THE POCKET NEWS

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One-time Pocket veterinarian 'Dr. Jim' releases latest book

Local vet now best-selling author James Rollins returns to medical roots for new plot

Special List: Important Pocket events of 2010

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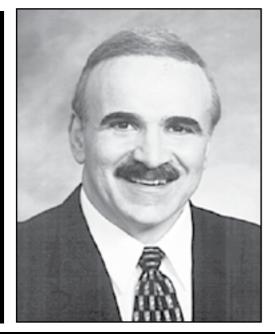
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Pocket News Photo/Susan Laird

Embraced by his loving family, sporting a cap knit by the Mad Hatters and swaddled in a blanket proclaiming him the "First Baby of 2010, Mercy General Hospital," little Kymani Wynne is the first baby born in Sacramento County for 2010. Left to right, Si'Ala Wynne, Matthew Moa, Sitaniselao Wynne, Kymani Wynne and Ulyessia Wynne.

Meet a new neighbor

First baby of Sacramento County born at East Sac's Mercy General Hospital

By SUSAN LAIRD Pocket News Writer susan@valcomnews.com

Little Kymani Wynne was the first baby in Sacramento County to come into the world on New Year's Day. He was born at Mercy General Hospital at 12:06 a.m.

Mom Ulyessia Wynne checked in to the hospital some three hours earlier with dad Matthew Moa. When the moment came for Kymani to make his grand entrance into the world, the nurses at Mercy General let Matthew deliver his youngest son.

Kymani weighed in at 7 pounds and was 20 inches long.

"This is the first one I've delivered," Matthew said with a smile.

Ulyessia was delighted that their son was the first baby born in Sacramento County for

"It feels good," Ulyessia said. "I'm going to tell him that he was the first to rock the city."

Among Kymani's first visitors were his two older brothers, Sitaniselao (age three) and Si'Ale (age one), and their grandmothers, Karla Wynne and Toa Uhatafe. The grandmothers live only a block apart in South Sacramento.

"It's a special bond between us," said Toa. "We have a special friendship as grandmas."

"It's a relief to have him here," said Karla. "He's the first male baby to be born here in the Sacramento area. That's exciting, to be a part of history."



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.. George Macko

Results are in: Kennedy High can food drive a success

By MELANIE YOSHIHARA Kennedy High School Student Special to The Pocket News

Thank you so much to everyone for your support in the 2009 KCRA 3 Kids Can Food Drive at John F. Kennedy High School. The high school's California Scholarship Federation club conducted the effort.

Our community total came to 3.320 food items and Malto-Meal and Food Source generously donated 3,870 items, ending with a grand total of 7,190 items of food.

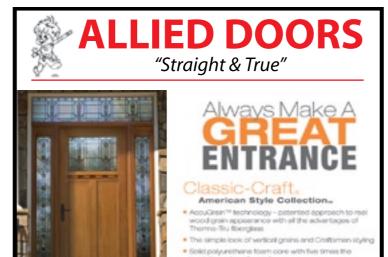
A big thanks goes out to all participants, the community, IFK students and staff, and the local businesses for their generous donations.

Special thanks also goes out to Mrs. Brown, Mr. Allen, and the South Sacramento Interfaith Partnership, and the California Scholarship Federation advisor, Ms. Alexander, and the vice presidents of Activities, Megan Yee and Natalie Okuhara, for all of their generous contributions and implementing this food drive. It was a fantastic team effort. Mrs. Brown from the SSIP Food Closet has reported that the food that was collected is already being distributed to the community. Thank you all so much.





The Kennedy High School community donated 3,320 food items and Malt-o-Meal and Food Source generously donated 3,870 items. The school received a grand total of 7,190 items of food.



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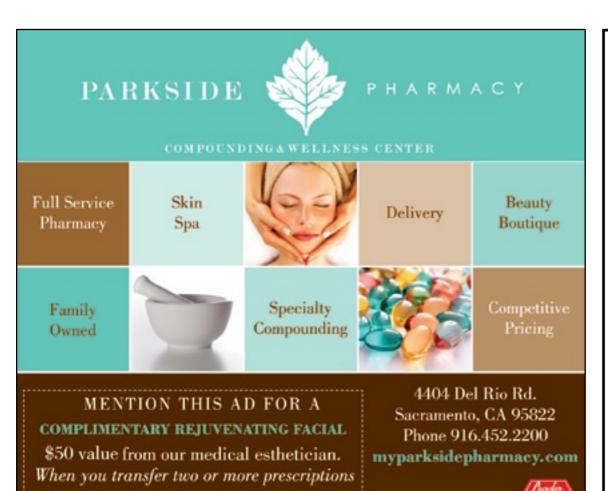
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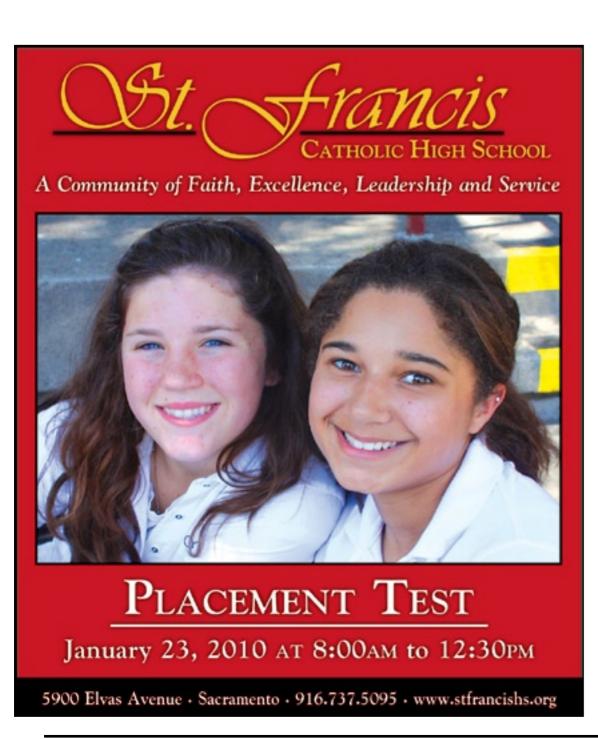
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Senior moments be gone

By DARBY PAT'TERSON Pocket News Columnist vcnnews@valcomnews.com

There is a common misconception that loss of mental acuity is a necessary corollary of the aging process. In fact, Sacramento's only daily newspaper carried a story recently broadcasting that popular belief. Pam Flohr, a member of the county's Adult and Aging Commission, very nicely set the editors straight on this issue, but the belief prevails and, I believe, creates a self-perpetuating situation that's not at all healthy.

It's very easy to accept and excuse changes in memory and responsiveness as age advances. After a certain decade, it's not uncommon to hear jokes about "senior moments." I do not find this trifle amusing and I never have — even as a younger woman. Perhaps it's because I've had lapses of memory for my entire life and find little difference now. Let me illustrate:

In high school there was a regular contingent (mostly from the music department) who would show up after early morning orchestra practice to deliver what I'd left behind in the cafeteria before class. Usually, it was my purse. I clearly recall losing a lovely yellow cardigan that was a Christmas present, the first day I wore it to school. Santa was not happy and never forgot. I lost gloves and hats (life threatening in a Minnesota winter) and went on to become a chronic loser of house keys, car keys, cars in parking lots, library books and whatever was figuratively not attached to my body.

Rather than become more acute, this loser syndrome has subsided with age. Now, it's usually just car keys – and they are misplaced, not lost. Like so many people, I've learned to compensate for a weakness and have it better under control now than ever before. I certainly don't attribute anything to "senior moments" and I urge you to also purge that expression from your vocabulary.

Consequently, I was very excited when I ran across a study published by the American Society on Aging in 2006. It was written by Gene D. Cohen, Ph.D., who recently passed away after many years of studying the aging process. The research, funded by a grant, drew upon numerous studies along with control group studies with older people at sites across the nation. Most fascinating for me – due to my passion for the arts – is that it focuses the positive impact that involvement in the arts can have upon the brain as we age. The results are physical (new pathways and connections that build in the brain), emotional (a heightened sense of well being), and social (a strong network of friends and acquaintances).

When we create and master something new, our sense of well being is enhanced. Doing a painting, learning a dance, performing music, participating in an arts activity shows that we are, indeed, capable of doing or learning something new. This success tells our brains that we have greater control of our lives. There are many other physiological changes that accompany participation in the arts as we age. It doesn't seem to matter what your creative weapon is - dancing is great as is singing in a choir. People benefit from painting, sculpting, working with fabric, wood carving - there is no limit to the artistic medium. The key ingredients include the challenge to do something new, interaction with other people in the activity and a sense of accomplishment. Together, there is real evidence these elements combine to build brain power, a positive attitude and improved health in the second half of life.

Darby Patterson is a member of the Sacramento County Adult and Aging Commission and the author of "meow.org, The Cat-Napping Caper." Visit Darby at www.storiesandbooks.com.

Cats have nine lives, but only one family

By ELIZABETH X. WONG Special to The Pocket News

Lucky cats were rescued by human friends in the story writtten by Susan Laird in The Pocket News and The Land Park News (Nov. 5 and Nov. 12, respectively).

I am compelled to share a similar story about another group effort to return a cat back to her family. Although she is only one cat compared to the 140 felines rescued in Susan Laird's story, it still did take many caring people to bring her safely home. Both the animal shelter and our vets told us that we were extremely lucky to have this happy ending. I hope our story will help other families to become extra watchful for small changes in our independent senior cats.

'Bravada" is our 14-year-old cat on thyroid medication. She appeared disoriented for a few days before wandering off during a freezing winter night earlier this month. When we phoned the City of Sacramento Animal Shelter, city budget cuts automatically transferred the call to a "311" number. Brandon answered and was sympathetic, but informed us that the shelter is closed both Sunday and Monday. He suggested e-mailing and checking the shelter's Web site, http:// www.cityofsacramento.org/generalservices/animal-care, in hopes that she may have been picked up.

And there she was on page eight of the Web site! The page announced: "You will find me in kennel CA16. I am a female tortie Domestic Shorthair. I have been at the shelter since Dec 04, 2009. ID#A328312."

Worried about the previous freezing nights outdoors and then if medication became delayed a week late, our concerned vets at Mueller Pet Medical Center (in Land Park) also left a phone



Bravada jumps for the poinsettias at Mueller's Pet Medical Center in Land Park while being held by owner

message at the shelter. The best solution was to try to deliver the medication to the locked up shelter on Front Street. Once there, I spotted a shadow through the window and shouted until they rolled up the metal gate. Wordfor-word, the animal officer listened to my pleas - to the point of asking me inside to identify my missing cat and applying the medication myself. What helped was my folder with Bravada's missing cat poster, her vet's record, and the pharmacy prescription. As the officer was taking a photo of my tearful goodbye with Bravada back inside kennel CA 16, she said, "Stay here. Let me talk to my boss." Upon returning to the kennel, she smiled, "Have an early Christmas present. Your cat can go home with you, NOW."

During the week as Bravada settled down back at home, I called the shelter's number to thank them. Who answers the "311" call – it's Brandon again! He remembered all the earlier frantic calls from us and the vet in search for the lost cat, and this time offered to track down the name of the kind officer working that Sunday, Dec. 6: Kim.

The last person missing in this puzzle is the alert neighbor who spotted Bravada and called the animal shelter for help. That is the only clue as to who this person may be. Bravada was found on Hidden Lake Circle. Maybe he/she will recognize our cat from the photo. When brought into the shelter, Bravada was too weak to even hold up her own head in the mug shot. After a comprehensive overnight stay at the vet's, she was ready to leap toward the poinsettias.

We want to say thank you to all for giving us the best Christmas present: our family cat.



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Local Elks Lodge No. 6 has extensive history in Sacramento

By LANCE ARMSTRONG
Pocket News Writer
lance@valcomnews.com

The Sacramento Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Lodge No. 6 is undoubtedly an organization that is woven into the fabric of the Pocket community. But those who are unfamiliar with this local organization prior to its existence just south of Land Park in the Pocket are unaware that the local Elks have a much richer history.

Álthough Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6 established a noteworthy history at its current home at 6446 Riverside Blvd., downtown Sacramento was home to the lodge for the majority of its existence.

The lodge, which is now one of more than 2,000 lodges that make up one of the largest and most active fraternal organizations in the world, is undeniably one of the capital city's oldest organizations.

Lodging in Sacramento

Founded in the capital city in 1877, the lodge initially met in downtown Sacramento and operated for about two years before the charter was rescinded for what the lodge refers to as "what can be inferred to as prostitution."

The lodge was re-chartered as Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 328 on Dec. 21, 1895 with a variety of members,

including some of the community's most prominent individuals.

The official establishment of the rechartered lodge was celebrated in the dining room of the prominent Golden Eagle Hotel at 627 K St.

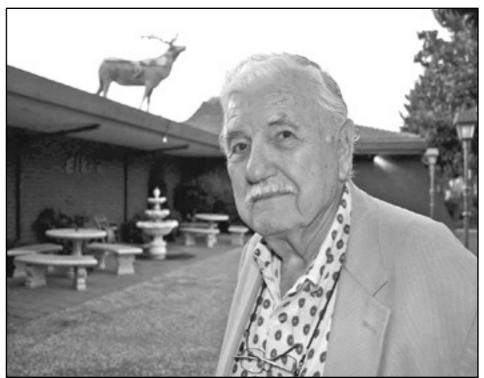
Members of the local Elks lodge, which regained its original charter number in 1908, met in various places during the lodge's early years, including the site of its first gathering as Lodge No. 328 at Foresters' Hall at 716 I St. and at the Ruhstaller building, which still stands at 902 J St., across from Cesar Chavez Plaza.

The first officers of the re-chartered lodge were installed in April 1896 and included: J.N. Larkin, exalted ruler, Charles N. Post, esteemed leading knight, J.A. Nelson, esteemed loyal knight, and G.B.N. Clow, esteemed lecturing knight.

In their everyday lives, Larkin worked as a police court clerk and owned the Sunday Leader newspaper at 305 J St., Post was the city's justice of peace and an attorney at law at 614 I St., Nelson was a laundryman at American Laundry at 19th and I streets and Clow was a physician at 531 K St.

At the time of the installation of new officers in April 1897, membership of the lodge had reached 137.

It was also in this year that the lodge made its first known visit to San Francisco Lodge No. 3, which entertained its Sacramento visitors.



Pocket News Photo/Lance Armstrop

Anthony M. Muljat, treasurer of Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6, has the longest tenure of any Sacramento Elks member, having joined the lodge 65 years ago. **See more photos of club members on page 10.**

The earliest known fraternal visit by an Elks lodge to Sacramento occurred on Oct. 17, 1898 when Stockton Lodge No. 218 was welcomed to the capital city by the Sacramento lodge.

Among the popular events of the Sacramento lodge during its earliest years was its minstrel shows, including its "Monster Minstrel Jubilee," which was held on May 2, 1898 at the

Metropolitan Theater on K Street, between 4th and 5th streets.

Elks find a home

After more than a decade of meeting at various sites, the Sacramento Elks opened their first "permanent" building at 824 J St. on July 3, 1906. The new temple's opening was celebrated

See Elks, page 7









Elks: 'It's very rewarding to be an Elk and help the kids'

with a public gathering, which was attended by many prominent people of

The 1923 book, History of Sacramento County, included the following report: "The Elks have a strong lodge in Sacramento with an elegantly equipped home on J Street, between 8th and 9th (streets). Recently the hall was remodeled at a considerable expense. The lodge is in very prosperous condition."

The report, however, was based on information that was outdated by about six years.

By 1922, due to the extreme growth of the local Elks membership and the inadequacies of the then-current building, an organization, called the Sacramento Elks Hall Association, was founded to construct a new Elks temple in Sacramento.

As a result of the association's efforts, a new, 226-foot-tall, brick and steel Elks temple was constructed at the northeast corner of 11th and I streets and dedicated as the new home of Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6 on June 22, 1926.

The 14-floor building, which was once recognized as the city's tallest structure, was not only a home for the Elks, but it also included about 100 hotel rooms, storefront spaces on the ground floor and a restaurant on the

In 1968, the 13th floor of the building became home to the newly created radio station, KZAP, which debuted on the FM dial as a free form station playing extremely vast offerings of music.

Additionally, the building once offered such amenities as a swimming pool and a steam room in the basement, an exercise room on the ground floor, a ballroom and main dining room on the second floor, a lodge room and reading room on the third floor and meeting, billiards and game rooms on the fourth floor.

Although many locals are familiar with McCormick and Schmick's Seafood Restaurant's existence on the ground floor of the building, many longtime residents of the area remember that the building once featured an entirely different restaurant, which was known as the Top of the Town.

The business, thus named for its location on the building's top floor, was known for its panoramic view of the city, its cocktail lounge and its overall attractive aesthetics and atmosphere.

Speaking about the grandness of the 11th and J Street Elks temple in 1926, Walter J. Hicks, exalted ruler of the Sacramento Elks Lodge, said, "I am not proud because we builded higher, not proud because we builded bigger, but proud because we have build-

ed a temple to Elkdome in the city of Sacramento, which already is becoming the topic of conversation wherever Elks congregate and which before long will be instrumental in placing the name of Sacramento on the lips of nearly every Elk throughout the na-

Off to Riverside Boulevard

Due to a decrease in membership during the 1950s and 1960s, the local Elks lodge failed to produce funds for upgrades required by the city's building department.

The Elks consequently sold the building in 1972 to local developer Buzz Oates, who soon afterward joined in a business partnership with Waltz Investment, Richard Benvenutti, William Cook and Dean Unger.

Following this group's ownership, the building underwent a variety of ownerships, as it fell in and out of es-

This pattern continued until May 2003, when current owners Steve and Mike Ayers committed to having the building renovated through the guidance of Peter B. Dannenfelser II of Architectural Arts.

Having sold the 11th and J streets building, Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6 began a new chapter in its history in the early 1970s, when it moved into its current home on Riverside Boulevard.

Although the Riverside Boulevard building does not have the grandiose exterior aesthetics of the 11th and J streets building, this Pocket area building, which encompasses about an acre of property, is nonetheless a high quality building with various amenities.

The main feature of the building is its combined rooms, which include the Riverside Room, the Florin Room and the Lodge Room. These rooms can also be opened up for use as one

Available for rentals, the combined rooms also include a 50-foot-by-50-foot hardwood dance floor and a 46-foot by

Available to all members is a fitness center, which includes an indoor pool, Jacuzzi, steam room, racquetball and handball courts and a weight room.

Other amenities include a library and meeting room, a lounge with a full bar and small dance floor, a patio and barbecue area, a kitchen and a game room.

Strength of the Elks

Local residents express a variety of reasons why they enjoy being Elks

South Land Park resident Rudy Toralez said that being an Elk is something very fulfilling.



The 83-year-old Elks Building at 11th and J streets in downtown Sacramento stands as one of the city's most prominent landmarks.

"The Elks is based on the benevolent people on Earth and they're giving and they have a lot of charities and as a (6th grade) schoolteacher, I have the same mantra as the Elks," Toralez said. "It's the perfect fit. I get involved with the scholarship program for youth and whichever other programs they need me to volunteer."

Kevin Soulis, a 1969 graduate of Christian Brothers High School and the Elks number one handball player for the past 30 years, said that he appreciates the opportunity that the lodge provides him with to play a sport that offers so many personal fitness advantages.

"You have to be athletic, you've got to be smart and you've got to be agile (to compete well at handball)," Soulis said. "It's a tremendous game."

The lodge's event coordinator, Pocket resident Marilyn Facha, said that she appreciates that as of about 15 years ago ladies were given the rights, via a historic vote, to become members of the lodge.

"It's very rewarding to be an Elk and help the kids and help the disabled," Facha said. "You're working for charities and Boy Scouts and veterans. It's very satisfying to do our activities and have everything come out well and it's just nice to support good causes."

Currently, the local Elks lodge is led by 16 officers, including Richard Cherry, exalted ruler, Ronald Brusato, esteemed leading knight, Lona Taggart, esteemed loyal knight, and Darnell Lawrence, esteemed lecturing

Additionally, Anthony M. Muljat serves as treasurer and the longest tenured member of the lodge, having joined the lodge 65 years ago.

Cherry said that Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6 is a great lodge to be a member of due to its many social benefits and service oriented projects.

"It is an organization that is social in nature, it's charitable and it's a great way to become involved in our community and other communities," Cherry said.

One-time Pocket vet 'Dr. Jim' releases new book

Local veterinarian now best-selling author returns to medical roots for latest book

Special to The Pocket News

With his new book "Altar of Eden," Pocket veterinarian-turnednationally renowned author James Rollins ("Dr. Jim" or "Jim Czajkowski" to former Pocket patient families) breaks away from the thriller writer pack and distinguishes himself as the authority on smart, science-based thrillers.

As a practicing doctor of veterinary medicine who studied evolutionary biology, Rollins uses his medical and scientific knowledge to write novels that meld cutting-edge science and technology with history and religion, and creates books that are as authentic and smart as they are entertaining.

Rollins is particularly close to this novel as the main protagonist is a veterinarian, a career he practiced for many years in the Pocket and still practices on a charity basis.

In his latest book, Rollins takes a step away from his wildly popular SIGMA series and delivers his first stand-alone thriller in more than five years with "Altar of Eden" (William Morrow, on sale now, ISBN 13: 9780061231421, \$27.99), a provocative look at genetic experimentation that includes the same breakneck pacing, gripping suspense and complex characters that make his SIGMA novels bestsellers.



Photo courtesy jamesrollins.com James "Dr. Jim" Rollins is particularly close to this novel as the main protagonist is a veterinarian, a career he practiced for many years in the Pocket and still practices on a charity basis.

The story

Following the fall of Baghdad, two Iraqi boys stumble upon armed men looting the city zoo. The floodgates are opened for the smuggling of hundreds of exotic birds, mammals, and reptiles to Western nations, but this crime hides a deeper secret as "Altar of Eden" begins. Amid a hail of bullets, a hidden underground weapons lab is ransacked and something even more horrific is set free. Seven years later, Louisiana state veterinarian Lorna Polk is called in for her expertise when

the Department of Homeland Security's Border Patrol unit uncovers a ring of black market smugglers at the U.S. border carrying puzzling cargo—conjoined twin monkeys, a lion cub with saber teeth, a featherless Amazon parrot.

While each animal seems to have a completely different mutation from the next, they all share one uncanny trait: super intelligence. With U.S. Marshall Jack Menard on her side, Lorna will uncover mysteries of fractal intelligence, genetic engineering, and a secret history tied to the Book of Genesis to expose a horrifying secret that traces back to mankind's earliest roots. In the face of global terror and a genetic nightmare, Lorna will have to risk all to survive.

Rollins explores how research into genetics and DNA the have spurred scientists to find out what makes humans human and how to manipulate intelligence through genetic experimentation. But more importantly, Rollins contemplates how scientific research and technology—if used by the wrong people—could produce appalling results.

"Dr. Jim" praised for new book

James Rollins and his SIGMA force series have grown in critical

JAMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR
JAMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR
ROLLINS
ALTAR
EDDEN

Photo courtesy jamesrollins.com In his latest book, former Pocket veterinarian James Rollins takes a step away from his wildly popular SIGMA series and delivers his first stand-alone thriller in more than five years with "Altar of Eden."

and commercial popularity, with the most recent entry in the series, "The Doomsday Key," hitting No. 2 on the New York Times bestseller list. Reviewers and peers alike have praised Rollins and the series, with the Chicago Sun-Times declaring "Rollins combines real-world science with high-octane action to create rousing stories of adventure that are as exciting as any movie."

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At the Janey Way Reunion: Front Row, left to right: Jim Todd, Barbara Relles, Mary Puccetti, Randy Puccetti, Pat Puccetti (his wife), Allison Puccetti (his daughter). Back Row, left to right: Terry Relles, Dave Jurin, Marty Relles, Tom Hart, Russell Sharp, John Tomassetti, Larry Simpson, John Relles, Dabby Todd. Not pictured: Jim Ducray.

'Janey Way Memories' come alive at reunion

On Dec. 27, 2009, the Janey Way gang of the mid-20th century held a reunion party at Randy Puccetti's Elk Grove home. Puccetti, a member of the gang of children that grew up in East Sacramento during the 1950s, 60s and 70s, hosted more than a dozen of the former residents of Janey Way, including Pocket News columnist Marty Relles.

Since July, Relles has been sharing his memories of his childhood in East Sacramento through his twice-monthly columns. The party, which featured good food, good wine and good stories, also connected Relles to a number of memories that will soon turn into future columns.

Of the reunion party, Relles said that while his childhood friends are now closer to 60 and a few retired, they are all still tightly connected, no matter how much time passes.

Read Marty Relles' column on the reunion party at the right. Photos by Pocket News editor Ryan

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Janey Way Memories



Reunion party: Good times, good friends



On Dec. 27, the Janey Way gang held a reunion party. We celebrated

50-plus years of friendship and adventure. After our childhood days in East Sacramento, our lives have swirled off in very different directions, but the bonds remain strong. Now, most of us are at or approaching 60 years of age. Some, like me, are retired; others continue to work at jobs they enjoy. No matter what, on this day we reminisced, laughed, told oft-repeated stories, drank a glass of wine and enjoyed the day.

It seems like only yesterday that we ran down the sidewalk on Janey Way and took a beeline into the pit (the abandoned sand and gravel pit that abutted Janey Way on the east). Now, St. Francis High School sits on the land that once was the pit. Forts we built, lost toys, my stolen Roadmaster bike and god only knows what else are buried in that hole. Ĭ can't help thinking that something special disappeared with the filling of the pit.

We also talked about poker games at the Ducray's house, ping pong on the Relles driveway, sand lot baseball in the vacant lot, roller derby at Phoebe Hearst School, one-onone basketball at St.

"These stories live on as a testament to our friendships and to the richness of our lives."

Mary's, the hub cap trick, the great beer heist, and the whole lexicon of stories that are Janey Way. During the time since these events occurred, we have lost some dear friends: Michael Gilson, Josie Tomassetti, Bernadette Tomassetti and Lynne Thomsen. We have married, divorced, re-married, raised children and now have grandchildren. The days of our youth are now long gone, but these stories live on as a testament to our friendships and to the richness of our lives.

We were blessed. We lived in a neighborhood where people looked after each other, not just a place where people drove home to after work or school. When Tom Harte and Dan Rosenblatt lost their fathers too early, people cared and looked out for them. When Michael Gilson lost his life in Viet Nam, we all attended his funeral and grieved for him. And, when people moved away from the neighborhood, we were saddened, but we kept in touch and have continued our friendships well into adult-

Reunion parties, like this one we held late last month, are tributes to the bonds that these friendships we have forged. We have all changed dramatically, but we have not forgotten where we came from and who our real friends are. The Janey Way memories live on and as long as I can remember them, I will continue to write about them.

Faces and places

At Pocket's Elks Lodge No. 6

The Sacramento Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Lodge No. 6, which is now one of more than 2,000 lodges that make up one of the largest and most active fraternal organizations in the world, is undeniably one of the capital city's oldest organizations.

The Elks Lodge No. 6, at its current home at 6446 Riverside Blvd., has deep roots in Sacramento, with members coming from across the region.

For additional information regarding Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6, including how to become a member, call (916) 422-6666.

To read the story on Elks Lodge No. 6, see page 6.



Pocket News Photo/Lance Armstrong

Women were allowed to become members of Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6 for the first time about 15 years. Above are a few of the lodge's current members, shown left to right: Roberta Davies, Cherylann Rapp, DeAnna Marwin, Dorothy Trapanese, Bernadine Watkins and Peggy Mello.



Pocket resident Miguel Anglada (left), a past Elks handball champion, and Kevin Soulis, the current handball champion, have been playing the sport for several decades



South Land Park resident Rudy Toralez, a Sacramento Elks member and a local 6th grade teacher, lifts weights at the lodge's fitness center.

butcher:

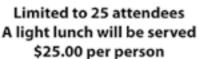
A person who prepares cuts of meat for sale or use in cooking.

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 $\label{eq:Quality} \mbox{ Quality So. Land Park home in quiet neighborhood. Walking distance to}$ neighborhood school. Tiled central entry, living room & family room overlooking patio & yard. Refinished hardwood floors, dual pane windows & doors throughout, plantation shutters, newerroof, dishwasher, water heater & HVAC. Master suite w/sliding glass door to patio. 2 car garage w/auto opener. See www.1388SanClementeWay.com \$319,000

ELAINE OWENS 747-8479



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CONNIE LANDSBERG 761-0411



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Peripheral Canal and Bay Delta Conservation Plan update

Information provided by City Councilman Robbie Waters

The State of California plan for a peripheral canal to convey water around the Delta, ultimately to the Bay Area and Southern California, and five 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 explora-tion work to date. Several sites from Clarksburg south to Walnut Grove have had geotechnical exploration work performed in Octo-

The project, known as "BDCP," continues to move forward and the preferred locations could change again. The Draft Environmental Impact Re-

port (DEIR) has been delayed and is now anticipated to be released in late 2010. For more information on this project, visit the project Web site at www.baydeltaconservationplan.com.

North Bay Aqueduct Alternative Intake Project

Meanwhile, yet another proposed water intake project has surfaced. This project seeks to locate a 240 cfs intake on the Yolo County side of the river immediately across from the Pocket area to supplement water taken from the river and sent to Napa and Solano Coun-

The California State Department of Water Resources is accepting public comments until Jan. 8 on this proposal as part of the public scoping process for the environmental doc-

Public scoping comments can be sent to the follow-

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ing address: Department of Water Resources, Attn: Rashid Ahmad, Room 538-6, 1416 Ninth Street, PO Box 942836, Sacramento CA 95814 or e-mail at rahmad@water.ca.gov.





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Mercy's Raynia Kinniston honored at special Casa Garden luncheon

On Dec. 15, Land Park resident Raynia Kinniston, 95, hosted a luncheon at the Casa Garden Restaurant, 2760 Sutterville Rd., for seven sisters of Mercy from East Sacramento's Mercy Hospital as well as other staff and volunteers. She was celebrating being the first recipient of Shawn Anderson's "Extra Mile America Award."

Anderson bicycled from San Francisco to Boston looking for ordinary people doing incredible things. Two-hundred people were interviewed and 10 were awarded with \$1,000 to reward their inspirational stories.

Kinniston has donated her award to the Mercy Hospital Foundation. She has been volunteering at the hospital since 1960.

Some of the money Kinniston received was used by her to host the luncheon. According to Kinniston, it was very important to her that the seven Catholic sisters that work at Mercy Hospital were celebrated and recognized with a nice meal.

Anderson is currently writing a book about his tour and the people he met. There will be a book signing at Mercy Hospital in February. For more information, e-mail Anderson at shawn@shawnanderson.com.



Pictured at the lunch honoring Raynia Kinniston: (On the left, from front to back) Vicki Diepenbrock, Sister Brigit McCarthy (president Mercy Foundation), Christine Anderson and (not visible) Pam Gartan; (On the right, from front to back) Dawn Suits, Sister Claire, Raynia Kinniston, Holly Forquer and Barbara Schor. (Inset: Raynia Kinniston)





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New arrivals bring smiles at Sacramento Zoo

Special to The Pocket News

The Sacramento Zoo recently welcomed Makan to the Sumatran orangutan group. Makan is 6 years old and was born at the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo in Colorado Springs. Makan arrived in Sacramento in September and following his quarantine in the veterinary hospital, he was introduced to the two female orangutans. The Sacramento Zoo, the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo and the Orangutan Species Survival Plan committee have been planning Makan's move for about a year.

In September, CMZ staff began the drive from Colorado to California with Makan safely tucked away in a large crate. When he arrived, he was moved into our Zoo's hospital quarantine area where he was monitored for any illnesses that could potentially be transmitted to resident animals. After he received a clean bill of health from the veterinarian, the young orangutan moved up to the Ape House to begin introductions to the exhibit and the resident orangutans.

Makan joined the Zoo's two older females: Cheli is 37 years old and Ginger, at 54 years old, is the oldest Sumatran orangutan in a U.S. 200. Right now, Makan looks like the females and weighs only 65 lbs. In a few years, he will go through a massive growth spurt, developing large amounts of muscle,

gaining close to 200 pounds, getting large round cheek flanges, and growing long hair with a mustache and beard. It will be interesting to see Makan on exhibit interacting with the girls, but more interesting to the keepers is how the girls will interact with him! It has been a few decades for both of the females since they have lived with such a young male. He was introduced to the girls in the quiet night quarters away from distracting crowds. When he is on exhibit with Ginger and Cheli, he experiences new surroundings; Makan had never seen zebra or bongos, which are viewable from his new

Also new at the Zoo are Red river hogs. The two new Red river hogs joining the Zoo family are the first of the species to come to Sacramento. Daisy is from the Brookfield Zoo in Chicago, and the male, J.D., is from the Bronx Zoo. Swine have an excellent sense of smell and a squared-off snout for digging. They also have great hearing and communicate with one another using a variety of grunts, squeaks, and chirrups. Red river hogs are best known for their long curly ears and reddish-brown fur. Red river hogs are native to the dense tropical jungles of Central to West Africa.

For information about the Sacramento Zoo, call (916) 808-5888 or visit saczoo.com.



Photo courtesy the Sacramento Zoc

Right now, the Sacramento Zoo's new orangutan Makan looks like the females and weighs only 65 lbs. In a few years, he will go through a massive growth spurt.



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Councilmember Robbie Waters, District 7 For more information contact: pclark@cityofsacramento.org (916) 808-7338

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Spirited pair: Ginger house charity a sweet move

Special to The Pocket News

Two little girls with enough Christmas spirit to warm the hearts of the community kicked off the Christmas season by hosting their annual gingerbread house charity event.

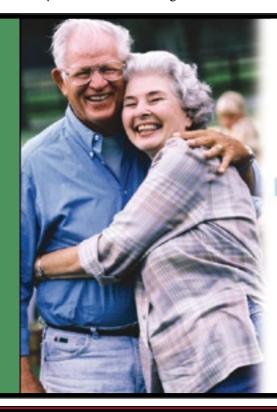
Eight-year-old Mason Sheya (a Brookfield School third grade student) and 5-year-old Charlotte Sheya (a Holy Spirit kindergarten student) hosted their annual gingerbread house making and gift-collecting event at Husick's Country Store in Clarksburg.

The charity started three years ago with Mason and her mother and expanded this year to include her cousin. The two cousins want to make sure they do their part in helping other children in the community smile on Christmas morning.

These two amazing girls host the event each year to collect gifts that are given to the Sacramento Children Receiving home. This year they were able to collect 65 gifts to be donat-



Mason Sheya (center back with green tree shirt) and Charlotte (in black below Mason in center) with their friends that helped make their event a success.



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Connecting with the City Council, the community

Sacramento City Councilmember Special to The Pocket News

Mark Your Calendar for 2010

District 7 leaps into the new year with lots of events so get ready to mark these on your calendar.

Green Waste Containerization Update meeting will take place on Thursday, January 21 from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. at Kennedy High School Multi Purpose Room. Learn about the environmental and cost benefits of this popular program and find out how you can still participate in the program if you previously opted-out.

Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg is the invited guest for the Pocket-Greenhaven Coalition meeting on February 4 from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. at Kennedy High School. The senator will speak about the state budget.

Flood Control will be the topic of a meeting on March 4 from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. at Kennedy High School Multi Purpose Room. Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency and the City Department of Utilities will join us. We'll review past achievements, the status of projects around the city, discuss what it will take to get our levees to 200-year flood protection, have information on flood insurance and take questions and an-

The 2010 Spring Egg Hunt will take place on Saturday, April 3 at 9:30 a.m. at Parkway Oaks Park next to Lisbon Elementary School.

The Friends of the Sacramento Public Library, Pocket-Greenhaven Branch, 2010 Book Sale is scheduled for April 24 at the Elks Lodge parking lot at Florin & Riv-

"Love Your Levee" volunteer clean-up returns for 2010 on Saturday, May 15 at Garcia Bend Park. More details will be forthcoming.

Jazz in the Park moves to May 23 at 6 p.m. at Seymour Park.

And make special note that the July 4 Parade Day is Saturday, July 3, 2010 (July 4 is a Sunday) for our community's annual Independence Day Celebration.

Friends of the Sacramento Public Library, Pocket-Greenhaven Branch

The next meeting of the Friends group will be Thursday, January 28 at 6:30 pm at Martin Luther King Jr. K-8 School at 480 Little River Way.

2009 in Review

This past year proved to be an active one with many achievements in public safety, library and various community programs.

Early in 2009, I re-activated the Pocket-Greenhaven Coalition group, a network of Neighborhood Association and Neighborhood Watch groups in our community. The coalition has been meeting every 2 months and dealt with a variety of topics notably public safety, graffiti, code enforcement, city budget, 311 service and more. Anyone is welcome to attend. The goal is to have a strong network of neighbor-

From left: Wes, Ted, and Henry

hood groups that is well educated on issues that commonly affect us. Our thanks should go to these neighborhood leaders who regularly participate!

At least six new Neighborhood Watch groups were formed in our community in 2009 and several of them are quite active. My office strongly supports them.

Our District 7 Email list continues to grow by leaps and bounds and is the largest email list on the entire city council. Now over 1200 subscribers, you are welcome to try it out.

In the midst of our annual activities in 2009, we celebrated the "Topping Out" of the new library on July 17 when the last steel beam was placed into the frame of the building.

Another, slightly less glamorous, cause for rejoicing was the completion of the reconstruction and re-surfacing of Riverside Boulevard south of Florin Road to minimize ongoing damage from groundwater. This multi-year project is now invisible to the eye but a very significant improvement to our geographicallyunique infrastructure.

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A little slice of Italy and Czechoslovakia with a Yankee twist: La Trattoria Bohemia is gem of East Sacramento

By SUSAN LAIRD Pócket News Writer susan@valcomnews.com

Tucked into the side of I Street in midtown Sacramento is one of the little-known restaurant gems that make living in this region such a delight.

Featuring simple, authentic Italian and Czechoslovakian dishes, La Trattoria Bohemia has developed a loyal following. Despite the international flavor and flair, however, there is a timeless American tale here also.

"It's been a roller coaster ride, that's for sure," said Mark Lastuvka, who owns the restaurant with his wife, Romana. "I am originally from Prague; my wife is also from Czechoslovakia. When the Berlin Wall came down in '89, I went through that whole revolution thing. That was fun."

Fun? Lastuvka means it.

"Imagine being a part of changing history," he said. "You're scared, but you want to do it. Those were great times."

This desire to make a better future is what fueled the passions of those who founded the United States, and all those who immigrated here. Lastuvka found himself caught up in the energy of the time.

"We had the revolution in '89. We married in '89. Then, in September of 1990, we came over here," he said. "We came to Sacramento because Romana's father lived here after he escaped the communists years before. I came with no English and only \$10 in my pocket."

Lastuvka's father-in-law helped the couple out in the beginning.

My father-in-law got me a bike, and I signed up at the Winterstein Adult School to learn English," he said. "While I was at the Winterstein School, I met some Italian kids. They worked at the Roma Pizzeria. They wanted to play soccer on Wednesday nights, so they asked if I wanted a job."

The dish-washing job grew to be an every night affair. Lastuvka learned how to make pizzas, as he continued to learn English. He pursued every opportunity to "make it" in this country.

"My degree is in building fine furniture," he said. "I worked on remodeling homes for 10 years, and I continued to work at Roma's. In the beginning I worked every day.



Pocket News Photos/Tom Paniagua

Tucked into the side of J Street in East Sacramento is La Trattoria Bohemia, one of the little-known restaurant gems that make living in this region such a delight.

My wife worked for Raley's and cleaned houses. She eventually became a flight attendant for Continental.

Lastuvka credits his mandatory military service in the Czechoslovakian army for developing his work ethic.

"At the time, I didn't want to do it," he said. "But you become independent. You learn to make your own decisions. I think (military service) should be mandatory for ev-

Eventually, the Lastuvkas were able to save enough to take the next steps in the American dream. They purchased a home in Carmichael.

The birth of their daughter, Nicola, also spurred changes in their lives.

"I was working my ass off," he said. "I decided to take a risk. I saw an empty pork store on J Street and decided to open a restaurant. We

See Trattoria, page 23

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Call Melissa at 429-9901 and place your ad today!

Trattoria: 'Some people come (just) for the cookies'

Continued from page 22

partnered with Maria Gurrera, the owner of Roma's Pizzeria. We had become friends when I was working at Roma's. That's why the food here is Czech food and Italian. We were eventually able to buy her out, but she helped us to get our start and we are good friends to this day."

The effort to build the restaurant was literally from the ground up.

"It's a good thing I had been doing remodels all those years," Lastuvka said. "I redid the plumbing, the electrical, everything needed replacement."

La Trattoria Bohemia opened in 2000. The little restaurant will celebrate 10 years on June 21.

The menu at La Trattoria is simple and delicious. Make that simply delicious. It offers over 50 items, plus an impressive selection of Italian pizzas.

Favorite Czech specialties include Bavarian Goulash, in which tender pork is stewed in sauerkraut to a thick broth. This is served with swirls of sour cream and Czech dumplings (\$17); and Schnitzel, where the customer's choice of fresh breaded chicken breasts or pork are served with European-style potato salad or roasted rosemary potatoes (\$17).

All pastas and breads are made from scratch at La Trattoria. With the same devotion he dedicated to fine furniture, Lastuvka crafts fine meals with particular attention to detail. His Spinach Ricotta Gnocchi is crafted by hand, and is served with fresh creamy gorgonzola sauce with prosciutto and mushrooms (\$16.50). Colorful red tomatoes garnish this beautiful entrée. Portions are filling and delicious

A meal at La Trattoria cannot be considered complete without something from the dessert menu. Try a Gelati Celesti, which is an ice cream truffle (\$4.50), or an Artisan Trio Sorbetto, which is three scoops of delicious Italian sorbet (\$5). The Apple Strudel is a generously sized flaky pastry stuffed with a mixture of apples, raisins, walnuts, cinnamon – all sweetened

with vanilla sugar (\$4.50). The Tiramisu is a dream. Layers of lady finger cookies are drenched in coffee and liquor, alternated with layers of mascarpone cream cheese (\$5).

There is a generous wine list and the beer list is known for its international selections.

In Italy, a trattoria is a familyrun institution. Food and service are casual, warm and personal. Clients become regulars at trattorie because the staff learns their preferences. It's all about family.

"My mom walks here often," said Vivian Johnston, who grew up in East Sacramento and now lives in Bend, Ore. "I love to come here every time I come home. There is a warm atmosphere, the prices are reasonable and it's a good neighborhood place."

The draw of "la famiglia" brings regulars from throughout the region. "My wife and I come here once a week, and have done so for the last two years," said John Lindgren, a former East Sacramento resident who now resides in the Pocket area. "We eat out about five times a week. We come to La Trattoria Bohemia because there's no turn over in staff, it's very consistent. We know everybody and they know us. The food is excellent."

In addition to the regular menu, the Lastuvkas offer weekly specials.. Regulars often call ahead to learn of the specials, and to order an additional loaf of handcrafted artisan bread to take home. "I just make another for the oven," Lastuvka said.

Those who love traditional Czech cookies are known to place orders for these specialty items a year in advance, because it takes three weeks to craft these wonderful treats.

"Some people come only for the cookies," he said. "These are made only once a year. The dough takes a week to make, and the baking process takes days. Some will be filled with creams, others powdered with sugar. They all sell out."

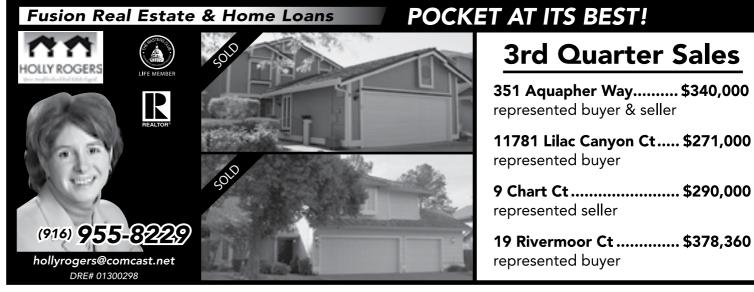
Lindgren enjoys introducing his "foodie friends" to this little restaurant. He raves about the excellence of the "We have certain favorites, but we tell our friends that this place has the best pizza in Sacramento," he said. "The crust is phenomenal and the sauce is wonderful. Our foodie friends go crazy over some of the beers. It's a cozy place. You never have a bad experience here."

La Trattoria Bohemia is located at 3649 J Street in Sacramento. Hours are Tuesday through Thursday and Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Closed Monday. For catering options and private party reservations, call (916) 455-7803. Also visit www.latrattoriabohemia.com.









CALENDAR

For more Calendar enteries visit www.valcomnews.com

GET IN THE CALENDAR

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 email 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.

JANUARY 7

Citizens for Health Freedom

The California Citizens for Health Freedom, Sacramento Chapter will meet on Jan.

7, 2010, at the SMUD Auditorium (the old SMUD Building) on 6201 S Street, Sacramento. A free lecture, "Turning Stress into Strength" presented by Ilona Ireland, M.A., C.M.T. Call 916-635-6724 for information. Please call Elsie Player at (916) 635-6724 regarding any of the above notices if you have any questions.

JANUARY 8

Carmichael Geranium Society

Carmichael Geranium Society January 8, 2010 meeting Carmichael Community Clubhouse - 5750 Grant Avenue, Carmichael; 10:00 a.m. to Noon - Speaker will be Susan Maxwell Skinner who will enlighten us about our Carmichael community history and present including the life of Daniel Webster Carmichael. Visitors welcome

Free Electronic-waste Collection

Proceeds to benefit Kit Carson Middle School's 8th Grade G.A.T.E. Class. Students are planning a 4 day-three-night trip to Washington, D.C. Drop off on: Saturday, January 9, 2010, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Kit Carson Middle School parking lot, 5301 N St. You won't even need to get out of your car, we will unload for you! We will accept: monitors, televisions, desktop and notebook PCs, VCRs, stereo equipment, speakers, keyboards, mice, PDAs, digital cameras, zip drives, telephones, cell phones, printers, copiers, laser and multifunction scanners and fax machines. We cannot accept: Household appliances (i.e. refrigerators, washers/drvers, etc), furniture, hazardous household waste, including fluorescent light bulbs, paint, pesticides, used oil, cleaning supplies, tires, etc. If you need something picked up, or have additional questions, please contact Shawn D'Alesandro at 658-2701 ext. 12#.

Senior Ball

Hart Senior Center cordially invites people 50 and older to attend our semi-formal Senior Ball on Saturday, January 9 at 2 p.m. This event is sponsored by the U.C. Davis

Health System with all proceeds benefitting the Ethel Hart Senior Center. Please join us for 3 hours of catered appetizers and desserts, 50's and 60's music, free Senior Ball portrait, ballroom dancing and much, much more. Tickets are limited. No door sales of tickets. No refunds. Tickets cost \$5. Event at Ethel Hart Senior Center, 915 27th St. Call 808-5462 for more information.

Jensen Garden Workday Volunteers

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, January 9, 2010. Bring work gloves, hand pruners and your lunch. Come join with other volunteers to keep the garden beautiful all year. Next workdays in 2010 are 2/6, 3/6, 4/10, 5/8, 6/5, 7/10, 8/7, 9/11, 10/9, 11/6, 12/4. The Jensen Garden is located at 8520 Fair Oaks Blvd. in Carmichael. For more info: Tracy Kerth (916) 485-5322 $ex 23 \ or \ e\text{-mail tracy@carmichaelpark.com}.$

Falling seminar

A four-hour seminar to educate seniors on how to avoid the dangers of falling while carrying out their day-to-day activities will be held on Saturday, Jan. 9. at the Belle Cooledge Community Center, 5699 South Land Park Drive. The South Land Park seminar, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., is one of six being presented during December and January at various locations in the Sacramento area by the City of Sacramento with the participation of Kaiser Permanente, according to Kim Metcalf, who heads the city's 50+ Wellness Program. The seminars, entitled "Stand Up to Falls," are open without charge to seniors, who must make advance arrangements to attend by phoning Metcalf at 808-1593 or via e-mail, fiftypluswellness@cityofsacramento,org.

E-waste recycling at Cal Middle School

California Middle School will be hosting an e-waste recycling event on Saturday January 9, 2010 from 10-3 p.m. Also, if you a have a large volume of e-waste that needs to be recycled, we can arrange for pick. Contact Julie Watkins at watkinsi@sac-city.k12.ca.us.

January 10

Seminar on Estate and End of Life planning

Parkside Community Church is offering a free workshop entitled "It's Not Over When It's Over" on Sunday, January 10 from 12:30

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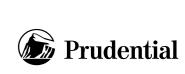
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p.m. to 2:30 p.m. The workshop will focus of estate and end of life planning and will feature guest speakers Mark Lamb and Beatrice Bailey. Attendees will receive informational handouts and Ms. Bailey will have books for purchase.

Hoop Shoot Contest

Elks No. 6 is holding its Hoop Shoot Contest for all boys and girls, ages 8 thru 13 (determined by their age as of 4/1/2010- birth certificate required). The event is Sunday, Jan. 10. Registration is 12 p.m. and the Hoop Shoot is at 1 p.m. The event takes place as the Elks Lodge No. 6, 6446 Riverside Blvd. For more information call, (916)

January 12

Gray Panthers meeting

The Funeral Consumers Alliance of Northern California will conduct the Tuesday, January 12, meeting of the Gray Panthers of Sacramento. The Funeral Consumers Alliance is a nonprofit organization whose objective is to protect a consumer's right to choose a meaningful, dignified, affordable funeral. The meeting will be held at 1 PM at

the Hart Senior Center, 915 - 27th Street, Sacramento, between I and J Streets. Further information can be obtained by calling 916-921-5008.

Latino Dance

In the month of January we will only have one dance. Our Latino Dance will be on January 12, 1010 - Tuesday! Lots of changes with the City of Sacramento and funding, etc. so we had to change the dances from Thursdays to Tuesdays. The event runs from 6:15 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. at Ethel Hart Community Center, 27& J Streets. Dance instruction available. Suggested Donation \$3.

JANUARY 13

Sacramento Genealogical Society meeting

Root Cellar - Sacramento Genealogical Society General Membership meeting, Wednesday January 13 from 7 - 8:30 p.m. at Citrus Heights Community Clubhouse 6921 Sylvan Road, Citrus Heights. Program: "Land Records" presented by Lynne Roberts. Free. Visitors welcome. Contact Sammie Hudgens (916) 481-4830 or www. rootcellar.org.

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Through her travels as a TEFL instructor, Autumn Yates has had the benefit of teaching English to young children and touring some of the most beautiful temples and natural gardens in Thailand and Korea

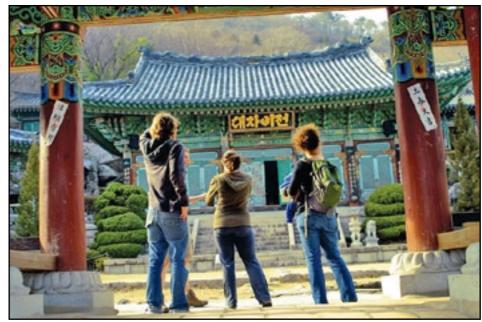


Photo courtesy Pawel Sowa

Pictured here are backpacker friends of Autumn Yates while on a tour she provided of local temples

From Carmichael to Thailand

Former ValComNews reporter and Carmichael resident now TEFL instructor

By TIM TORKILDSON Special to the Pocket News

When she worked at the Valley Community Newspaper group in 2005, first as an intern and then as a crime beat reporter, Autumn Yates was fascinated by the stories she discovered in the police blot-

Ultimately, her stories ran the gamut from comedy to tragedy, and re-enforced her conviction that the English language is a vehicle of great and profound passion. Yates, a recent Carmichael resident before moving abroad, still recalls with awe her freshman English teacher at Del Oro High School, in Loomis, Calif. - Mr. Albertazzi. She says that although he had been a professional teacher all his life and was in his last year before retirement, he still cried when quoting from William Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet."

There's only one word for that kind of attitude, said Yates: "Awesome!"

When you are around Autumn Yates, you'll hear that word often.

International living

The only daughter of Kirk Yates and Marie Jeanne deForet, a Navy Seal and an environmental chemist, respectively, she brings total commitment and enthusiasm to whatever project she has at hand, whether it's news reporting, cartography, or, just recently, teaching English as a foreign language overseas.

She graduated from California State University, Sacramento in 2007 with a degree in English, having put herself through school drawing maps for the phone company. She developed a great desire to travel while working as a mapmaker, from the computer screen savers she noticed on everyone's desk at work.

"They all had these beautiful scenes of mountains and forests, places you'd love to visit on vacation and then when their real-time vacation kicked in they were too tired and broke to do anything but sit at home watching TV," she said. "I decided I wasn't going to let that hap-

She decided that teaching English overseas would be her means of obtaining escape velocity.

True to her vow, when she graduated in 2007 she immediately contacted a recruiter and was offered a teaching position in South Korea. She sold her brand-new Jeep Wrangler for initial expenses ("I'm still making payments on it!" she la-

She stayed a year in Korea before the knuckling got to her. She explains: "In Korea, the elderly are especially revered, and whenever I would be in front of an elderly lady in a line, she would give me a knuckle in the small of my back, just bore right in, to let me know she wanted my place. One day I finally got so tired of it that I started poking people back myself."

She also admits that, being a true Californian at heart, she didn't care for the frigid Mongolian winds that swept down the peninsula during the winter months.

Off and away

Looking for new worlds to conquer, Yates decided on getting a Teaching English as a Foreign Language certificate at a one-month course offered by TEFL International in Rayong, Thailand. She had researched the facility



Former Carmichael resident Autumn Yates decided on getting a Teaching English as a Foreign Language certificate at a one-month course offered by TEFL International in Rayong, Thailand. She now works at the school in Rayong.

carefully before applying, but admits that her decision on attending the course in Thailand was due to the center's proximity to the beach just a half block away on the Gulf of Thailand.

While taking the TEFL International course, she realized that in Korea she had just been a body in a classroom - the teacher trainers at TEFL International gave her the motivation to become sincerely involved with her students.

After graduating, she was offered a position as a teacher at the Rayong school. She now works teaching English to grade school children in a specially prepared classroom on the grounds of TEFL International. She loves every minute of it.

"I'm minutes away from beaches that belong on a postcard," she said. Advice to those back home

Yates has advice to offer to others who are thinking of a TEFL career.

"Just do it! There's an amazing amount of freedom in teaching English overseas. If you don't like one place, you can just move on to another place," she said. "There's always going to be a job waiting."

Ultimately, Yates hopes in a few years to move on with her boyfriend to Poland, where his grandmother has promised to teach her the secrets of Polish cooking. In her own words, Yates thinks her whole TEFL experience has been - well -"awesome."

The Web site for TEFL International is www.tefllife.com.

\$500,000 gift to CSU Sacramento funds state-of-the-art nursing lab

Special to the Pocket News

Sacramento State's efforts to help meet California's urgent need for highly skilled registered nurses will get a significant boost, courtesy of a \$500,000 grant from the Frank M. and Gertrude R. Doyle Foundation, Inc. The gift from the Nevada-based foundation will equip and furnish a clinical simulation lab in the Division of Nursing's new facilities in Folsom Hall, the former CalSTRS building.

In response, the board of directors for The University Foundation at Sacramento State has pledged to raise \$500,000 in matching funds.

"We are committed to helping create an outstanding educational environment for Sac State's nursing students," said George Crandell, chair of the University Foundation board. "At some point, a nurse will touch your life. You will want that nurse to have the best training possible."

"This generous gift from the Doyle Foundation, combined with the matching commitment of the University Foundation, will allow us to make significant strides in the university's efforts to provide the state with the well-prepared nursing graduates it needs," said Carole Hayashino, vice president for University Advancement. "It is an example of the type of community support for enhancing our academic programs that forms the foundation of our Destination 2010 initiative to make Sacramento State a premier metropolitan university."

The new simulation lab will play a key role in the nursing program's ability to expand both the number of nursing students and the preparation they receive. The lab will feature state-of-the-art human patient simulators-mannequins that mimic the symptoms and mannerisms of live patients, including a mother giving birth. These life-size "patients" will enable students to practice techniques and processes they've learned in the classroom in a hospital-type environment, complete with hospital beds and bed-side monitoring equipment.

While the university has been using simulated patients on a limited basis, the new lab will improve access and bring the clinical process to play in all types of coursework. "Simulation will give us the ability, in every class, to employ the clinical environment without relying on our fellow agencies to provide services, which are in short supply," said Ann Stoltz, professor and chair of the Division of Nursing.

Stoltz says the high-level lab will also ensure the each student gets equal opportunities to put their training in practice by responding to similar scenarios.

"We can standardize the learning experience. We can make sure each student experiences the same situations, which you can't do in a clinical setting," she said.

The lab will also be available as a resource to other agencies who don't have their own simulation equipment and as a possible training resource for first-responders to address organ and tissue donation scenarios at accident sites. At a future date, it also may be used to help students meet State of California Board of Nursing requirements for clinical hours.

In addition to the simulation lab, the Division of Nursing's new facility will have classroom and office space as well as standard skills labs. Stoltz says the Division of Nursing, which recently celebrated its 50th anniversary, could be physically equipped to expand its student base by Fall 2011, depending on the status of the university's budget.

The Frank M. and Gertrude R. Doyle Foundation, Inc. has a history of supporting nursing education programs in California as well as scholarships for students from northern Nevada and southern California. In awarding the gift to Sacramento State, the Doyle Foundation praised Sacramento State for its "dedication to the life-altering potential of learning that balances a liberal arts education with depth of knowledge in a discipline."

For more information, contact the Sacramento State Development Office at (916) 278-6989.

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97 Starlit Circle - \$335,000 >
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< 840 W.Cove Wy – PENDING!</p>
Gated Custom in Westshore.
4 bd 3 ba, 3-car w/pass-thru.
Gourmet kitchen, formal dining, family rm. Bdrm & bath down!
Huge bonus rm! Apx 3,758 sf.
Apx 0.26 acre lot. Big backyard!

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RIVER ROAD-\$1,500,000

BEAUTIFUL PROPERTY WITH PLANS FOR HOME. METAL SHOP IS APPROX. 3000 SQ FT AND DOUBLE WIDE TRAINLER HAS BEEN REDONE TO A T! CURRENTLY GROWING WHEAT BUT HAS PLANS FOR A LARGE VINEYARD. BOAT DOCK MAY BE POSSIBLE AS WELL AS PROPERTY HAS RIVER FRONTAGE.

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ELK GROVE

5013 FALABELLA WAY-\$209,900

PENDING

SHARP, WELL MAINTAINED HOME IN GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD. MOVE IN READY.

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10208 BLOSSOM RIDGE DRIVE-\$225,000 **PENDING**

SINGLE STORY 3 BED. 2 BATH, KITCHEN WITH TILED COUNTERS NEXT TO A LARGE NOOK AREA AND OPENS TO FAMILY ROOM. SEP FORMAL LIVING & DINING AREA. MASTER BED WITH SLIDER TO BACKYARD. SEPARATE TUB AND SHOWER, DOUBLE SINKS IN MASTER BATH. NICELY LANDSCAPED FRONT & BACK. CLOLOR STAMPED CONCRETE PATIO AND SIDE WALKWAYS

LYNN LUK LEE 628-2843

4522 SHENANGO WAY-\$240,000

PENDING

1 STORY, 4 BED, 2 BA APPROX, 1,798 SF, OPEN KITCHEN W/ TILE COUNTERS & FLOORS, PANTRY, NOOK. FAMILY ROOM W/ FIREPLACE, LIVING & DINING AREA. SPACIOUS BACKYARD W/ PATIO & GARDEN, TILE ROOF, 3 CAR GARAGE & MORE

GINA LAPLACA 548-1628

2707 GRANITE PARK LANE-\$349,000

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GATED COMMUNITY FOR 55+. 4 BED, 2 BATH W/ 3 CAR GARAGE. 1 STORY UPGRADES INCLUDE CARPET, GRANITE COUNTERTOPS, CONF. OVEN, CABINETS, BREAKFAST BAR, SURROUND SOUND, PLANTATION SHUTTERS, WATER SOFTNER, WHOLE HOUSE FAN, STAMPED CONCRETE PATIO, AND MORE!

BOB WILSON 686-6868

5925 MARINERS COURT-\$358,000

SOLDGET READY TO VIEW! SHOULD BE APP. THE 7TH OF NOVEMBER, AS NEW CARPETS ARE BEING INSTALLED AND THE INTERIOR IS BEING RE-PAINTED. WILL SHOW LIKE NEW.
YOU CANNOT BELIEVE THE BEAUTIFUL LAKE VIEWS AND THE SWIMMING POOL & CLUBHOUSE ARE RIGHT NEXT DOOR. LOTS OF ROOM ON OVER A QUARTER OF AN ACRE

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FAIR OAKS

5707 LA FIELD DRIVE-\$160,000

PENDING
CHARMING HOME WITH UPDATED KITCHEN, BATH, DUAL PANE WINDOWS, CEILING FANS. HUGE LOT WITH RV PARKING ON ALMOST 1/4 ACRE. BONUS FAMILY ROOM WITH WOOD BURNING STOVE, GREAT CURB APPEAL. CLOSE TO SCHOOLS, PARKS AND SHOPPING, WASHER & DRYER TO STAY.

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MARY J LEE 425-3749

9816 HUDSON COURT-\$375,000

MOST CAPITIVATING WATER VIEWS THAT FOLSOM LAKE HAS TO OFFER, 1/3 ACRE WITH BEAUTIFUL OAKS AND GRANITE OUTCROPPINGS. BUILD YOUR HOME ON TOP FOR THE VIEWS AND YOUR GARAGE& GUEST HOUSE BELOW, ON CUL DE SAC. LEVEL BUILDING SITE AT ENTRANCE TO PROPERTY.

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11775 RIVERSIDE AVE-\$570,000
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VERY NICE APARTMENT IN SHOP WITH 2 BATHS. POSSIBLE LEASE OPTION!

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2314 K ST (COMMERCIAL)-\$975,000

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IT IS PRESENTLY ROMEO'S BAIT SHOP AND CAN BE ANYTHING RETAIL. THE SLEEPY LITTLE TOWN OF FREEPORT IS RIPE FOR NEW IDEAS AND DEVELOPMENT. THERE IS TALK OF A NEW MARINA, PARK, COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS, ETC.

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2744 HYANNIS WAY-\$200,000

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LYNN LUK LEE 628-2843

5660 JACKS LANE-\$145.000

ESTABLISHED NEIGHBORHOOD, 3 BED, 1 BATH. NEWER ROOFING, MOSTLY WOOD FLOORING UNDER CARPET. BATH WITH TUB AND SEP. SHOWER.

LYNN LUK LEE 628-2843

570 DE MAR DRIVE-\$179,000

PENDING

SINGLE STORY 2 BED (PLUS SUN ROOM), 2 BATH HALFPLEX. GREAT ROOM PLAN W/ VAULTED CEILING & FIREPLACE. GORGEOUS UPDATED KITCHEN W/ RECESSED LIGHTING, UPDATED CABINETS, COUNTERS, APPLIANCES. MASTER SUITE W/ WALK-IN CLOSET. BACKYARD W/ PATIO & NEWER FENCE. NEWER HVAC, ROOF, EXTERIOR PAINT, DUAL PANE WINDOWS, RETEXTURED CEILING PLANTATION SHUTTERS

GINA LAPLACA 548-1628

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