Sacramento City College. We provide books, a backpack and study materials. You will receive hands-on English and Math instruction; and test taking skills needed to pass the CAHSEE, earn your diploma, prepare for your first semester at college and expand your future.



WHO IS ELIGIBLE? 1. Students from High School graduating classes 2006, 2007 & 2008 2. You did not pass the CAHSEE (Math and/or English) 3. You have not completed your credit requirements for H.S. graduation

SCC Library Learning Resource Center, 1st Floor Tue, Wed & Thur 3pm - 7pm

> CAHSEE Test Dates March 17-18, 2009 May 12-13, 2009

For more information contact: Farough Tabrizi, CAHSEE Project Coordinator (916) 650-2745, tabrizF@scc.losrios.edu



With constantly escalating health care costs, the longer that people can stay in their homes and function independently, the better.

Design

Continued from page 16

es, raised outlets, barrier free showers, lowered appliances, single lever, touch, or handsfree faucets and comfort height toilets.

How to get started

Some of these examples may easily be incorporated into almost any home, while other modifications will potentially require some expense or great expense. Obviously, when doing a full-scale remodel, these modifications are more easily accomplished. When building a new home, these ideas should always be incorporated in to the new design.

The National Association of Home Builders offers training in universal design. The NAHB's educational courses can lead to a Certified Aging In Place Specialist designation. The NAHB website can also guide you to a certified professional.

As always, when remodeling or adding on, it is wise to select someone with both education and experience to guide you through the process. Otherwise, the "creep" might set in on you, and the cost of your project can creep slowly up at every turn. Ideally, basing your selection of a company with a proven track record with many years of experience is likely your best guarantee of a successful project.

Good luck in finding your guide.

Kent Eberle, owner of Eberle Remodeling, a Design-Build, residential remodeling company for 23 years, is a NARI Certified Remodeler, Certified Kitchen and Bath Remodeler, Certified Aging In Place Specialist, and past president of the Greater Sacramento Valley Chapter of NARI. He can be reached via their website: www. EberleRemodeling.com.





Inside environments Making your home 'green' can be done without exotic expenses

nvironmentally-friendly design, also known as "green design," is gaining popularity. Builders, architects, designers and other residential professionals recognize this trend and the fact it's growing more quickly than ever.

While the concept of going green or green design often entails methods of home design that can be costly, do know that not all "green" home improvement options are that extensive or expensive. Many eco-friendly, low cost strategies can be easily incorporated into a home's design.

What 'green' means

Green design is about the environment ... our environment: Minimizing our impact (carbon footprint) and preserving natural resources that have limited renewable capabilities.

Unfortunately, many of the materials that we favor in our homes are from non-renewable resources such as stone (marble, granite) and wood materials. Quarries are slowly being exhausted and many species of wood are being cut when the tree is smaller in order to meet the demand.

Why not select renewable materials that are grown and harvested for use due to their ability for continued growth such as bamboo (25 percent

TEAM BLACK LYON REAL ESTATE

> Why not select renewable materials that are grown and harvested for use due to their ability for continued growth such as bamboo (25 percent harder than oak) and cork?

harder than oak) and cork? Additionally, cotton, silk and wool are renewable materials that continue to grow after harvesting.

Inside tips

To reduce the use of water, replace old faucets with faucets that have economizing features that utilize the same water pressure while using less water. Don't forget to check the showerheads. Purchase CFL (compact fluorescent light bulbs) that are longer lasting and reduce "urban glow." Purchase new appliances that reduce noise pollution. Make certain that you unplug your appliances when not in use or use a "smart" power strip that cuts power when it senses they are not in use.

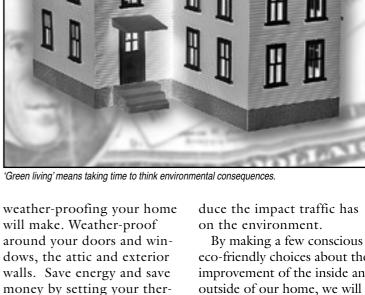
Properties

To improve the air quality and reduce the air pollution, use paint and finishes that are water-based instead of oilbased. If possible, avoid products that contain more glues and adhesives than other ingredients.

Try making your own nontoxic cleaning products. By using a few simple ingredients, you not only save money, you improve your indoor air qualitv.

More alternatives

Consider alternative energies such as solar lighting and heating. Make certain the heat and cool air loss is kept to a minimum by the use of proper insulation methods. You will be amazed at the difference just



eco-friendly choices about the improvement of the inside and outside of our home, we will have made a positive impact on our global environment.

Team Black is part of Lyon Real Estate. Contact Annette Black

cause of air pollution, choose locally made products to reat 552-7203. **Shopping Center For SALE** Approximately 27,000 Sq. Ft. • \$3,500,000

mostat a few degrees low-

summer months.

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Since vehicles are a major







NEW LISTING

Call DENNIS 916-447-7355 BKR.

Original owners have meticulously maintained this 1-story home located near Didion School (k-8). Separate liv rm w/ frplc & vaulted ceiling, fam rm, formal dining rm & hallwys have hrdwood flrs. Updtd kitchn w/ maple cab., double ovens, glass cook top, Kohler sink, newer lighting & flring offers tons of storage & counter space. Both bathrms updtd w/newer cab., faucets, toilets & plumbing. newer carpet in bedrms, custom window covering/blinds, frsh pnt in & out, extended concrete patio area, wrkshp in garage + more.

271 Rivertree Way \$399,900



REAL ESTATE



Address	BR /BA	Value	Date	Address	BR /BA	Value	Date
					105	10 4 400	
95831				15 MAST CT			
/0001				7545 MONTE BRAZIL DR			
5987 13TH ST	2.2	\$400.000	2009 /11 /12	1 NEIL CT			
5270 14TH ST				5 NOAH CT			
7612 AMBROSE WAY				1247 NORFOLK WAY			
90 ANGEL ISLAND CIR				6704 ORLEANS WAY			
127 ARBUSTO CIR				40 PARK VISTA CIR			
755 BELL RUSSELL WAY				1 PEBBLE RIVER CIR			
				6725 POCKET RD			
320 BELLO RIO WAY				6841 POCKET RD			
506 BLUE WATER WAY				5 POLVADERA CT			
1316 BRANWOOD WAY				291 PORTINAO CIR			
7628 BRIDGEVIEW DR				19 PRINCEVILLE CIR			
7663 BRIDGEVIEW DR				7671 RIVER VILLAGE DR			
7006 CATLEN WAY				7824 RIVER VILLAGE DR			
542 CAUSEWAY DR				687 RIVERGATE WAY			
512 CORIANDER WAY				31 RIVERPORT CIR			
30 COUNTRY PL				6720 RIVERSIDE BLVD			
1256 EL ENCANTO WAY				6780 RIVERSIDE BLVD			
7791 ELENA MARIE DR				7306 RUSH RIVER DR			
2 FALLWIND CIR				7627 RUSH RIVER DR			
9 FIREFLY CT				7633 RUSH RIVER DR			
12 FLORENCE CT				7645 RUSH RIVER DR			
7350 FLOWERWOOD WAY				476 SAILWIND WAY			
6440 FORDHAM WAY				7470 SALTON SEA WAY			
6763 FRATES WAY				7700 SHORE DR			
7362 GLORIA DR				783 SHORESIDE DR			
962 GREENSTAR WAY				828 SILLIMAN WAY			
915 GULFWIND WAY				7704 SILVA RANCH WAY			
4 HARBOR CT				1004 SILVER LAKE DR	5 2	266,400	2008/11/2
757 HARVEY WAY				7444 SPICEWOOD DR	2.2	270,000	2008/10/09
395 HATTERAS WAY				7489 SPICEWOOD DR			
18 HAVEN CT				424 SPINNAKER WAY			
7441 INGALLS WAY				1179 SPRUCE TREE CIR			
953 LAKE FRONT DR				15 STARGLOW CIR		420,000	2008/12/12
5190 LAND PARK DR	32	340,000	2008/12/31	708 STILL BREEZE WAY			2008/10/2/
5281 LAND PARK DR							
5942 LAND PARK DR				905 SUNWIND WAY			
106 LAS POSITAS CIR				8 TARRAGON CT			
8059 LINDA ISLE LN				21 WATERCREST CT			
3062 LINDA ISLE LN				7706 WINDBRIDGE DR			
7348 MARANI WAY				//U0 WINDEKIDGE DK	<i>L L</i>		
7 MARJORAM CT				15 WINDSTONE CT			
9 MARJORAM CT 9 MARK RIVER CT				330 ZEPHYR RANCH DR			
				346 ZEPHYR RANCH DR			

Downtown Lyon Office! • 2801 J St. • 447-7878





Inside and Outside the Home

Drain after every rain

The Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District reminds the public to "drain after every rain" to prevent mosquitoes.

Wet weather followed by warm temperatures creates an ideal breeding ground for mosquitoes, so it becomes necessary to have good water management practices around the house.

"We're starting to see many mosquitoes now," said David Brown, District Manager. "Mosquitoes that have been resting all winter are coming out ready to bite and begin their cycle."

With the recent rains, the district urges all residents to inspect their homes and drain any standing water from household containers such as buckets, cans, flower pots and old tires that might be in their back yard.

"Swimming pools and common backyard sources such as piles of garbage or old tires pose major problems for us," Brown said. He encourages anyone who knows of a vacant home that has been neglected to contact the district.

To report a neglected swimming pool or other mosquito breeding problems, call 1-800-429-1022 or fill out a service request online at www.FIGHTtheBITE.net

A new home for old plants

Sacramento Area Community Garden Coalition is recycling unwanted plants and finding them new homes at area greening projects including community gardens, school gardens and green space projects. Small trees, shrubs, and blubs will be picked up by appointment. Also, unwanted garden tools, and related garden items and equipment can be donated.

Contact Bill Maynard by email at sacgc@ulink.net, phone 508-6025.

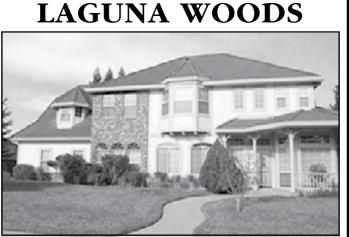
Swap your crops

A meeting to discuss forming neighborhood crop swaps will be held at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, at the Sheppard Garden and Arts Center, 33rd Street and McKinley Avenue. This is a way to trade excess produce and fruit that is grown in back yards and front yards in the Sacramento area. Bring a few of your neighbors to this meeting to find out more about this effort and to learn how your neighbors can get free seeds to start this effort. Special presentations to neighborhood groups can also be arranged.

Contact Bill Maynard at the Sacramento Area Community Garden Coalition for more information. E-mail sacgc@ulink. net, or phone 508-6025.







SPECTACULAR

Quality built custom home in desirable Laguna Woods in Elk Grove. 5 bedroom 3 bath two story home on .31 acre lot with 3-car garage and room for RV. One downstairs bedroom with full bath and an enormous bonus room. **5507 Lawnview Way...... offered at \$638,000**



908 Roundtree Court

Very nice gated community. Lush landscaping, pool, clubhouse. Unit is work in progress with fresh paint,carpet/lino being installed ASAP. New range/oven, new dishwasher. Nice location on Ark side of complex.

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Education

Continued from front page

been held to discuss how it can best utilize its school facilities and other sites to make up for declining enrollment and what seems to be a vanishing budget.

Since 2002, the district has cut \$90.4 million, and since 1999 it has lost roughly 10,000. It is projecting a \$15 million to \$20 million deficit for the 2009-2010 school year, saying that 49 percent of state budget cuts are coming out of education.

Idea outreach

Criticized in the past for generating ideas before seeking community feedback, this time the district decided to seek ideas from the community first.

So far, ideas discussed at previous meetings have hit on all subjects, from energy-saving tips to leasing office space, and from sharing staff to having administrators consolidate to a four-day workweek.

"We appreciate your interest, and we do value your suggestions," said associate superintendent Philip Moore. "We really want to be a model district in the state of California, and with your energy and your ideas we know we can be better."

Throughout the two-hour-long meeting, numerous money-saving and money-generating ideas were brought up.

One mother explored the idea of extending class time to 90 minutes a day and implementing a block system, claiming that if students had more time with teachers, there would be less of a need for after-school tutoring programs, thus saving the district money.

Another parent asserted that the same would be true if class sizes were kept to a minimum.

One parent even talked of renting advertisement space for local businesses on the fences that surround neighborhood schools.

Parental frustrations

One father of three acknowledged the "phenomenal" job of the elementary teachers in the district, but shared his disappointment that the same quality of teaching is not shown at the highschool level.

"You're losing kids to private schools," he said. "Look at this as a great opportunity to welcome tons of families back into your district. If there's a school we can send our children to with pride, we'll be there."

Another parent with a child at Theodore Judah Elementary said that when he chose where to send his child, he looked for a school that was a "shining light." But with larger class sizes and the constant threat of closures, he claimed that light was fading.

While school closures are said to be a last resort, community members asked the district what its plans are for if and when that happens.

"If you start closing schools, you'll affect neighborhoods that have been struggling for decades," said one parent. "My worry is that if it's a school in my area, my neighborhood will be blighted."

However, Tom Barentson, the deputy superintendent and chief financial officer of administrative services, reaffirmed the district's goal to leave no school "shuttered."

"If we do close a school, we would make sure it doesn't sit unused," he said, referring to past ideas of using sites for community programs or adult classes.

Met Sac turns out

In addition to the possibility of closures, students and teachers from the Met Sacramento High School, an innovative school in the district at 810 V St., packed the room to talk about the rumor that their school will be consolidated with another.

Joanna Dixon, a hearing-impaired senior at the Met, explained how her life changed after transferring from John F. Kennedy High School.

"[At Kennedy] I was failing and not succeeding at all, and I didn't know if I was going to be able to graduate, or why I should even try," she said. "Now I have no more negative thoughts about my future. But if you put us together with another school, it will just be the same as before."

One teacher added that the Met provides something "absolutely unique" to the district.

"We are a jewel," she said. "Our program would be in dire risk of failure if we were to be blended."

All comments, questions and responses have been posted online at the district's Web site, www.scusd.edu, under the Facility Use Community Meetings section. If you have an idea, visit the site, or call the district directly at 643-9043.

Your Home Improvement Guide

Call a sales representative today for great advertising rates: 429-9901





There's always more calendar at www.valcomnews.com

Feb. 19

Same-sex legal help

Attorney Penny R. Brown and financial planner Rebecca E. Harper leads a presentation on legal and financial planning for same sex couples, 4:30 to 6 p.m., The Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St. Teaches effective estate planning and financial strategies. Information at 808-7000.

Family History Library tour

The Mission Oaks Genealogy club will meet, 4 p.m., for a tour of the Family History Library, 2745 Eastern Ave, between El Camino and Marconi. Visitors welcome. Information at 483-4703

SCC fund-raising concert

DiverCity Records, Sacramento City College's student-run record label, presents a spring fund-raising concert with the vocal and instrumental talents of SCC students, 8 p.m., college's Little Theatre, 3835 Freeport Blvd. Cost, \$5 general, \$2 students with ID. All ages welcome, high school students encouraged. Information by e-mail at BeatriG@scc.losrios.edu.

Sacramento Audubon

Find out what to do about injured birds and animals at a program by Sacramento Wildlife Care Association, and meet some "Animal Ambassadors," 7 p.m., Shepard Garden and Art Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd. Free, open to public -- parents and children especially invited. For information call WCA at 632-1862

Feb. 21

E-waste fund-raiser

Free, electronic waste collection from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., St. Francis High School, 5900 Elvas Ave, Public may drop off used electronics including computer monitors, televisions, desktop and notebook PC's, VCR's and phones. Also accepting small household appliances. (No large appliances such as washers.) Proceeds benefit the St. Francis Safe Grad Night. Information from Robbin Haitz, 601-8333.

Nursing home standards

Beth Mann, president of the California Culture Change Coalition, discusses standards for providing nursing home care for Sacramento area residents at the monthly meeting of the Sacramento Capitol chapter of the Older Women's League, 10:30 a.m., Hart Senior Center, 915 27th St. Public welcome. Information from Carolyn Negrete, 424-5316.

Night hunters

Uncover the mysteries of owls: what they eat, where they sleep, how they find food and more, 1:30 p.m., Effie Yeaw Nature Center, 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. Park entrance fee, \$5. Information at 489-4918 or www.effieyeaw.org.

McClatchy alum game

McClatchy baseball brings back the McClatchy Alumni Game, CKM alumni vs. 2009 varsity and junior varsity, 9 a.m. to noon BP, jv game 10 a.m., 1 p.m. varsity, with barbecue. Open to all alums, old and young. Information from Coach Denecochea, 769-2679, or e-mail denecochea@aol.com.

Feb. 21, 22

Soiourner Truth for kids

Fairytale Town hosts a two-day event to celebrate the life of Sojourner Truth as part of Black History Month. Each day from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., activities include hands-on arts and crafts, storytelling, interactive-clothing displays and more. At the park, 3901 Land Park Drive. Park admission \$4.50 general, free to children 2 and under. Information at 808-8886, e-mail magic@ fairytaletown.org, or see the website www.fairytaletown.org.

Feb. 22

Mardi Gras Sunday

Sacramento Banjo Band plays traditional Dixieland jazz, Northminster Presbyterian Church, 9:55 a.m., 3235 Pope Av. Following the music and service, a free Mardi Gras luncheon of jambalaya, beans and rice, and red velvet cake will be served. For more information call 487-5192, or visit www.northminsteronline.org.

'Bachathon' at St. John's

Sacramento Chapter of the American Guild of Organists presents some of Sacramento's best known organists in a "Bachathon" drop-in recital, 2 to 6 p.m., St. John's Lutheran Church, 17th and L streets. New, 59-rank pipe organ is featured; musicians will play 15- to 30-minute sessions. Cost, \$5. Information from Nancy Metzger at 422-5168.

Signs along the river

Focus on the sights and sounds of wild life along the river in a guided nature walk, 1:30 p.m. Effie Yeaw Nature Center, 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. Park entrance fee, \$5. Information at 489-4918 or www.effieyeaw.org.

Feb. 24

Embroiderers meet

Embroiderer's Guild of America, 7 p.m., SMUD Building, 6301 S St. Angelica Garrido will demonstrate construction of rugs and pillows using cross stitch. Visitors welcome. Information at 961-3558.

Free flapjacks for charity

I-Hop's fourth National Pancake Day, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., serves up a free short stack of pancakes, and in return, ask guests to donate what they would have paid for the pancakes, or more, to local children's hospitals and other local charities in the communities. Information at www.ihoppancakeday.com.

Free remodel class

Get expert information on planning a successful remodel from a licensed architect and contractor and lead designer, 6 to 7 p.m., Applied Architecure Inc., 2550 X St. Free. Reservations by phone at 456-2656 or e-mail, office@ appliedarts.net.

Mardi Gras at Primrose

Primrose Special Alzheimer's Living facility hosts a Fat Tuesday party with wine, desserts and appetizers, 2:30 to 7 p.m., 7707 Rush River Drive. RSVP by Feb. 18 to 392-3510.

'Animal House' exhibit

Sacramento Fine Arts Center Galleries open "Animal House," the annual fine art exhibition of animal themed artworks. Local artists interpret the animal world - from their pets to sea monsters. Open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays; 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. Information from Margaret, 704-8611, or the website: www.SacFineArts.org.

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Big banjo fest returns

Pocket banjo players Ben Dale, left, and Wes Nakasora will be among the musicians at the Sacramento Banjo Band's annual Bajo-Rama, from 11:45 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sunday, March 1, at the Carmichael Elks Lodge, 5631 Cypress Ave. Two rooms will furnish continuous entertainment, providing an afternoon of lively music -- primarily played on four-stringed banjos -- with all proceeds going to the Shriners Hospital for Children. Featured pickers include the Southtown Strummers. Charlie Tagawa and friends. Steve Peterson and Bill Lorev, with five banio bands from the West Coast. the men's chorus Country Club Aires, and the Norm Gary Jazz Band, Tickets, \$20, include food. refreshment and parking. Details at the website www.sacramentobanjoband.com, more information from Weldon Ward, 967-2318.

Energize with herbs

Herbologist Kami McBride discuses herbal teas, tonics, condiments and super foods to enhance and maintain energy, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Whole Foods Market, 4315 Arden Way. Cost, \$20. Information and registration at 488-2800.

Feb. 25

Casa recruits volunteers Casa Garden Restaurant holds a volunteer recruitment coffee, 9:30 a.m., 2760 Sutterville Road, near Curtis Park. Proceeds and all gratuities from the restaurant benefit the Sacramento Children's Home, which is right next door. RSVP to 452-2809.

Feb. 27

Youth Symphony performs

Join the Sacramento Youth Symphony's Premier Orchestra for an afternoon of peace, passion and tranquility, featuring the works of Brahms, Borodin, and the world premiere of Greek composer George Roumanis' "Symphonic Meditations," 7:30 p.m., Mondavi Center, UC Davis. Tickets, \$35 adults, \$20 children, seniors, students, available at www.mondaviarts.org. Information at www.sacys.org.

Feb. 28

Lawn alternatives

UC Cooperative Extension information on planting edibles or ornamentals in place of a lawn, 9 a.m., Fair Oaks Horticulture Center, 11549 Fair Oaks Blvd. Free. Information at UC Cooperative Extension, 875-6913. In case

of rain, call 875-6818 to hear a recorded message.

Sac High athletics crab feed

Sacramento High School Athletic Boosters Club crab feed, 3 to 7 p.m., school commons area, 2315 34th St. All you can eat crab, salad, pasta and rolls; silent auction and desserts. Tickets, \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door, from Michele Woodson, 813 1850 or Coach Gatling, 275-9570.

Button Bazaar 2009

Sacramento Button Club's annual Button Bazaar, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Car

michael Park Community Clubhouse, 5750 Grant Ave. Cost, \$2. Vintage buttons are smaller antiques and collectibles; contemporary collectible and studio art buttons also available. Information on the website: http://home. comcast.net/~ButtonBazaar/Show. html.

Pancakes and car wash

All vou can eat pancake breakfast and carwash, Didion Elementary School, 6490 Harmon Drive. Pancakes from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m., \$6 in advance, \$7 at the door. Carwash from 8 a.m. to noon is a

fund-raiser for the 2010 eighth grade Catalina trip. Cost, \$5. Information from the school at 433-5039 or Tay Ducey, 428-5392.

E-waste fund-raiser for Waldorf John Morse Waldorf Methods School collects electronic waste, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., 1901 60th Ave. Items accepted are TVs, monitors, computers, microwaves, audio and video equipments, cell phones, telephone equipment and more. Information at 866-335-3373 or see the website: www.NoEwaste. com.

Feb. 28, MARCH 1

Camellia Show turns 85 The 85th Annual Camellia Show opens today from 3 to 6 p.m., Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5:30

p.m., at the Sacramento Memorial Auditorium, 16th and J streets. Blooms may be entered from 7:30 to 10 a.m. Free, open to the public. Informtaion from Don Emitter, 967-8420, or Gary Shan, 447-1969.

March 3

Wine social at the Casa

Wine social, Casa Garden Restaurant, 2760 Sutterville Road, raises funds for Sacramento Children's Home and features hors d'oeuvres, entrée choices of chicken in filo and Thai noodle salad with shrimp, and dessert, 11:30 a.m. Tickets, \$16, include tax and tip. Pre-payment and reservations are required at 452-2809.



18 78 Fverton	ELK G 2008 C W U9 - U14 B	18 78 Fverton						
U9/U10 8/1/99 - 7/31/2001	Sat, Feb 28 1:00 - 2:30pm *at Nottoli Park	Sun, Mar 1 1:00 - 2:30pm 'at Nottoli Park	Sat, Mar 7 1:00 - 2:30pm *at Nottoli Park	Sun, Mar 8 1:00 - 2:30pm *at Nottoli Park	Rain Date Tues, Mar 10 6:00-7:30pm location TBD			
U11/U12 8/1/97 - 7/31/99	Sat, Feb 28 8:30 - 10:00am *at Nottoli Park	Sun, Mar 1 8:30 - 10:00am 'at Notioli Park	Sat, Mar 7 8:30 - 10:00am *at Nottoli Park	Sun, Mar 8 8:30 - 10:00am "at Notioli Park	Rain Date Wed, Mar 11 6:00-7:30pm			
U13/U14 8/1/95 - 7/31/97	Sat, Feb 28 10:30 - Noon *at Nottoli Park	Sun, Mar 1 10:30 - Noon 'at Nottoli Park	Sat, Mar 7 10:30 - Noon 'at Nottoli Park	Sun, Mar 8 10:30 - Noon 'at Nottoli Park	Rain Date Thurs, Mar 12 6:00-7:30pm location TBD			
The above schedules are subject to change. Please check the competitive website www.egevertonfc.com regularly for possible								

ible changes and pre-registration. For questions please contact Shelly Jacobs, EGEFC Club President, at jshelly21@comcast.net.



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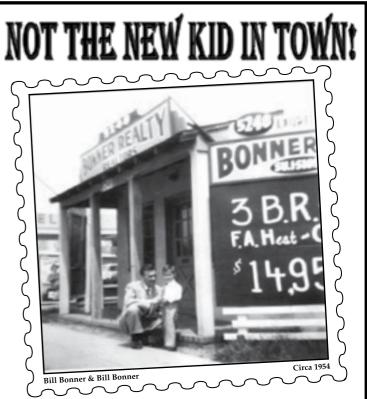
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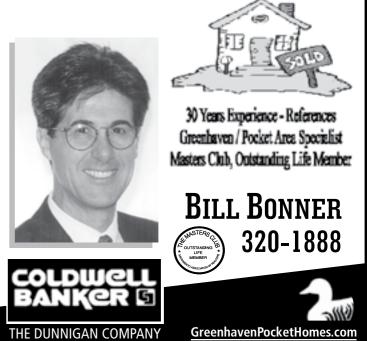
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TERRY MULLIGAN 775-1908



RANCH STYLE 3 BED, 2 BATH HOME APPROX, 1778 SF, ON A LARGER CUL-DE SAC LOT W/FREE FORM POOL. NEWER LAMINATE & TILE FLOORS THROUGHOUT MOST OF THE HOME. SOME LIPDATING IN KITCHEN & BATHS, SEP DINING. LIVING & FAMILY ROOMS. MASTER SUITE W/WALK-IN CLOSET, WHOLE HOUSE FAN, TILE ROOF AND NEWER POOL FILTERS.

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SINGLE STORY, 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATHROOM HOME OF APPROX. 1688 SF ON LARGER LOT. UPDATED WITH BRAZILIAN CHERRYWOOD, GRANITE TILE, NEW SLIDERS, GARAGE DOOR & OPENER, CLOSET ORGANIZERS, EXT PAINT & FENCING, NICK LAPLACA 764-7500



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