

Mayor Kevin Johnson gives update on plans for Sacramento

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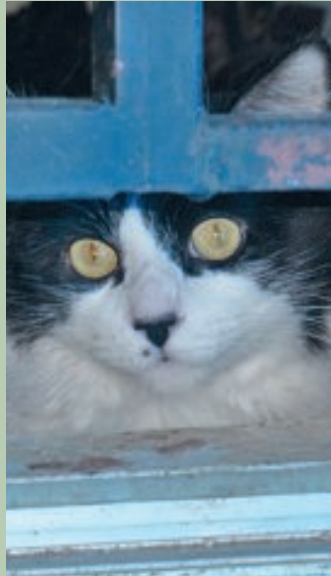
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Kennedy High students support can food drive

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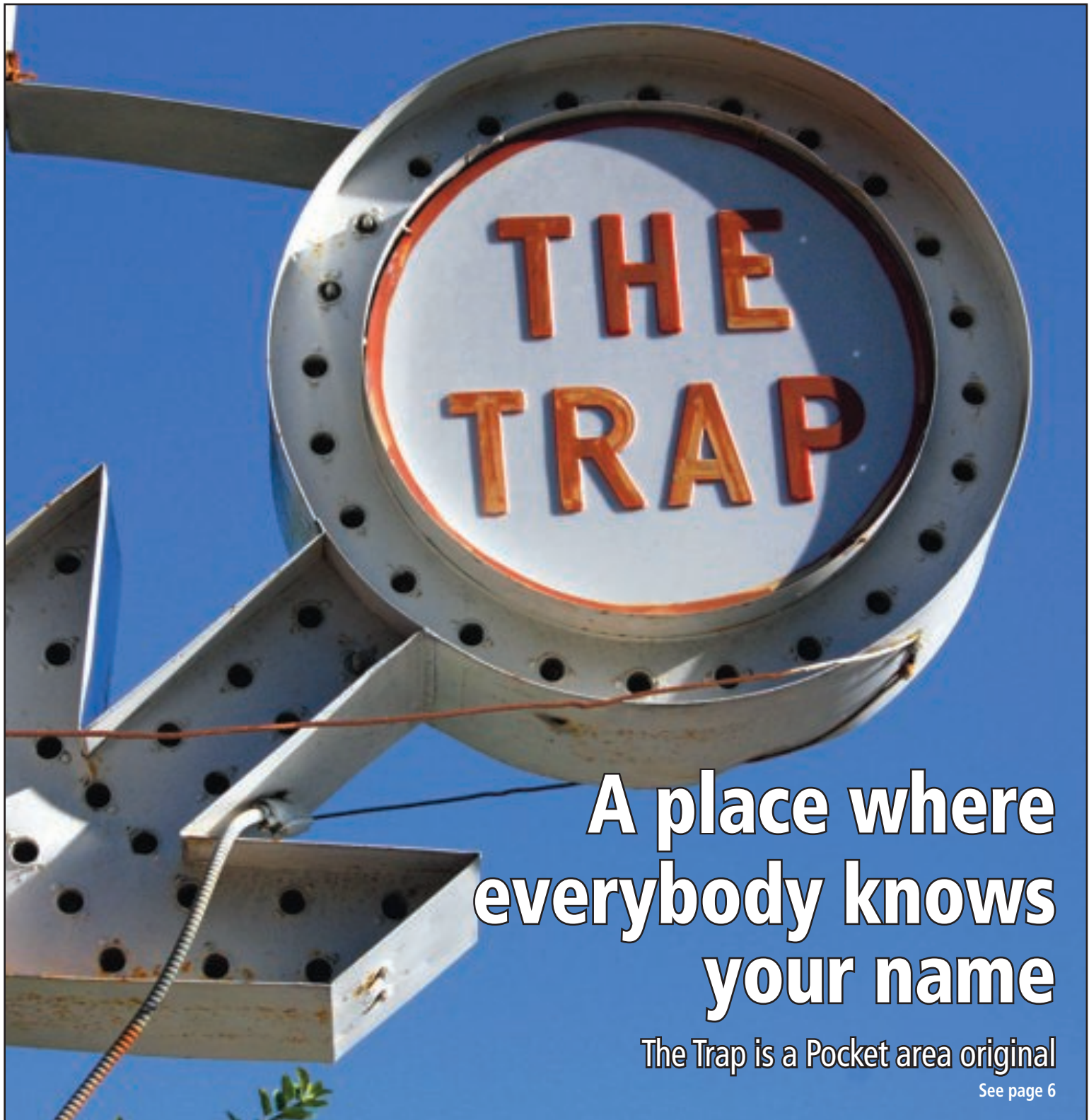
Sacramento residents are cats' best friend

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A place where everybody knows your name

The Trap is a Pocket area original

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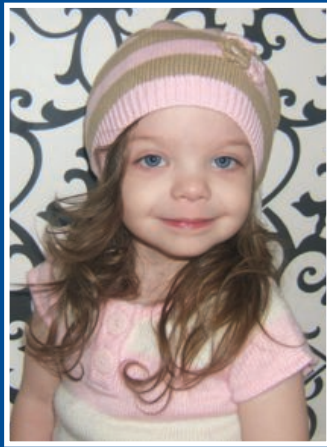
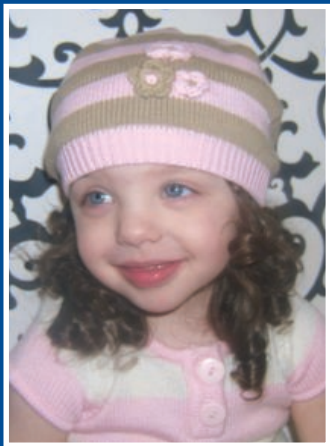
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Vol. XVIII • No. 21

Pocket News is published on the first and third Thursdays of the month and delivered by mail and home delivery in the area bounded by Interstate 5 on the east and the Sacramento River on the north, west, and south.

2709 Riverside Blvd.
Sacramento,
CA 95818
t: (916) 429-9901
f: (916) 429-9906

Publisher..... George Macko
General Manager..... Kathleen Egan
Editor..... Ryan Rose
Production Manager..... John Ochoa
Graphic Artist..... Ryan Vuong
Advertising Executives..... Linda Pohl
Patty Colmer, Marc Harris Desilés, Melissa Andrews
Distribution/Subscriptions..... George Macko

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Land Park's Fred David passes

Pocket News staff report

Land Park resident and well-known Sacramento businessman Fred David passed away Oct. 17. He was 100 years old.

David was featured Oct. 15 in the last edition of The Pocket News after his 100th birthday, which he celebrated Oct. 1 at his Marty Way home.

Funeral arrangements were not immediately available for publication. Lance Armstrong's original story on Fred David and his life and times is online at www.valcomnews.com.

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From the grassroots on up

Local resident group pioneers incredible effort to save 140 felines

By **SUSAN LAIRD**
Pocket News Writer
slaird@handywriting.com

His yellow eyes following a cluster of moving feathers, the sleek, black cat crouches, patiently. Suddenly, he leaps up, his young paws grasping wildly for the elusive prize. Toby lands on the floor, alert and contemplating his next move, as the "fishing pole" of bird feathers "flies" over to a nearby group of cats. It's playtime with humans on a feline adoption day, and this group of young cats is having a wonderful time.

Toby is one of the lucky ones. He will live to chase another kitty toy, to rub up against a human's legs, to purr his love of life on a human lap.

It almost wasn't so. Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of a dedicated group of local citizens, community groups, regional shelters and an area pet resort, a group of 140 felines will all be adopted out to loving homes, instead of facing the death sentence of "euthanasia" – translated from the Latin: "good death" – at a county animal shelter.

The large cat colony was the result of a pair of well meaning pet owners who failed to spay and neuter their original pets, and who then took on stray cats as well. A few cats became a few dozen cats

in short time, and eventually 140 felines in just a couple years. When the economy took a downturn, the family found itself unable to continue to support what had become an overwhelming situation... They appealed to the media for help find homes for the cats, but results were poor.

It looked like the county would have to step in, with a "Final Solution" that no one wanted. That's when Friends of the Sacramento City Shelter Animals, Inc. stepped in to try to rescue not a few animals, but the entire colony. It was a bold, courageous move that had never been attempted before on so large a scale.

"These are some of the friendliest, most beautiful cats," said Dia Goode, co-founder of Friends of the Sacramento City Shelter Animals, Inc. "When we heard about them, we went over to the house to assess the situation. The cats would come right over to you. To kill them would be so unjust. We couldn't just stand there. We had to do something."

"It was overwhelming," said Ellen Nakata-Harper, an East Sacramento resident and Friends volunteer. "Seeing so many eyes looking at you. The majority were so friendly. The others, cau-

See *Cats*, page 22



Photo courtesy Dia Goode
These cats were rescued by local Sacramento area residents after county officials informed the public that the pets would be euthanized.

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Know your neighbor: The Trap is a Greenhaven-Pocket area original

Historic Pocket bar is the region's oldest commercial business

By LANCE ARMSTRONG
Pocket News Writer
vcnnews@valcomnews.com

For those traveling along Riverside Boulevard in the Greenhaven-Pocket area, a peculiar sight approaches at 43rd Avenue, as amidst an otherwise modern surrounding, an extremely old, wooden building sits as a relic of the past.

Early residents of the area once commonly referred to the place as Pimentel's Saloon, while most who know the building know it as The Trap – a popular dive bar that its patrons say has the friendliness of that famous Boston bar, where everyone knows your name.

But by whatever name it has been called, one thing is for certain; this structure is certainly a Greenhaven-Pocket area original.

Building a better Trap

Estimated by some to be built in the 1860s but at least before 1885, the building, like

most other early historic sites of the area, was associated with the Portuguese.

Originally, however, the building, which stood on the property of Anna Leonora Garcia (later Pimentel), was owned by an Italian man who operated a bar and grocery store out of the place.

The business changed hands in 1912, when Anna purchased the place to give her son, Tony Pimentel, a place to work.

At the time, the building, which now sits on the northeast corner of Riverside Boulevard and 43rd Avenue, was located in about the center of the area between the sharp "S" turn of Riverside Boulevard and 43rd Avenue.

Tony opened up the Ingleside Inn bar and grocery store in the building with his non-Portuguese brother-in-law, Ernest Alvin Savoie.

Savoie operated the bar part of the business, while Tony managed the grocery store, since Tony was only 19 years

old and one needed to be 21 years old to operate a bar.

Despite its misleading name, the business was not a place designated for offering overnight accommodations for guests.

Eventually, the name of the business was changed to Pimentel's Ingleside Café and was unofficially known by many locals as the aforementioned Pimentel's Saloon.

At the time, Portuguese farmers of the area mainly visited the bar, which included tables and chairs for relaxing with beverages and playing cards.

Since the building also sold groceries, it included two entrances, so that women and children did not have to walk through the bar to access the grocery store.

The building was moved to its current location in 1924, at which time the grocery business was abandoned, the bar was relocated to the grocery area and the seating area was expanded and used for Saturday night dances.

The building was later altered again when a bedding space and a kitchenette was added to the structure.

Eventually purchasing his partner's share of the business, Tony later owned the bar with his wife, Maggie Valine Pimentel. Maggie, however, was not involved in the operation of the business.

Opting to concentrate on farming on his 15-acre ranch, Tony sold the business in 1930.

Considering that the years of Prohibition in the United States lasted from 1920 to 1933, when asked to explain the bar's operation during these years, Pocket historian Dolores (Silva) Greenslate said that Prohibition had little affect on the bar.

"(The bar) was way out here in the Greenhaven-Pocket area with all the farmers and no inspectors came around here," Greenslate said. "They had bigger fish to catch, plus this was just a beer and wine bar. (Inspectors) were more

concerned about people bootlegging whiskey and things like that. They did shut down the (Portuguese-owned) Silveira Brothers Winery in the north area. And not to say that the bar didn't serve any hard liquor; they probably had a jug of whiskey that they just didn't keep out in the open."

Greenslate, who remembers Pimentel's Saloon and went to school with Tony and Maggie's daughters, Catherine and Geraldine, said that she recalls Tony as being an average looking, serious, business-minded man of about 5 feet, 9 inches tall.

Sacramento resident Wayne Willie, who grew up on Land Park Drive and met Tony many years ago at the Doubleplay Café at 5620 Riverside Blvd., described Tony as a "delightful man," who was a good fisherman, who enjoyed fishing for striped bass on the Sacramento River.

A Trap in time

Since Tony's ownership of the bar, the business has changed proprietors several times, including in 1985, when the bar was purchased by a pair of relatives from an old Pocket Portuguese family, Manuel and Ernie Simas.

Hermann Lorenz, who grew up in the Land Park area, recalls riding his bike out to the bar in the 1940s.

"I would ride my bike there as a kid and it wasn't really so much a bar, as it was more like a tavern," Lorenz said. "You could go in there and get a Coke and there would be the fisherman, farmers and construction workers in there drinking beer. But I never remember women being in there."

Lorenz said that he later enjoyed going to the bar to watch San Francisco 49ers and Oakland Raiders games that had been blacked out on most local television sets during the 1960s and 1970s.

"They had a blackout of every home game in the National Football League within 100 miles, so The Trap would have a flourishing business on

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See The Trap, page 7

The Trap: 'There's a whole hodgepodge of people you meet coming in here'

Continued from page 6

Sundays," Lorenz said. "The locals would come watch the local football games that were picked up through the place's 100-foot television antennae, since there were no television antennae restrictions that existed here."

The Trap today

Today, The Trap, which received its name from Eileen Strange, who leased the bar in 1964 and invited her friends to visit "the trap" that she acquired, is certainly a very unusual place that people find interesting for both its age and its very original looking interior.

Sure, there are the usual sights of a wooden bar, barstools and pool tables, but after the obvious bar surroundings, that is when things get a bit different than the average bar.

Although the business's patrons find the place to have a comfortable atmosphere, that same atmosphere includes taxidermy of a wolferine preparing to feast on a bird, the head of a wart hog, a squirrel, a turtle and a hawk, the skull of a steer, antelope horns, rusted animal traps, an antique barbed wire display and an old sawed-off shotgun that was said to be found in a nearby river.

But these unusual surroundings are part of the draw of this beer and wine-only bar, which until about three months ago only carried

a few basic label beers such as Budweiser and Bud Light and several wines.

Bartender Kimberly Hinkle, a 1976 graduate of Kennedy High School, has since added a refrigerator full of 38 different types of ale.

Hinkle, who is the girlfriend of the current owner of The Trap, Rich Crudo, began working at the bar while one of the business's former owners, Rich's late wife, Kathi Crudo was still at the helm. Kathi operated the bar from 1984 to 2003.

Other bartenders in more recent years have included Butch Cartwright, David Collins, Dennis Dodd, Debbie Dykes, Jerry Glasco, Art Marin, Joe Ramirez and Shane Turner.

Rich, who grew up on Franklin Boulevard and 35th Avenue and has four children and 13 grandchildren, said that the bar has had a few celebrity sightings throughout the years.

Among these celebrities were Jack Tatum and Lester Hayes of the Oakland Raiders and Scot Pollard of the Sacramento Kings.

But besides rare celebrity appearances, the bar is generally visited by a well-rounded selection of local residents, explained ret. Sacramento Police officer Bill Yeager, a patron at The Trap for more than 30 years.

"There's a whole hodgepodge of people you meet

coming in here," Yeager said. "There's attorneys, doctors, street people, you meet all kinds of people here. And they're all pretty nice. It's just a nice place."

A bar for all time

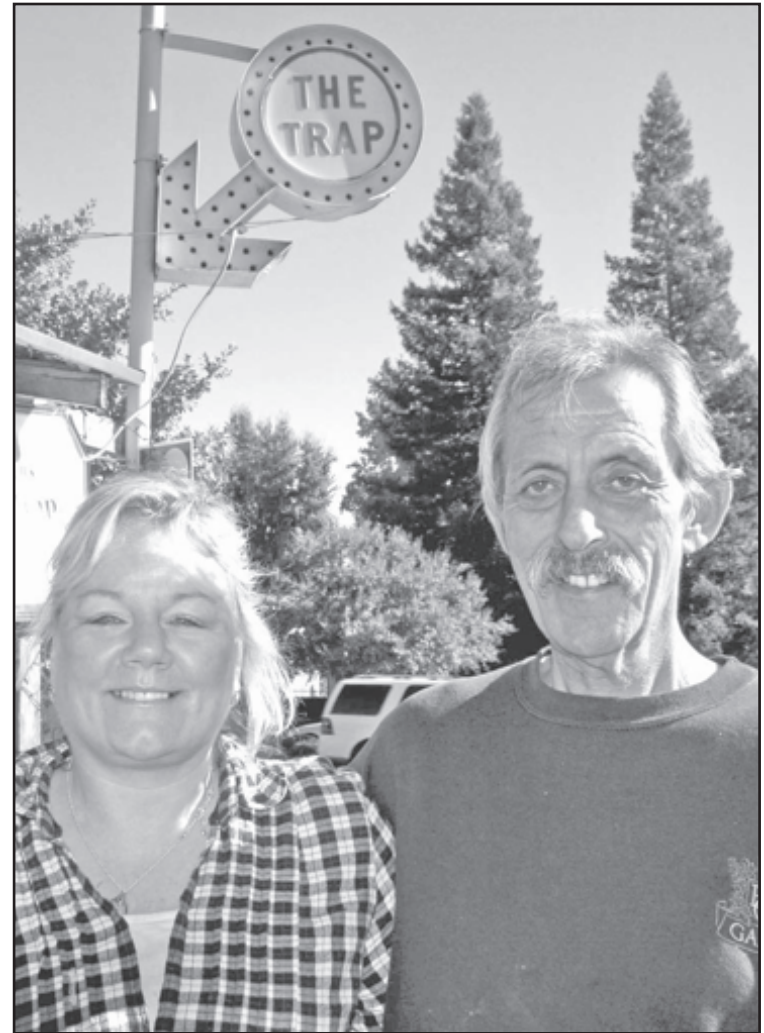
Although the historic bar building has obviously seen better days, Crudo said that his business is set to receive some much needed upgrades due to a \$19,650 grant that was presented to The Trap by Sacramento Heritage, Inc. on Nov. 1, 2008.

"(The grant) will help us to repair the roof and get the building back the way it used to be," Rich said. "We're one of about 1,100 (sites) in the Sacramento area that have been designated a Sacramento historical landmark."

Although most regulars of The Trap are delighted that the place is scheduled to receive a makeover, they also hope to see this famous local watering hole retain the unique appearance that so many people have grown to love.

The Trap, which attracts large crowds for Monday Night Football and on Sundays when Hinkle prepares her homemade menudo, is open daily from noon to 2 a.m.

For additional information regarding this business, call (916) 395-2614.



Pocket News Photo/Lance Armstrong
Owner Rich Crudo and bartender Kimberly Hinkle stand in front of the popular Greenhaven-Pocket bar, The Trap.

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Executive Airport Master Plan and Noise Ordinance Updates
Community Meeting and Open House

DATE: Wednesday, November 18, 2009

TIME: 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

PLACE: Pony Express Elementary School
1250 56th Avenue (off S. Land Park Dr., north of Florin)

The public is invited to a community meeting on the Executive Airport Master Plan and Noise Ordinance Updates hosted by the Sacramento County Airport System. At this community meeting the consultant team will present a summary of the Conceptual Development Plan and the Capital Phasing Plan, as well as a review of the modifications to the Noise Ordinance for Executive Airport. The project team and airport staff will also be on hand to answer questions and outline the remaining project schedule.

The meeting facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. Requests for interpreting services, assistive listening devices, or other considerations should be made through Project Manager George Munson at (916) 874-0767, no later than five working days prior to the meeting. To review documents for this meeting please visit www.sacairports.org and click on "Executive Airport" and select "Master Plan."

Mick Martin revels in music memories

Sacramentans, others celebrate Woodstock's 40th anniversary at West Fest

By LANCE ARMSTRONG
Pocket News Writer
vcnnews@valcomnews.com

It has been 40 years since the legendary Woodstock festival drew about 400,000 people to a 600-acre farm in Bethel, N.Y. and despite this passage of time, a West Coast anniversary event held Oct. 25 proved that the music and energy of the event has far from faded.

With thousands of people, including many who traveled from Sacramento, flocking to Speedway Meadow in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, the spirit of this celebrated Aug. 15-18, 1969 festival and its era was very much alive.

Certainly helping to add much intrigue and distinction to this free admission, Oct. 25 event were performances by original Woodstock musicians such as Barry "The Fish" Melton of Country Joe and the Fish and members of the Jefferson Airplane, as well as other notable musicians of the era, including John York of The Byrds, Lester Chambers of the Chambers Brothers, David and Linda La Flamme and Mitchell Holman of It's a Beautiful Day,

Lydia Pense of Cold Blood and Terry Haggerty of the Sons of Champlin.

Also taking the stage was original Woodstock co-producer Artie Kornfeld, Ray Manzarek of The Doors, the original cast of the rock musical, "Hair," beat poet Michael McClure and David Hilliard of the Black Panther Party.

Also adding to the many attractions, guitarist Leon Hendrix, the brother of the late Woodstock great Jimi Hendrix, was also present to assist in leading an attempt to break the Guinness world record for largest guitar ensemble. Unfortunately for the participating guitarists, who played Jimi's song, "Purple Haze," the effort fell short.

Another original Woodstock performer, guitar virtuoso, Harvey "The Snake" Mandel, who performed at the 1969 event with the band, Canned Heat, drew much applause for his performance at West Fest.

The Sacramento connection

Alongside Mandel, playing his trusty harmonica, was a

musician who many Sacramento music scene followers know quite well: Mick Martin.

Martin, who is best known locally for his band Mick Martin and the Blues Rockers and his Capital Public Radio program, "Mick Martin's Blues Party," said that he has been fortunate to play music with Mandel in recent years.

Martin, an Antelope resident who spent many years living in East Sacramento, said that during a session, Mandel, who has also performed with Charlie Musselwhite, the Rolling Stones and John Mayall, turned to him and said, "We're playing Woodstock (in Golden Gate Park)."

"Harvey is a man of few words," Martin said. "(Responding to Mandel), I said, 'Great, that sounds good to me. I'll be glad to do that.'"

Martin, who described playing on the West Fest stage as being a part of living history, said that playing the Woodstock anniversary show was a very big opportunity for him.

"I would say that Woodstock in a rock sense ranks



Pocket News Photo/Lance Armstrong
Mick Martin (far left) stands alongside his bandmates following his Oct. 25 performance at Golden Gate Park.

right up there with having played jazz at Carnegie Hall with (blues guitarist) Jimmie Smith and (jazz saxophonist) Grover Washington, Jr. and my tours of Europe playing with members of The Yardbirds, The Kinks and The Rolling Stones, as part of a special Christmas show at the Eel Pie Club (in London)," Martin said.

Being a part of a Woodstock anniversary, Martin explained,

was in a way a fulfillment of one of his childhood dreams.

"Even though I wasn't able to go to Woodstock - I wasn't even at (the famous 1967) Monterey Pop (Festival) - I wanted to go, but I was just shy of being old enough of my parents letting me go," Martin said.

But being a part of this Woodstock celebration was something that Martin refused to miss, es-

See West Fest, page 9

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West Fest: 'This event means peace, love, compassion and understanding'

Continued from page 8

pecially because of his admiration for Mandel's music.

"Harvey Mandel was one of the pioneers in the music business," Martin said. "He came out from Chicago with Charlie Musselwhite. But once he went out on his own, he was the first artist to use percussion — conga drums — and that's where Santana got the idea. So, Harvey has been an innovator in the music business for a very long time. He invented the finger tapping method of guitar playing that a lot of people credit to Joe Satriani. Harvey is one of the true innovators when it comes to guitar playing and anyone who really knows guitar knows that he was one of the most important artists in the Bay Area."

Martin, who has been performing professionally in Sacramento since the late 1960s, added that playing before the largest audience he has ever performed in front of was also a very memorable experience.

"There were just so many people out there, but I made myself look up at the crowd," Martin said. "It was an incredible experience (performing at West Fest). I think it's the most beautiful thing I've ever experienced in my life. This event is 40 years in the making and we have multiple generations here who understand how to be together, enjoy being together and enjoy the music and try to make a better world."

And with the success of his long career in Sacramento, Martin said that he was not short on local fans who traveled to see him at the event.

"A lot of people came here to see me," Martin. "Even the hippie girls who used to follow my band Joshua in 1969 were right down in front."

Sacto to SF to Woodstock

In addition to Martin, the capital city was also represented on stage by Sacramento native trumpeter Cynthia Robinson of Sly and the Family Stone, who performed a 15-minute set with saxophonist Jerry Martini, who was also a member of Sly Stone's renowned band.

Also attending the event was Bill Just, who until about two years ago was a longtime resident of East Sacramento.

Although he admits that he almost exclusively listens to reggae, Just said that he saw his fair share of rock shows during the 1960s in both Sacramento and San Francisco.

"This kind of music is fun to be around, so that's what I'm kind of here for, but I'm a reggae man, a reggae specialist," Just said. "I definitely went to a lot of shows down here (in San Francisco), including ones at the Fillmore (Auditorium) and I went to an acid test (concert) at Muir Beach with Creedence Clearwater Revival before they were really big. And in Sacramento, I went to a memorable show (with Pink Floyd) at the Sound Factory (at 1217 Alhambra Boulevard)."

Explaining the reasoning behind holding a Woodstock anniversary event on the West Coast, Alan Moore of Musicians and Fine Artists for World Peace said that the gathering represented a full circle of events.

"When (MFAWP) went to (West Fest promoter) Boots Hughston and asked him to put on a Woodstock anniversary show, he said, 'Woodstock? That's an East Coast thing,'" Moore said. "We reminded him that Allen Cohen and Michael Bowen — who were both friends of his — were involved

with the first (Human) Be-In (free concert on Jan. 14, 1967) and the Summer of Love. So, what happened in San Francisco culminated with the Woodstock gathering in 1969. If it wasn't for what happened out here, who knows if there would have been a Woodstock. In that context, the 40th anniversary was at home here."

Mark Richardson, who lives in the Pocket area of Sacramento and was attending West Fest, said that he was one of the many attendees of the Human Be-In.

Pointing at a nearby sports field with birds on it, Richardson said, "That's where it was held. I was a cross country runner and I knew the park well. I just happened to come across the event. I had no clue what was going on. I just remember the big group of people. I think the (Grateful) Dead played there, plus they had some poets and speakers."

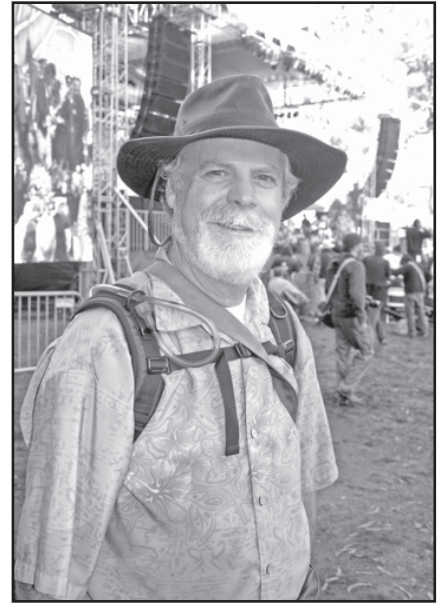
Richardson, who said that he has been "tapped into the rock music scene" for many years, added that he was also a part of the Rock Medicine program, which was founded in 1973 to provide medical assistance at rock concerts.

Hughston, who put forth much effort to provide the public with a free, positive

and enjoyable experience at West Fest, explained the overall philosophy of the event.

"Nobody got paid to do this (event)," Hughston said. "This event means peace, love, compassion and understanding. We're here because we want these principals to come back in our society."

Moore said that with the success of this year's West Fest, he anticipates that a similar Woodstock anniversary will be held on the West Coast in the future.



Pocket News Photo/Lance Armstrong
Pocket area resident Mark Richardson was among those who traveled from the Sacramento area for the event.

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The Real Estate Quarterly

Buying a (first) home?

Three steps to success: prioritize, educate yourself, get help

By JOHN WOODALL
Lyon Real Estate
Special to The Pocket News

According to the California Association of Realtors, 67 percent of potential first time buyers in California (as of June 30 – the latest report available) can now purchase a median priced home. That compares to just 26 percent two years ago. Prices have fallen dramatically and as an added bonus, interest rates are historically low too.

So, you're thinking it's time to buy a home; now what?

It's normal to have some anxiety over buying a home – it's a big commitment. However, a helpful way to sort out home buying complexities is by first taking time to "prioritize the priorities." It adds an

objective framework around an exciting but emotional experience. Then, educate yourself about the market and seek out an experienced advisor.

Monetary Priorities

New home anxiety often centers on money issues: How much can I /we qualify for? What are the payments, the down payment? What kind of payment am I going to be comfortable with? Address these questions early on by either using an on-line mortgage calculator (keeping in mind that this will only provide a rough estimate) or talking to a lender about getting pre-approved. Knowing that you've got a pre-approval in your pocket gives you confidence as you begin looking for your new home.

Family and Individual Priorities

With input from the entire family, make a list of what is important to you. Consider neighborhood, space requirements and features – number of bedrooms, a pool etc. Could you handle a "fixer" instead of a "move in ready" home? Include access to schools, community activities and the work commute on your list. Also pinpoint individual privacy, lifestyle and activity needs of family members. For example, do you like to entertain? And don't forget to consider that the space needs of children will change significantly as they grow and mature.

Rank your "wish list" as to "required", "desirable" and "acceptable" priorities, then pare these down to the top 5 "must

have" choices. Now you're ready to find your new home.

Look and Learn

Well over 80 percent of Buyers today spend three to six months "window shopping online" before actually entering the market place. In our current market, Buyers also need to consider which part of the market segment they will be involved in: price, neighborhood, or function (a home with RV storage for example); and educate themselves about current market conditions in the segment that affects them. But keep in mind that what is true today may not be true when you are ready to buy – you will need to get updated. For example, just 6 months ago, buyers were avoiding short sales; but over the past few months short sale transactions are beginning to increase dramatically.

Buyers should also learn the differences between Bank Owned listings (REOs), "Short Sales" and traditional owner sellers and how these types of sellers can affect their plans. Get good advice. Work with a seasoned agent who can explain how the buying process and transaction time frame may differ with each of these types of sales and what is happening in the marketplace today.

Getting Professional Help

Knowledge and experience in your trade or business are important, right? Likewise, since Real Estate transactions are complex and mistakes can be costly, it makes sense to entrust perhaps the largest financial transaction of your life to someone who is well trained and experienced.

Buyers should use their own representative so that their interests are protected. Work with a Realtor who will be willing to educate you and spend time understanding your needs before you ever get in a car and start looking. Plus, the agent you pick



John Woodall

should offer you access to a powerful, easy to use search tool to help you educate yourself about terminology and availability.

A seasoned Realtor will match your priorities with what you can afford, guide you around pitfalls, and is responsible for ensuring that your interests are protected. It doesn't cost a Buyer anything to be represented by a Realtor and it might save you a bundle in anxiety and legal exposure.

In conclusion, first establish your priorities, then educate yourself about the market and finally adapt your approach to achieve your objectives. Well-prepared and well-informed buyers cannot control the market place, but can place themselves in a position to better pick the optimum point at which they get into the market for a home that meets their goals.

John Woodall, GRI, SRES is a Broker Associate with Lyon Real Estate. He's earned a GRI designation (for advanced real estate education) and is a Seniors Real Estate Specialist, (SRES). In addition to traditional residential transactions, John helps clients with Short Sales, Probate sales and handles REOs. He is equally skilled at helping sellers or buyers of homes and investment properties. For more information, please contact John at (916) 421-5421 or log on to John at www.john.golygon.com

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The Real Estate Quarterly

Clock ticking on \$8,000 homebuyer tax credit

(NAPSI) – First-time homebuyers and those who haven't owned a home in the past three years are running out of time to cash in on the \$8,000 first-time homebuyer tax credit. The deadline is November 30. If you don't close on your home by then, you'll miss out on one of the major buyer opportunities in the current housing market.

Today's tighter credit market means the days of settling on a home in two weeks are gone. Lenders are paying closer attention than ever to a borrower's financial information. In many cases, appraisals are also taking longer and things

like home inspections and title searches take time. So there may be no time to waste.

"Homeownership is an investment in your future, and the temporary \$8,000 tax credit can help many of today's buyers start building that future," said Lawrence Yun, chief economist for the National Association of Realtors. "However, buyers should be realistic about the time it could take between beginning the home search and actually closing on the deal. Anyone who's serious about taking advantage of this tremendous opportunity should start the ball rolling soon."

In some cases, buyers are able to receive the tax credit immediately through short-term bridge loans and either increase their down payment or supplement their closing costs. A Realtor can tell you if the bridge loan process is available to you.

Not a first-time homebuyer? Not a problem. Current market conditions have created a wealth of advantages for all of today's buyers, including:

- + **Lots of choices** – More homes on the market means buyers can negotiate better prices and terms.
- + **Low interest rates** – Mortgage interest rates remain historically low, making borrowing more affordable for potential homebuyers.
- + **Affordability** – Home prices are more affordable now than they have been in decades,



according to NAR's Housing Affordability Index.

These conditions, however, are temporary. Recent housing statistics and trends show signs that the market may have already hit bottom. Prices in many areas have stabilized and are rising again.

"Today's buyers are staying well within their budget and realizing this is an incredible opportunity to own a home of their own," said Yun. "There's never been a better time for people to start building their future through homeownership."



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The Real Estate Quarterly

Hints for homeowners: Home-Buying Tips

(NAPSI) – Purchasing a home can be the most important financial decision a person makes. That's why it is important to understand the process of buying a home and to evaluate your budget and credit score.

Here are some tips to help you navigate the home-buying process:

1. Save for your down payment. Zero down payment mortgages are rarely available, so it's important that you save ahead of time. The more money you put down on the house, the lower your mortgage payment will be. And if

you make a down payment of at least 20 percent of the home's worth, you can avoid having to pay Private Mortgage Insurance. PMI is an additional cost built into your mortgage that protects the mortgage lender in the event of a default. There are a variety of programs that can assist first-time homebuyers or low- to moderate-income families. Check with the Federal Housing Administration or the state's housing authorities for more information.

2. Shop for a mortgage before you shop for a home. Most real estate profession-

als recommend that you obtain a credit pre-approval before you begin looking for a home. Getting preapproved generally means you receive a loan commitment from your mortgage company before you have found a home, based on a review of your credit and finances. Credit requirements are more stringent than they've been in years past, so you should review your credit report, find out what your credit score is and immediately contact the credit reporting bureaus to correct any errors. You will want your credit report to be accurate and your credit



score to be as high as possible.

Having your credit application preapproved shows sellers that you're a qualified buyer and helps you establish a realistic price range. You can access an online tutorial on credit from the GMAC Financial Services' financial literacy program, SmartEdge, that can help you understand how credit affects your loan options, what affects your credit score and how to get on the right track.

3. Become familiar with all mortgage-related terms. The SmartEdge Web site also offers a real estate and home-financing glossary, which defines important home-buying terms such as Annual Percentage Rate (called APR) and escrow. Knowing certain terminology can help you bet-

ter understand and converse with a real estate agent or a loan officer.

4. Ask for a Comparative Market Analysis before you make a purchase offer. The best way to avoid offering too much for a home is to ask for a written CMA, which your real estate professional should be able to provide. This will show recent sales prices of comparable neighborhood homes and the asking price of nearby homes. The CMA can be shown to the seller when you make your offer. This may justify your purchase offer and show the seller why your offer is reasonable.

5. Decide what conditions (also known as contingencies) you want to place on buying the house. Your purchase may be made contingent on obtaining financing, a building inspector's satisfactory report or selling your present home. Real estate contracts today already include many of these standard contingencies.

In addition to offering mortgage information, the SmartEdge program teaches consumers how to establish good credit, manage a budget and evaluate financing options. You can visit the SmartEdge Web site at www.SmartEdge-byGMAC.com or call (800) 766-GMAC for more mortgage information.



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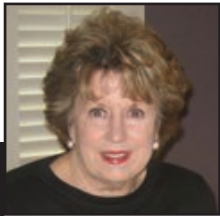
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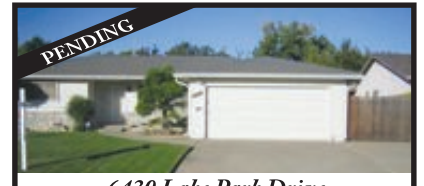


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Sam – JAR graduate



Before I got to Juveniles At Risk, I was going down the wrong path. I smoked marijuana everyday and I drank. I skipped school and ended up dropping out. I gave up on school until the hearing office sent me to Greg Scott's program.

I came into the program with a low confidence level. I couldn't function without drugs and nothing else was more important. I started hearing the words Greg had to say. I thought about changing but knew it was hard. Greg told me he could help. I don't do drugs now. I'm studying to become a nurse and working at Sutter Hospital. My life is productive. I'll have 4 years clean time in March of 2007. The program changed my way of looking at life and boosted my confidence.

For the last 6 years Sam has been clean, and working for Sutter Hospital. He is now back to school full time and studying to become a nurse.



Pocket News Photo/Danny Kam

Kelli Miyata, Melanie Yoshihara and Max Evans assist Oct. 17 in the Kennedy High School can drive drop-off event. The donations went to support the KCRA 3 Kids Can Food Drive.

Can drive supported at Kennedy High

Special to The Pocket News

On Saturday, Oct. 17, Kennedy High School hosted a drive-thru donation drop-off in conjunction with the continuing KCRA 3 Kids Can Food Drive. The collection total from the Saturday event came to 3,913 food items.

The committee behind the can drive offered thanks to the drive-thru volunteers: Ms. Alexander, Max Evans, Mr. and Mrs. Yoshihara, Nikki Yoshihara, and Kennedy students Kelli Miyata, Cristina Pedroncelli, Angela Pedroncelli, Mark Matney, Andrea Ortega, and Chan Trinh for taking time out of their Saturday to help from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The group was also very appreciative of Food Source grocery store, which donated 3,432 canned goods; the Malt-o-Meal company with its donation of 438 bags and boxes of cereal and oatmeal; and to Kennedy High School students and members of the community who came out to donate to the cause.

The generosity of these people and organizations is going directly to the SSIP Emergency Food Closet, which helps 4,500 people each month by supplying food.

Although the drive-thru is over, Kennedy will continue to accept donations in the front office up to November 20.

A little shopping and quick bite,
 And then... more shopping. *(Dressing on the side, please)*
 Let's see, a skirt. Or two. Or three...
 And a cute jacket
 Fall is *Love Fall. Love it. Love it.* COMING
Oooh, new glasses 100. Match my new haircut
My own family won't recognize me.
Oooh, retreads me...
gotta pick up dinner, 100.
But not just yet
I have his place.

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The Real Estate Quarterly

Pocket/Greenhaven Residential Real Estate Transactions • Third Quarter • July–September 2009

Address	BR /BA	Value	Date	Address	BR /BA	Value	Date
95831							
6630 14TH ST.....	3 3.....	\$266,000	20090930	395 LITTLE RIVER WAY.....	4 3.....	110,000	20090708
7520 ALMA VISTA WAY.....	4 2.....	299,000	20090729	401 LITTLE RIVER WAY.....	3 2.....	270,000	20090901
351 AQUAPHER WAY.....	4 3.....	340,000	20090803	535 LITTLE RIVER WAY.....	3 2.....	216,000	20090814
6790 ARABELLA WAY	4 3.....	527,500	20090831	6520 LONGRIDGE WAY.....	3 2.....	225,000	20090904
939 BEACH DR.....	4 3.....	535,000	20090715	39 LOS GATOS CIR.....	4 3.....	490,000	20090724
7608 BRIDGEVIEW DR.....	3 2.5.....	400,000	20090925	749 MELANIE WAY.....	3 2.....	209,000	20090929
6872 BUENA TERRA WAY.....	3 2.....	232,000	20090710	60 MOONLIT CIR.....	3 3.....	350,000	20090723
55 CACHE RIVER CIR.....	2 2.....	160,000	20090910	100 MOONLIT CIR.....	4 2.....	335,000	20090623
63 CACHE RIVER CIR.....	3 2.....	191,000	20090818	7438 MYRTLE VISTA AVE.....	3 2.....	475,000	20090923
7244 CAMINO DEL REY ST.....	3 2.....	244,000	20090731	6285 OAKRIDGE WAY.....	4 3.5.....	514,000	20090731
7252 CAMINO DEL REY ST.....	4 2.....	232,000	20090915	7756 OAKSHORE DR.....	3 2.....	605,000	20090619
1 CAPTAIN CT.....	2 2.....	190,000	20090603	6796 ORLEANS WAY.....	3 2.....	281,000	20090616
7462 CASTANO WAY.....	4 2.5.....	392,500	20090721	9 PEBBLE RIVER CIR.....	3 2.....	329,000	20090604
7036 CATLEN WAY.....	4 2.5.....	370,000	20090828	483 PIMENTEL WAY.....	4 2.5.....	291,331	20090917
59 CAVALCADE CIR.....	3 2.....	265,500	20090710	7233 POCKET RD.....	4 3.....	408,000	20090626
721 CECILYN WAY.....	3 2.....	240,000	20090720	7704 PORT DR.....	4 4.....	768,000	20090617
733 CECILYN WAY.....	3 2.....	245,000	20090617	260 PORTINAO CIR.....	3 2.....	395,000	20090618
9 CHART CT.....	3 2.5.....	290,000	20090930	51 RAMBLEOAK CIR.....	3 2.....	261,000	20090722
6850 CLAIBORNE WAY.....	3 2.....	250,000	20090923	78 RAMBLEOAK CIR.....	3 2.....	240,000	20090619
782 CLIPPER WAY.....	3 3.....	285,000	20090930	3 RASHA CT.....	3 2.5.....	205,000	20090626
961 COBBLE SHORES DR.....	3 2.5.....	333,000	20090918	15 RED RIVER CT.....	3 2.5.....	480,000	20090731
1360 CORNELL WAY.....	3 2.....	270,351	20090618	304 RIVER ISLE WAY.....	3 2.5.....	272,788	20090730
674 CULLIVAN DR.....	3 2.5.....	270,000	20090819	687 RIVERGATE WAY.....	3 2.....	235,000	20090610
603 CUTTING WAY.....	3 2.....	244,115	20090714	6 RIVERMEAD CT.....	3 2.....	390,000	20090731
613 CUTTING WAY.....	3 2.5.....	275,000	20090901	6246 RIVERSIDE BLVD.....	3 2.....	239,000	20090915
563 DE MAR DR.....	2 2.....	159,000	20090622	6273 RIVERSIDE BLVD.....	3 3.....	320,000	20090713
587 DE MAR DR.....	3 2.....	195,000	20090805	6550 RIVERSIDE BLVD.....	3 2.....	208,000	20090930
1039 EILEEN WAY.....	3 2.....	379,000	20090716	6625 RIVERSIDE BLVD.....	4 2.....	316,300	20090911
7734 EL DOURO DR.....	4 2.5.....	385,000	20090928	6975 RIVERSIDE BLVD.....	3 2.....	287,000	20090710
1240 EL ENCANTO WAY.....	3 2.5.....	210,000	20090626	7117 ROB RIVER WAY.....	3 2.....	386,531	20090709
7057 EL SERENO CIR.....	4 3.....	243,000	20090622	12 ROMA CT.....	3 2.5.....	285,000	20090609
5 ESTUARY CT.....	4 2.5.....	230,550	20090914	47 ROSE MEAD CIR.....	4 2.....	253,000	20090724
7293 FARM DALE WAY.....	3 2.....	294,000	20090915	818 ROYAL GARDEN AVE.....	3 3.....	227,349	20090910
1201 FAY CIR.....	3 2.5.....	345,000	20090805	873 ROYAL GREEN AVE.....	3 2.....	265,000	20090924
751 FLORIN RD.....	3 2.....	199,000	20090723	7329 RUSH RIVER DR.....	2 2.....	160,000	20090609
7393 FLOWERWOOD WAY.....	3 2.....	263,500	20090921	6899 SAILBOAT WAY.....	4 2.....	349,500	20090706
137 FORTADO CIR.....	3 2.....	309,000	20090611	1319 SAN CLEMENTE WAY.....	4 2.5.....	385,000	20090731
6740 FREEHAVEN DR.....	4 2.....	230,000	20090910	7217 SANTA TERESA WAY.....	4 3.....	360,000	20090701
6748 FREEHAVEN DR.....	4 2.....	230,000	20090731	840 SENIOR WAY.....	3 3.....	365,000	20090828
2 GENOA CT.....	3 2.....	255,000	20090930	865 SHELLWOOD WAY.....	4 2.5.....	326,000	20090925
12 GENOA CT.....	3 2.....	250,000	20090828	820 SHORESIDE DR.....	5 4.....	575,000	20090714
6879 GLORIA DR.....	3 2.....	210,000	20090701	7791 SLEEPY RIVER WAY.....	3 2.....	459,500	20090728
7320 GLORIA DR.....	3 2.5.....	199,000	20090810	1201 SMOKE RIVER WAY.....	3 2.....	336,000	20090624
1000 GLOW CT.....	3 2.....	325,000	20090623	420 SPINNAKER WAY.....	3 2.....	272,000	20090612
6433 GREENHAVEN DR.....	6 2.5.....	350,000	20090730	464 SPINNAKER WAY.....	2 2.....	229,000	20090722
6671 HARMON DR.....	3 2.....	341,000	20090721	16 SPRINGBROOK CIR.....	3 2.5.....	320,000	20090928
784 HARVEY WAY.....	2 2.....	160,000	20090820	1163 SPRUCE TREE CIR.....	3 2.....	250,000	20090821
820 HARVEY WAY.....	3 2.....	251,576	20090909	6757 STARBOARD WAY.....	3 2.....	297,000	20090820
6480 HAVENSIDE DR.....	3 2.....	375,500	20090625	21 STARLIT CIR.....	4 2.....	292,000	20090819
11 HERITAGE WOOD CIR.....	4 2.5.....	348,000	20090807	696 STILL BREEZE WAY.....	5 3.....	635,000	20090928
15 HIDDEN COVE CIR.....	3 2.....	240,000	20090615	701 STILL BREEZE WAY.....	3 3.....	324,500	20090710
7651 HOWERTON DR.....	2 2.....	162,000	20090603	6725 SWENSON WAY.....	3 2.....	325,000	20090828
7665 HOWERTON DR.....	2 2.....	165,000	20090827	4 TARRAGON CT.....	3 2.....	250,000	20090730
6524 LAND PARK DR.....	3 2.5.....	295,000	20090615	6 TASH CT.....	4 2.....	326,000	20090727
6631 LAND PARK DR.....	3 2.5.....	270,000	20090618	560 VALIM WAY.....	3 2.5.....	210,000	20090721
6691 LAND PARK DR.....	4 3.....	100,000	20090804	1297 VALLEY BROOK AVE.....	4 2.....	238,000	20090804
8042 LINDA ISLE LN.....	0 0.....	363,000	20090717	1322 VALLEY BROOK AVE.....	3 2.....	284,000	20090930
8044 LINDA ISLE LN.....	0 0.....	402,000	20090730	756 WESTLITE CIR.....	3 2.....	325,000	20090821
8046 LINDA ISLE LN.....	0 0.....	390,000	20090714	1111 WESTLYNN WAY.....	3 2.....	280,000	20090911
8050 LINDA ISLE LN.....	3 3.....	380,000	20090731	7403 WINDBRIDGE DR.....	4 2.5.....	312,593	20090917
389 LITTLE RIVER WAY.....	3 2.....	295,000	20090609	7685 WINDBRIDGE DR.....	3 2.5.....	313,500	20090831
				15 WINDSTONE CT.....	3 2.....	245,000	20090714
				27 WINTERMIST CT.....	4 2.5.....	250,750	20090804
				27 ZEPHYR COVE CIR.....	3 2.....	221,000	20090722

Cats: 'They make wonderful, beautiful pets'

Continued from page 5

tious, but eventually warming up to us. They knew we were there to help. And they were all healthy. The previous owners obviously took good care of them, aside from their failure to spay and neuter."

"It was a truly bizarre situation," said Moira Monahan, a Friend volunteer who lives in Land Park. "The smell of the cats at the house was overwhelming. But you got used to it each time you came to rescue a few more cats. I work on the spay/neuter and foster care projects. The cats range in age from six months to about two or three years of age. There really aren't any old ones or really young ones, which is unusual."

The Friends put out a plea for help to local and regional "no kill" shelters and rescue groups. The Ta-

hoe Truckee Humane Society took four black cats, adopted them out and took four more. Pets Unlimited in San Francisco took six cats. Tri Valley in the Bay Area took 14 cats. San Francisco Animal Control took five felines, the Sacramento ASPCA took seven kitties and Best Friends in Utah took a number of cats as well.

Local rescue groups stepped forward to help, including Happy Tails, Cats About Town and Field Haven in Lincoln. A great many individuals gave freely of their time, making numerous trips to the Meadowview area home to remove cats, transport them to vet appointments, shelters, fostering and more.

"The plan was: we (the Friends) pulled the cats

out, took them to the Sacramento SPCA for spaying, neutering, testing for leukemia and feline AIDS, and had them vaccinated and micro chipped," Goode said. "Others devoted time to making sure the cats were socialized. This way, every animal in the colony would be adoptable, and there would be absolutely no need to kill any of them."

The Friends employed two rescue strategies: one group of cats was altered, processed and sent out to other groups, the other was altered, processed and sheltered at the Wag Hotel in West Sacramento.

"If it wasn't for Wag and the SPCA, we couldn't have done this," Goode said. "It wouldn't have worked. The SPCA was phenomenal...they rearranged entire schedules to spay and neuter the cats... Wag is equally amazing. They have housed them in their special 'cat condos' for weeks, hosted adoption events at their facility and supported this effort all the way. It's a beautiful facility and we highly recommend them to anyone who needs to board their pet."

An additional concern – and one of the reasons the Friends moved to take action so quickly – was the large number of black cats.

"There are tabbies, calicoes, seal points, tortoiseshell cats...and a large number of beautiful black cats," Goode said. "What many people are not aware of is that there is a bias in county shelters nationwide against black cats and dogs. They believe that these animals are unadoptable, simply because of the color of their fur. These animals are often killed immediately, and never make it to the public for adoption. We want to show everyone that – not only can a large population of animals be adopted out – it is also unnecessary to kill black cats and dogs. They make wonderful, beautiful pets. Don't write them off."

Upcoming adoption days: Nov. 8, 15

There are two more adoption days planned at the Wag Hotel in West Sacramento. Those interested in adopting a cat are encouraged to visit the pet resort on Nov. 8 and Nov. 15 between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Each cat has already been altered, had all its vaccinations and has been micro chipped. The price for adoption is a bargain: \$30 for one cat, \$40 for a pair. If, for any reason, an adoption doesn't "work out," the Friends of the Sacramento City Shelter Animals, Inc. will accept animals back. The purpose is to find homes where both felines and families can thrive. The Wag Hotel is located at 1759 Enterprise Blvd. in West Sacramento, just off Highway 50.

"It's wonderful to see an animal go to a hopefully forever home," said Georgann Eberhardt, Friend volunteer and Curtis Park resident. "I love animals. They deserve to have a happy life. After all, they live on this planet, just like we do, too."

"To me, that's the greatest success," Monahan said. "One hundred forty cats rescued and not one euthanized."

Twirling the "bird fishing pole" above a collected group of cats and sporting a t-shirt declaring "All cat owners know no one owns a cat," Nakata-Harper is pleased to be a part of this grass-roots community effort.

"It feels so good to be able to do this," she said as Toby and then Batman each took a swipe at the fluttering toy. "Especially given the cutbacks at the county shelter. These are the most affectionate cats. If this rescue hadn't happened, everyone would have been euthanized at the house and stuffed in barrels. We just couldn't let that happen."

For more information about the Friends of the Sacramento City Shelter Animals, Inc., or to make a donation to support their animal rescue efforts, visit www.saccityshelter.com.

- Susan Laird



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The amazing effort of this united group of animal lovers and organizations is bearing fruit: of the original 140 kitties, there are just 22 who still need homes.

"These aren't cats that were 'passed over,'" Goode said. "These are simply the last ones to come out of the house. They are just as sweet and friendly as the first ones to be rescued."

Three cats have special needs.

Courtney is a seven month old medium-haired female cat with a "very sweet temperament." A severe heart murmur was detected during spaying. She has no signs of heart trouble, but it would be best for her to be adopted out to a home that has the resources for regular vet checkups and possible future treatment.

Batman (male) and Zola (female) are a bonded pair. They are shy and need to be adopted out together to

a home where the cats can be worked with or become "barn cats."

The Friends are conscientious in their efforts to see that each animal is properly socialized, healthy and placed in a good home.

"I'm glad the effort is being taken to rehabilitate them," said Sophia Pearson, Friend volunteer and Curtis Park resident. "When you work with them, you get to know each cat. They have their names written on their collars, and soon you know their personalities."

"They are very happy with each other. I like that," said Scott Smith, Friend volunteer, "cat whisperer" and Arden Carmichael area resident. "Yes, it's hard to let them go, but it's great to see them go to great homes. The great thing about the adoption open houses is that you get to meet the people who come to visit, play and adopt."

Connecting with the City Council, the community

By **ROBBIE WATERS**
Sacramento City Councilmember
Special to The Pocket News

Peripheral canal and Bay Delta Conservation Plan update

The State of California plan for a peripheral canal to convey water around the Delta, ultimately to the Bay Area and Southern California, and 5 new water intakes on the Sacramento River continues to move forward. The state's two proposed intake sites across from the Pocket area in Yolo County are still in consideration but they do not appear to be the preferred intake locations for the state at this time and have had no geotechnical exploration work to date. Several sites from Clarksburg south to Walnut Grove have had geotechnical exploration work performed in October.

The project, known as "BDCP," continues to move forward and the preferred intake locations could change again. The Draft Environmental Impact Report has been delayed and is now anticipated to be released in late 2010. For more information on this project, visit the project website at www.baydelta-conservationplan.com or see my website and join my email list.

Freeport regional water project test pumping

As the construction of the new water intake next to South Pocket winds down, test pumping is underway and nearly finished. The \$1 billion project is slated to begin pumping water to East Bay Municipal Utility District in the spring when the Folsom South Canal connector point is completed. The bike trail on the levee is anticipated to re-open in the spring when access to the public plaza at the water intake structure is available. EBMUD and Sacramento County Water Agency are planning a Grand Opening event for their facility in April.

Neighborhood Resource Team

The next meeting of the NRT is Wednesday, Nov. 18,

at 6 p.m. at the Pannell Center at 24th and Meadowview. We discuss neighborhood concerns in the police and code areas and meet with city staff. If you have an on-going issue in your neighborhood with crime, this is the place to go. The Area 2 Community Partnership Meeting will follow at 7 pm.

Kennedy High School theatre

Construction on the new theatre at Kennedy High School is expected to be complete after the first of the year. The Performing Arts Center will be just under 14,000 square feet and seat 465 persons. The entrance foyer will be on the east side of the building, facing the main school campus.

Green waste containerization passes 80 percent

The City now has approximately 80 percent of its green waste customers participating in the voluntary green waste containerization program. The total number of containerized customers is almost 90,000. The phenomenal success of this program has resonated with residents who like a clean street, want to be environmentally friendly and keep green waste out of the water stream and those who prefer the reduced rate on their utility bill.

Friends of the Library meeting

Friends of the Sacramento Public Library, Pocket-Greenhaven Branch will next meet on Thursday, Nov. 19 from 6:30-8 p.m. The meetings are

open to the public and you are encouraged to attend. The location is the library at Martin Luther King Jr. K-8 School at 480 Little River Way.

District 7 breaks e-mail list record

With your help, we did it. A couple months ago, we asked for your help to get a few more subscribers and break the 1,000 barrier. In early October, we broke the 1,000 mark and are well on our way to having 1,100 subscribers! If you or someone you know is interested in becoming more informed about community events and happenings, sign up for District 7 email alerts on the District 7 website. If you need help, call my office at 808-7338.

Neighborhood traffic management program

If your neighborhood has multiple traffic concerns, consider the NTMP which the city offers. This program can provide a comprehensive, neighborhood-wide approach with input from neighbors. I strongly recommend this program for neighborhood traffic issues. Look at the city's website or call my office for more information.

Captain Jerry Traffic safety

This program is designed to teach elementary school age children about traffic safety in a fun and interactive atmosphere. Presenters teach the children about bicycle safety, bus safety, seatbelt safety, and signal/crosswalk safety. At no cost to any of the City's ele-

mentary schools, the Captain Jerry Team presents the Traffic Safety Program to more than 10,000 children annually, teaching them about staying safe on the streets. For more information, or if you would like your child's school to receive a visit from the Captain Jerry program, please contact John "Bucky" Perez at 808-7607.

Keeping our quality of life

Are you concerned about lacking upkeep on nearby properties? Suspect criminal activity at a certain address? Have a vehicle parked on the street for more than the 72-hour limit? 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-friendly neighborhood and crime and/or blight will not be tolerated.

Need more information?

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

Boards and Commissions

For a list of openings on city Boards and Commissions,

check the city Web page at www.cityofsacramento.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.

Councilmember Waters' mailing address is City Hall, 915 I Street, 5th Floor, Sacramento, Calif. 95814. Phone is 808-7338. E-mail is rwaters@cityofsacramento.org. Web site is www.cityofsacramento.org/council then choose "Robbie Waters."



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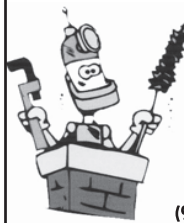
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erside Blvd., hosts the annual event as a safe and free evening for the entire community. In addition to the free food, games, candy and bounce house, the church also held a pumpkin-carving contest.
All photos by Pocket News photographer Stephen Crowley.

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Mayor Johnson gives city update at Sacramento State

By ART GERMAN
Pocket News Writer
vcnnews@valcomnews.com

An ebullient Mayor Kevin Johnson told a capacity audience of more than 300 at Sacramento State University at the end of last month that he's working full tilt to build "a bigger and better" Sacramento and that his current proposal for a strong mayor government organization is at the heart of his plans for the city's future.

Johnson was the Oct. 23 speaker at the weekly forum sponsored by the Renaissance Society, a learning-in-retirement program based at the university.

When the one-hour session was over, Johnson received a standing ovation from the overflow crowd. At the outset, staff had to put several dozen temporary seats on stage and at the rear of the Hinde Auditorium in the Student Union to accommodate the audience.

Harriette Work, last year's Renaissance Society president, introduced Johnson. She noted that the mayor - who first achieved prominence as an NBA basketball star - had grown up in Sacramento and has devoted his years in the capital city to public service.

In his talk, Johnson listed major issues that he said are currently facing Sacramento, including where to relocate the Kings' current Arco Arena basketball home; restoring the K Street mall as a vibrant downtown hub; increasing the powers of the mayor; how to handle the city's recent approval of more

than 30 home building sites in Natomas; and how to provide shelter for Sacramento's homeless.

Johnson said he's been inspired over the years by a number of prominent role models with whom he's come in contact. Among them have been John Wooden, the legendary long-time UCLA basketball coach, who recently turned 99 years of age; the late Sen. Ted Kennedy; and Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas. Johnson noted that he's a Democrat, but found Thomas' support of charter schools to be inspiring, though Thomas is a Republican and a conservative. Before he was elected Sacramento's mayor last year, Johnson founded St. Hope Academy, which has taken over the old Sacramento High public school and has improved student performance as a non-profit charter school.

Johnson said Kennedy, Thomas and Wooden, in different ways, have urged him to become part of the community, to vote, to make a difference, and eventually to give back to the community.

"I learned that you have to be open minded to different ideas," he added.

Among current issues now facing the city of Sacramento, Johnson gave first place to his current proposal, due to go before voters next year, to replace the current council-city manager style of municipal management with a strong mayor system. This would permit Johnson, as mayor, to make many of the day-to-day decisions that are

now made by the city manager.

"We currently have a population of 470, 000," he said. "In the U.S., cities of that size mostly have a strong mayor system. It enables the mayor to make important decisions quickly, and at the same time be accountable for them."

He said new decisions also are needed to deal with the stagnation along the K Street mall, including re-opening the thoroughfare to auto traffic.

"Sacramento will never be a world class city," he said, "if it has a downtown that looks as it does now." He noted that one closed store on K Street displays a sign that says, "... Coming Soon"

"The sign has been there four years," Johnson added. "It (the new store) is not coming."

He said he is concerned that large stores have been locating outside Sacramento because there is a lack of suitable space near downtown, such as Ikea, which has opened, along with several other major companies, in West Sacramento. Stores opening in West Sacramento - in Yolo County - represent a substantial tax loss to Sacramento city and county.

The long-pending issue of where to build a new Sacramento Kings basketball arena also has profound implications, Johnson said. The site should be within the city, he added, "and I do not believe it should be at Cal Expo. It would not be in the best interests of the city to have it there. Instead, the rail yard



Phyllis Mills, Renaissance Society member and retired dean of the CSUS School of Health and Human Services, meets with Mayor Kevin Johnson last month at the weekly forum sponsored by the Renaissance Society.

(adjacent to downtown) is a real possibility."

He said that within the next three months he will present a plan to keep the Kings in Sacramento.

"We do not want to lose them," he said.

Johnson said that plans are being finalized to provide shelter for 150 homeless persons and to deal with the city's recent granting of building permits for more than 30 Natomas homes on sites that lack adequate flood protection.

In the Natomas case, the mayor said an audit is needed to see if something illegal occurred. "We can't penalize

the residents for mistakes the city makes," he said.

At the meeting's close, Renaissance members flocked around the mayor, mostly to shake his hand. Among those who moved on to the stage were Phyllis Mills, a Greenhaven-Pocket area resident who is retired dean of the CSUS School of Health and Human Services; and Mel Bisgay of East Sacramento, a retired aeronautics executive who has been active during recent years as a legislative advocate for the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Both agreed that Johnson gave a "great" presentation.

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CALENDAR

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Is your club, group, church, school, or organization having an upcoming event? Let us know. Send information about your event—including date, time, location, a brief description, cost (if any), and contact information—to Calendar, c/o Valley Community Newspapers, 2709 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95818, or e-mail ryanrose@valcomnews.com. Deadline is one week before publication. Priority is given to events that are in the community and/or of little or no cost. There is no guarantee that events submitted will appear in the calendar. To ensure placement within the newspaper, please call 429.9901 to place an advertisement.

NOVEMBER

Trip to Spain

Join Norma Petta, Spanish instructor and tour guide, for a lively discussion on travel to Spain. From the festive squares of Madrid to the Sierra Nevada foothills and the Mediterranean coastline, this journey through Spain showcases a landscape as intricate as its history and people. Immerse yourself in the unique culture and traditions of each region. Nov. 18th at 6:30 pm at Oakmont

High School, 1710 Cirby Way, Portable 33 in Roseville and on Nov. 19th in Sacramento location TBA. Call Norma at (916) 457-1220 or go to ask_norma@spaineasy.com

Hart Ping Pong Players

We are excited to announce yet another new way to have fun and get your heart pumping at the Ethel Hart Center: PING PONG! Also called table tennis, ping pong is FUN, competitive, and strengthens your hand-eye coordination. This Olympic sport features light balls and paddles and is easy to learn. Sessions will be held Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Free. Register in advance by phoning 808-5462. Ethel Hart Center 915 27th Street Sacramento 95816.

Looking for candidates

Currently, Todd Migliaccio, a professor at California State University, Sacramento (Sacramento State) is conducting a study about family and longevity in marriage. He is interested in videotaping interviews with couples or individuals who have been married for over 30 years. The topics will cover a range of experiences that are related to relationships, marriage and family over time, including dating, love, marriage, kids, as well

as a host of other experiences couples encounter in a marriage. If you are interested in being interviewed at the Ethel Hart Center, located at 915 27th Street Sacramento to 95816, please feel free to contact Todd at tmigliac@csus.edu or (916) 278-7573.

NOVEMBER 5

Latino Dance and Culture Group

Come dance to the beat of all types of Latin music! Featured DJ music and delicious Mexican food! Held at the Ethel Hart Community Center, 915 27th St., from 6:15-8:45 p.m. Suggested donation: \$3. For more information, call Barbara Alarcon 400-4514.

NOVEMBER 6

Bake Sale

Asian Community Center 2009 Craft and Bake Sale will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday, Nov. 6, at the ACC Greenhaven Terrace, 1180 Corporate Way. Handmade crafts, jewelry, garden plants, white elephant items, fruit, baked goods, chili and ben-tos will be sold. Proceeds support the programs and services at ACC Park City, ACC Nursing Home and ACC Greenhaven Terrace. For more information, contact Khonie Lattasima at (916) 9026 Ext. 325 or visit <http://www.accs.org/ca/index.php>.

NOVEMBER 7

Jensen Garden Workday Volunteers

The Friends of the Jensen Botanical Garden hold garden work days one Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The next workday is Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009. Bring work gloves, hand pruners and your lunch. Come join with other volunteers to keep the garden beautiful all year. The next workday in 2009 is Dec. 5. The Jensen Garden is located at 8520 Fair Oaks Blvd. in Carmichael. For more info: Tracy Kerth (916) 485-5322 ex23 or email tracy@carmichaelpark.com.

Old City Cemetery tour

Explore some of the diseases of the Gold Rush and visit the final resting place of the multi-talented physicians who cared for their patients on this Saturday morning tour of the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery. Led by Dr. Bob LaPerriere, this tour will offer an interesting perspective on Gold Rush history. The tour commences at 10 a.m. from the Cemetery's main gate at Broadway and 10th Street. Visitors may park across the street from the 10th Street Gate and meet at the cemetery entrance. For tour information, please call (916) 448-0811. Tours are free, though donations for the restoration of the cemetery are greatly needed and appreciated.

Holiday Craft Faire

It's hard to believe, but it's time to start thinking about shopping for those special gifts and holiday decorations. Our vendors offer unique gifts and decorations for all your holiday needs. If you have items to sell, don't forget to reserve your spot at the hottest faire in town! Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608 (916) 972-0336 or go to morp.com. The event will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is free.

NOVEMBER 8

Veterans Day concert

Sacramento Youth Symphony, Premier Orchestra will produce a special event, a salute to Veterans Concert on Sunday, November 8th, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. at Hiram Johnson High School, 6879 14th Ave. Tickets: Veterans and active military will be offered a ticket for \$5 with military ID or uniform. Other tickets cost \$10-15 dollars. Students 10 and under free. Call 916-731-5777 for ticket information.

Chili by the River

The St. Joseph's Parish is getting ready to hold its first annual Chili Cook-Off and annual harvest craft fair. The cook-off, promising fiery competition and fun, will be held on November 8th between 9 am and 12:30 pm on the lawn of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 32890 South River Road in Clarksburg. The harvest craft fair will be held simultaneously with the chili cook-off and will feature a wide variety of holiday and every day gift items. The gift fair will continue until 3 p.m. Admission to both events is free. For further information, call 916-421-9615.

NOVEMBER 9

Geranium Society Meeting

Carmichael Geranium Society November Meeting is Friday November 9, 2009 at Carmichael Community Clubhouse, 5750 Grant Avenue, Carmichael. Program - Lydia Riebel - Holiday Floral Decorations 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Visitors welcome - free. All displays will be raffled at end of meeting

NOVEMBER 12

"Hats and Wraps for the Holidays"

Held Nov. 12 at Casa Restaurant (2760 Sutterville Rd.), the "Hats and Wraps for the Holidays" is a special event supporting the Sacramento Children's Home. The event presents Carol Culp and Drin Welker and Casa's Mary Weaver, who

have created hats and wraps that are both attractive and functional. Seatings are at 11:15 a.m. or 1:15 p.m. Tickets are \$20. Main entries are a Chicken in Filo with mixed green salad or a chipotle caesar salad with chicken. Dessert is chocolate torte with raspberry coulis. For more information, call 452-2809.

Computer club meeting

The Mission Oaks Computer Club will meet on November 12, from 1-3 p.m. at the Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Drive, Carmichael, CA. Microsoft rep Jeffrey Aziz will provide an introduction to Windows 7, Microsoft's next Windows operating system. A problem-solving clinic, led by Adam Lacey of Applications, Etc, will follow the meeting. First-time visitors are welcome. For additional information call (916) 366-1687 or visit our Web site at www.missionoakscomputerclub.org.

NOVEMBER 13

Jewelry Sale

The Senior Center at Sierra 2 and Cure Arthritis Now host the first annual jewelry sale on Friday, November 13, from 11 to 2 pm at Sierra 2 (2791 24th St). We are asking for community support to make this event a success. Help by donating costume or other jewelry to the sale. (We accept broken bits and beads for sale to crafters.) Apply to participate as a jewelry vendor at this event. Questions? Call the Senior Center at 455 6339 or Cure Arthritis Now at 208 8700. Looking forward to seeing you at the event!

NOVEMBER 14

E-waste recycle day

Bring your old computers, TVs and other e-waste and the Boy Scouts and California Electronic Asset Recovery (CEAR) will recycle it safely. And all for free. The event is happening Saturday, Nov. 14, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at St. Mel's Catholic Church, 4745 Pennsylvania Ave., Fair Oaks, (near corner of Sunrise Blvd. and Sunset Ave.). Questions? Want to arrange a pick-up (if you've got big items or you're a business)? Contact ponyexpress@surewest.net.

Fe Galley art reception

Kris A Johnson will be the guest artist for November. She will join Mental Artist Stephen Lyman and Fused Glass Artist Sheena Wolfe for our November 14 Second Saturday reception from 5-9 p.m. There will be an art demonstration at 7:30 p.m. Fe Gallery is located at 1100 65th Street (north of Folsom Blvd., corner of 65th and Elvas), East Sacramento. For more information about the artists and the gallery visit www.FeGallery.com or call, (916) 456-4455. Daytime gallery hours are currently from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to noon. The current show will run through-out November.

Indian Classical fusion

The Sacramento City College Music Department will present the Nada Brahma Music Ensemble in an evening of Indian Classical Fusion improvisation on the following evening in Sacramento: 8 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 14, Sacramento Yoga Center, Room 6 in the Sierra 2 Center, 2791 24th St. Admission for each evening is \$5-\$20 (sliding scale). For more information, contact Rob Knable, SCC Music Department Chair at 558-2515.



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WHEN: Thursday, Nov. 12, 7 - 8:30 PM
WHERE: Sierra 2 Community Center
2791 24th St, Sacramento 95818
COST: \$25 per family

2 November 19 SCHOLARSHIPS - HOW DO I FIND THEM?

In this workshop, you will learn how to find scholarships, how to apply for them, and how to write scholarship essays.

WHEN: Thursday, Nov. 19, 7 - 8:30 PM
WHERE: Sierra 2 Community Center
2791 24th St, Sacramento 95818
COST: \$25 per family

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marilyn@college-gps.com • (916) 601-6909

See more Calendar, page 29

Calendar

Continued from page 28

NOVEMBER 14

Holiday Boutique

Parkside's annual Holiday Boutique will be held on Saturday, November 14 from 9-4pm and Sunday, November 15 from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Unique hand-crafted gift items will be available for purchase including ceramics, hand-turned wooden items, soaps, hand-crocheted baby

blankets, jewelry, ribbon bows and wreaths and Parkside's very own cookbook. Parkside Community Church is located at 5700 S. Land Park Dr. at the corner of 35th Avenue and S. Land Park Drive in Sacramento. For more information, please call 916-421-0492 or visit www.parksideucc.org.

NOVEMBER 14-15

Sale and fashion show

Sacramento Center for Textile Arts' annual Sale and Fashion Show will be November 14-15 at the Shepard Garden & Arts Center, 3330 McKinley

Blvd. Fashion show is Nov. 14 at 10 a.m. Sale is 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, contact Vera Latimer at vlatimer@comcast.net.

Alternative Christmas Market

Choose from a selection of Benevolence Gifts from several local and international charities. Handcrafted gifts by native artisans from Third World Countries will be sold. Fremont Presbyterian Church, 5770 Carlson Dr. Sacramento: 9:30a.m. to 1:00p.m. Free admission. (916) 452-7132. Visit www.fremontpres.org.

See more Calendar, page 30



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NOVEMBER 17

Memory screenings

Primrose Living with Memory Loss to hold free memory screenings as national event stresses importance of proper detection. Individuals concerned about memory problems can take advantage of free screenings as part of National Memory Screening Day, a national initiative of the Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA) to promote proper detection of Alzheimer's disease and related illnesses, and successful aging. Event held Tuesday, Nov. 17, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Primrose, 7707 Rush River Dr. For more information, call 392-3510.

NOVEMBER 18

At Blue Moon Gallery

The gallery is holding a special event: "Of Travelers, Cats & Kings," works for Harpsichord performed by Alex Ives. The event is Wednesday, November 18, 7:30 p.m. Donations to benefit CSUS Baroque Ensemble, 2353 Albatross Way. For more information, call 920-2444.

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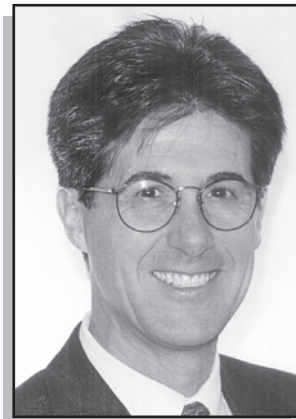
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