

Didion School to host middle school open house

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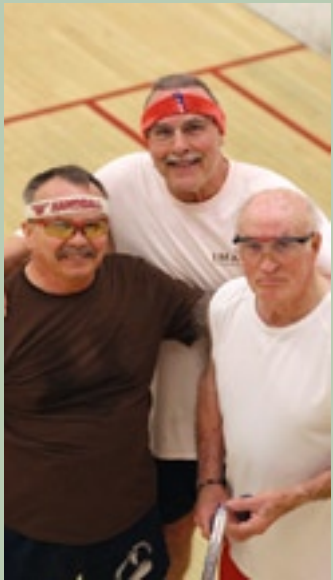
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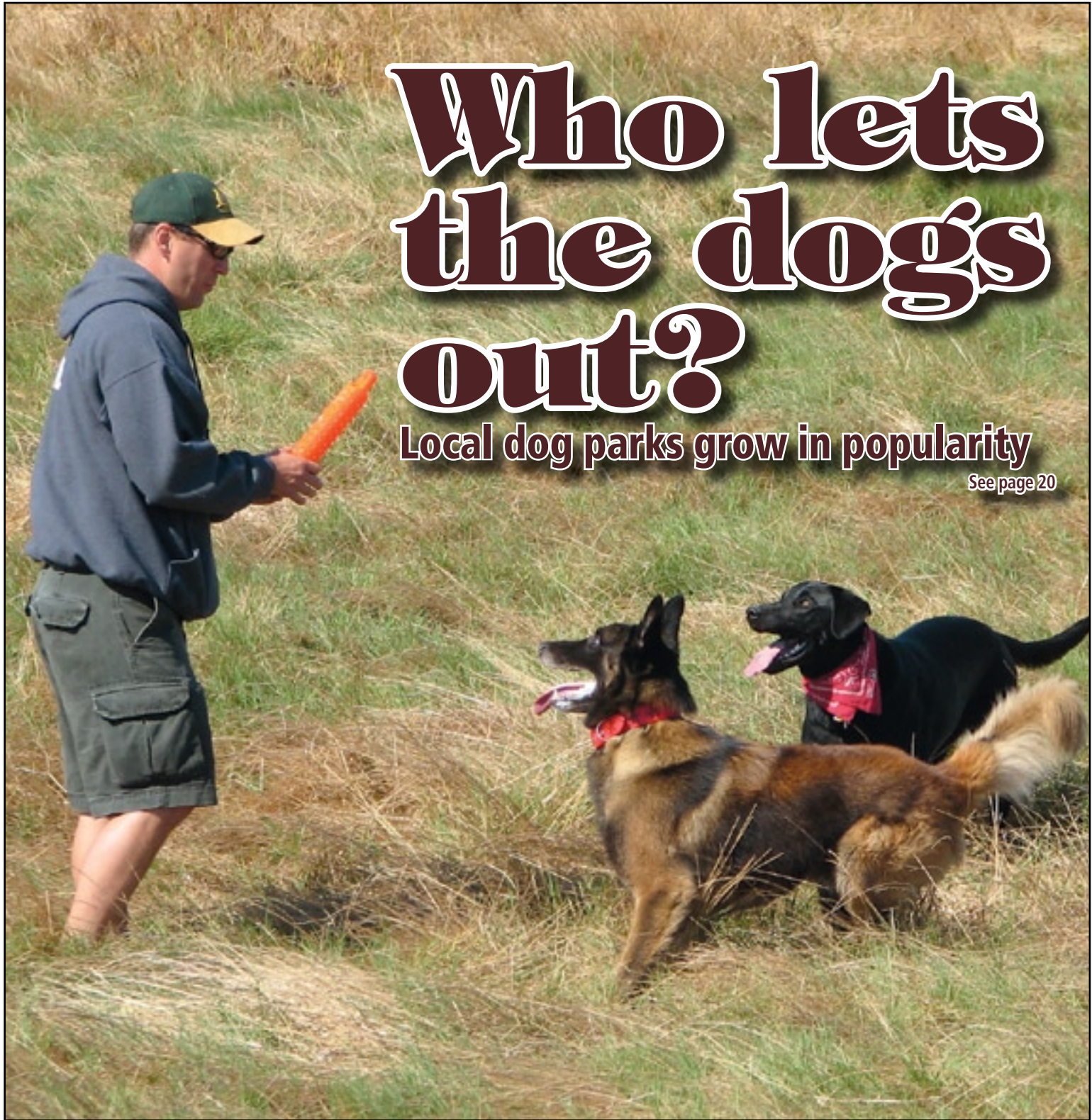


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Special to Pocket News

In addition to hitting schools, irrigation systems and traffic signals, copper wire thieves have left approximately 175 neighborhood locations throughout Sacramento in the dark over the course of the last several months.

Some of these neighborhood locations involve several blocks of street lights out within each location reported.

The City is asking the public to help stop copper thieves, as the situation has risen to a level in which repairs to streetlights are backlogged for up to three to four months – even with a four-person crew working seven days a week and a just hired contract crew.

Calls from the public about streetlights out have increased dramatically since the end of daylight savings time. The City continues to receive on average four to five reports weekly of new neighborhood areas that have been hit by copper wire thieves.

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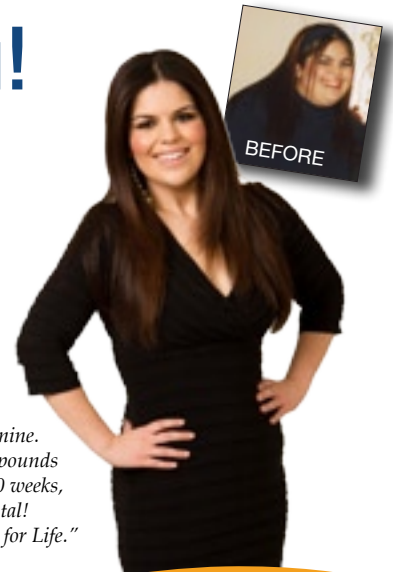
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Red Cross offering free disaster preparedness training in January

Special to Pocket News

Throughout the month of January, the American Red Cross is offering a free disaster preparedness workshop at a number of neighborhood libraries around the capital city.

Each workshop is just one hour, and will help equip you and your family with the necessary knowledge and skills to Be Red Cross Ready. The workshop will focus on three important steps: Get a kit, make a plan and be informed.

The workshop will be offered on the following dates:

- Jan. 10, 6 p.m.: North Highlands-Antelope Public Library, 4235 Antelope Rd., North Highlands
- Jan. 12, 6 p.m.: Martin Luther King Jr. Public Library, 7340 24th Street Bypass, Sacramento
- Jan. 17, 6:30 p.m.: Colonial Heights Public Library, 4799 Stockton Blvd., Sacramento
- Jan. 25, 6:30 p.m.: Southgate Public Library, 6132 66th Ave., Sacramento
- Jan. 28, 1:30 p.m.: South Natomas Public Library,

2901 Truxel Rd., Sacramento

For more information, contact Amanda Barker at the American Red Cross at (916) 993-7065.

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies nearly half of the nation's blood; teaches lifesaving skills; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is

a charitable organization – not a government agency – and depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. The Capital Region Chapter serves an eleven-county region including Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, eastern Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tuolumne and Yolo counties. For more information, visit www.redcrosscrc.org or follow on Twitter at www.twitter.com/RedCrossCRC.

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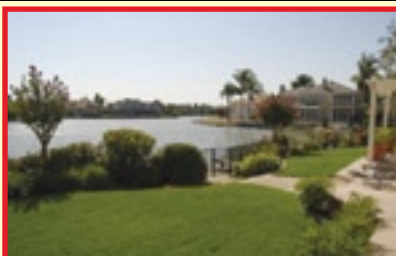
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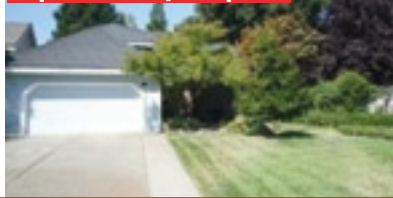
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Photo courtesy, Steve Harriman

LEAF COLLECTIONS are often made with tractors in neighborhoods such as Land Park, Curtis Park, East Sacramento and the Pocket.

Leafy controversy sure to raise a few rakes in Sacramento

By ELIZABETH VALENTE
Pocket writer
elizabeth@valcomnews.com

To help the City of Sacramento save money, collecting your next batch of leaves from in front of your home may cost you more, particularly if you live in a very "leafy" neighborhood.

Yard waste collection is provided by the City's Department of General Services. Residents with this service can place a single pile of yard waste, up to two cubic yards, between the sidewalk and the curb for collection.

This spring the Department of General Services will ask the City Council

See Leaves, page 5

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Leaves: City to consider changes to how yard waste is collected

Continued from page 4

to place a measure on the November 2012 ballot repealing 1977's Measure A, the law which prohibits the City from requiring containerized yard and garden collection.

"Our primary objective is not to raise rates for several years, but part of the challenge is it's very inefficient and expensive to have two different green waste programs," explained Steve Harriman, integrated waste manager. He said his office operates like a business and staff are currently looking at different scenarios for the collection programs.

"The monthly collection fees we charge customers pay for labor, employees, disposal of the material, equipment, maintenance and replacement," Harriman said.

The City collects a total of 80,000 tons of green waste through the City's two programs, the Containerized Yard Waste Collection Program and the Loose-in-the-Street Collection Program.

City officials say that current rates for the Loose-in-the-Street program aren't enough to pay for the program. An increase may need to occur to help the city's budget.

Nearly 13,000 residents on the program pay \$13.71 a month to have their bags collected. Only those on the program have their

Illegal dumping an issue for City collectors

City officials from the Waste Program are conducting "spot checks" of city streets to make sure there is no illegal dumping in neighborhoods.

"It's a headache, people are abusing the program and it's costing the City money that we could use in other places," said Harriman. "Gardeners doing yard maintenance in other cities are driving their waste into the City of Sacramento and dumping it in neighborhoods where they know we have regular pickups."

The Department of General Services has one code enforcement officer whose job is to locate and cite the illegal dumping.

"It's a big city and the enforcement is difficult, especially when the dumping happens at night," explained Harriman. "We've confronted a number of gardeners, but it's also helpful if resi-

dents that see the illegal dumping report it so we can take action."

Where does all the waste go?

Waste collections from city residents are not recycled back to Sacramento.

"The collected leaves are made into compost to fertilize agriculture lands and landscaped areas outside of Sacramento," explained William Skinner, collections superintendent. "Compost places in urban areas like Sacramento are hard to manage. They always have an odor that affects the neighboring homes."

Yard waste consists of materials normally generated in the maintenance of gardens, yards, lawns, or landscaped areas whether residential, commercial or public. This includes leaves, grass clippings, plants, shrubs and pruning. State law says that 50 percent of all waste generated in the City of Sacramento is to be recycled.

The Department of General Services works with a private company that takes the collected material for different types of recyclable usage:

- **Alternative daily cover** goes to Yolo County Landfill. The garbage has to be covered with dirt and other material, such as yard waste to keep birds and other animals away from the landfill.
- **Cogeneration facilities** burn waste materials as a fuel source at Rio Bravo-Rocklin Power Station in Lincoln. The burning occurs mainly in the spring and summer months.
- **Compost and mulch facilities** turn waste into compost and this then goes to Napa County. The compost is mixed with manure and sold for agricultural use in the area.

piled leaves on the streets picked up. If rates don't increase, frequency of pick-up of leaf piles and lawn trimmings for those who don't use green bins would have to be reduced.

"During leaf season, between Thanksgiving and New Year's, the City collects nearly 27,000 tons of yard waste," said Harriman. "Containers are not enough during this time of the year. The leaf collection program helps keep leaves from blocking storm drains and prevents decaying leaves

from polluting our lakes and streams."

Nearly 103,000 city residents use the 96 galloon green bins that the City provides, at a monthly rate of \$10.35 for the weekly pick-up. They also benefit from the loose leaf service eight times a year. A majority of the residents on the program live in midtown, Land Park, Curtis Park, East Sacramento, the Pocket, and Del Paso Heights.

"It only takes one employee and one vehicle

to pick up the bin collection, therefore using much less fuel, less traffic congestion," Harriman said. "Versus the Loose-in-the-Street piles takes two

employees and two vehicles with rear loaders and 'claws' that scoop up the leaves. The container program also leaves the street quite a bit cleaner,

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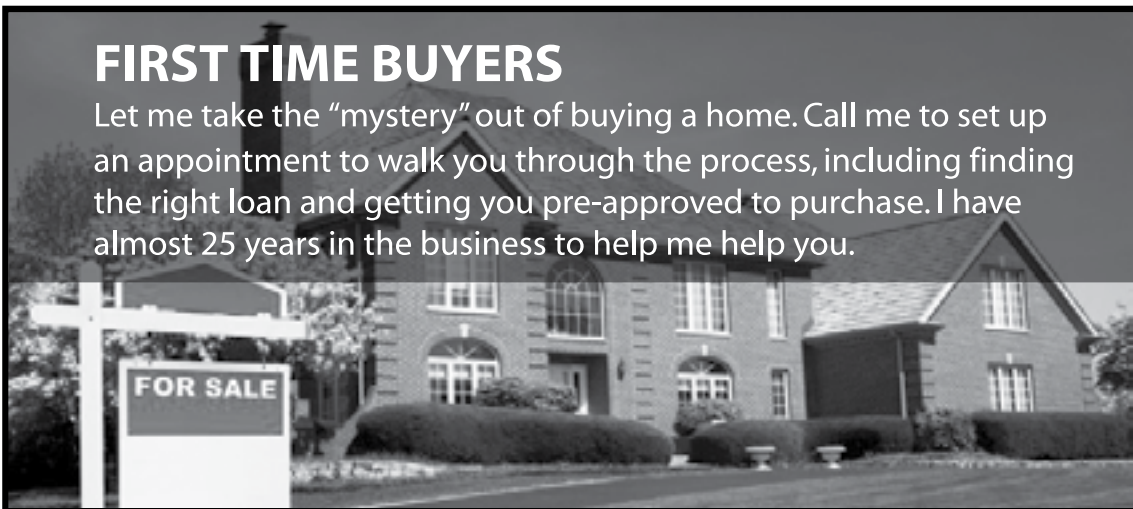
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Middle school students receive well-rounded education at Didion School

By LANCE ARMSTRONG
Pocket News writer
lance@valcomnews.com

Genevieve F. Didion K-8 School will present an opportunity for locals to learn more about this well established school's middle school grades through a special open house, which is scheduled to be held in the school's gymnasium on Jan. 18.

The event, which will begin at 7:30 p.m., will feature speeches about the middle school by Norm Policar, Didion's principal, and the school's middle school teachers, followed by a question and answer session at 8:30 p.m.

The speeches will center on the topic of how Didion's middle school program provides a well-round education that prepares students for high school.

Only 62 slots available

With space for only 62 students in each middle school grade, Didion is presenting this open house in a timely manner in order to allow prospective middle school students and their parents sufficient decision-making time prior to the beginning of the district's open enrollment period. This period begins on Jan. 30 and continues until Feb. 10.

The event is also beneficial for Didion, which has an overall student body of 630, considering that there are more vacancies in the local middle school programs than there are middle school students. As a result, local middle schools often compete for these children.

With much anticipation toward the open house, Policar sat down last week to discuss this upcoming



GENEVIEVE F. DIDION K-8 SCHOOL provides an educational environment for middle school students that yields superior results when they move on to high school.

Pocket News photo, Stephen Crowley

event, his own background and details about this local school, which opened as a K-6 school at its current and only site of 6490 Harmon Drive in 1980.

Active parent community

During his interview, Policar was quick to give much credit to the parental involvement at the school.

"I've got such a supportive parent community that really backs what we do at school and they have high expectations for their kids," Policar said. "So, I try to make sure that we keep those expectations high at school."

Policar explained that the middle school itself was es-

tablished through the involvement of local parents.

"(The) middle school program started (in about 1994) and it's an outstanding program," Policar said. "The parents actually got together to make this program happen. I think the feeling at the time was they weren't entirely satisfied with the choices they had back then of where to send their kids on to a middle school. So, the parents, I'm told, got together and said, 'Why can't we make our K-6 school into a K-8 school. We can hopefully attract some good teachers to our middle school program and keep the kids here for a couple more years, give them a

good education and hopefully they'll be set to go to high school.' And that's exactly what (the parent group) did. They went to the (Sacramento City Unified School) District and sought permission to expand our program to become a K-8 (school) and the district loved it. And so, we've had a K-8 program ever since (that time)."

Top teachers

Policar additionally explained that Didion was fortunate to attract high quality teachers.

"I've got a wonderful staff by and large to work with, so it's just a great mix of factors that makes it a really good place to go to work every day," said Policar, who began his career as a history teacher.

Policar, a Vallejo native who was hired as the school's principal on his 40th birthday in 1997, said that he could not have been more fortunate than to have become Didion's principal.

And with Policar's love and enthusiasm for Didion school, it was far from a laboring task for him to speak about the positive aspects of this educational institution.

Motivated principal

In listening to Policar speak about Didion's students, it does not take long to comprehend how his caring attitude

See Didion, page 7

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Didion: Open house for parents, students will be Jan. 18

Continued from page 6

and enthusiasm can spread to others and lead to positive results in the classroom.

"I really, really enjoy being around young people," Policar said. "I like to talk with them and work with them and I've got such great kids to work with at Didion. I just enjoy working with (the kids). I always have and I feel real good about it."

Furthermore, Policar, who for the past 12 years has been married to his wife Kristi, a special education teacher at Hubert Bancroft Elementary School, believes that his own experiences as a father have helped him to further his success as a principal.

"(Being a father to his daughter, Lindsey, who is a second grader) opened my eyes up," Policar said. "There were times when sometimes I would just almost take for granted some of the things that parents went through, the regular struggles. But when it came time for me to be a parent, and I've got to sit down with my own daughter in the evenings and work through school problems and homework struggles and things like that, I just have a much better feel now for what parents go through."

And it is Policar's connection to parenting and his understanding of the educational system – both administratively and as a teacher – that has helped the school to achieve much of its success.

A consistent faculty is yet another factor to the success of Didion.

Overall, Didion has many longtime teachers, including Dana Flaten, middle school science, Richard Howe, middle school social studies, Elett Ricks-Chambers, music specialist, Wendy Martinez, kindergarten, Martha Hawkins, 2nd grade, Cindy Vanbeek, 2nd and 3rd grades, Helen Nevins, 3rd grade, Mary Andrews, special education, Cindy Granados, 6th grade, and Andrea Noteware, 6th grade and a former librarian at the school.

Fewer electives, but positive results

Policar, who has been working for the school district since 1981, said that with the many advantages that come with operating a small school like Didion, one disadvantage is its students have fewer elective choices.

"My maximum capacity (at the middle school) is 124 kids, so with a program that

small, I'm not able to offer the depth of an elective program that a great, big school that has 40 or 50 teachers can offer," Policar said. "So, I don't have a band and I don't have an orchestra, I don't have a woodshop or maybe some of those kinds of things that kids can get elsewhere. My entire middle school has five teachers. Each of my teachers teach one period of their (academic) subject and then each of them teaches one period of an elective class. So, that's my elective program. And we have a good elective program, but kids aren't able to pick from 20 different (electives) like they might be able to do some place else."

In hopes of filling the available space for middle school students at Didion school, Policar emphasized that local high schools have provided much positive feedback regarding former Didion students who attended their schools.

"High schools really like our kids, because our kids go to them ready to tackle high school work, they go with good study habits and they're sought after," Policar said. "So, we try to send that message to our parents."



Photo courtesy

PARENTS AND POTENTIAL STUDENTS are invited to an open house at Didion School on Jan. 18. There will be opportunities to meet teachers and administrators, view curricula and ask questions.

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The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks: What are they, anyway?

By SALLY KING
Pocket News writer
sally@valcomnews.com

Ramon Perez and Jack Lewis know change is inevitable, even for the Brotherhood of the Elks, which has been in existence for 141 years.

Perez and Lewis are members of Lodge No. 6, located at 6446 Riverside Blvd. in the Greenhaven-Pocket area.

"This is the best kept secret in South Sacramento," Perez said. "Our lodge provides catering, a large ballroom, and we have a gym with a steam room, handball courts and a recently renovated indoor pool."

Perez and Lewis want to see Lodge membership grow. Both believe if the community knew how much the Elks have to offer and were aware of the many benevolent activities they provide, more folks would be interested in joining.

Perez said the baby boomer generation (those born between 1946 and 1964) is not known to join a club unless

it has something to offer that is relevant to them and this is one reason why Elk membership is not growing. He wants boomers to know that the Elks have something for everyone and are not just a group of old men hanging out.

Another reason for the decline in membership, said Lewis, is the lodge location. Lodge No. 6 moved from downtown to the Pocket, making it a less convenient place for local business people to have lunch or meet after work.

Other lodges in the area have also seen a decline in membership. Jim Warrick, secretary for Lodge No. 2103 in Carmichael said the closure of McClellan and Mather Air Force bases affected Carmichael's membership.

"We have one problem nationwide," Warrick said. "The demographics have changed since World War II and that is the key to the future of 'Elkdom.'"

There are more than 2,000 Elks lodges throughout the country. As part of their mission, the Elks spend



Pocket News photo, Sally King
NOT YOUR GRANDPA'S LODGE...the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks are men and women who do many good works in the local community. Elks lodges are places where neighbors come together, families share meals and children grow up.

See Elks, page 9

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STRONG OF LIMB, FLEET OF FOOT...members of Elks Lodge No. 6 have access to this gym and a heated indoor pool.



FAST FRIENDSHIPS...and a lifestyle as active as one wants it to be. Elks members enjoy taking action, whether on the racquetball court or in community service.

Pocket News photos, Sally King

Elks: Women entered the Elks in 1995 and haven't looked back

Continued from page 8

more than \$80 million every year for benevolent, educational and patriotic community-minded programs.

"It's the good deeds we do that draws in new members," Warrick said. "You make friends when you do good things."

A non-core cancer survivor group from the YWCA has been using the Lodge No. 6 pool for 23 years on Friday mornings, according to Lewis. Doctors said swimming would be the best exercise for this group. The heated indoor pool provides privacy and a warm place to swim in the winter.

Currently, Lodge No. 6 has around 715 members. At one time, they had 2,970 members.

Lewis has been a member of the Elks just a little longer than Perez, both joined around the year 2000. Within three years of joining, Lewis served as Exalted Leader, the president of the lodge.

After driving by the Elks building for 15 years, Perez stopped out of curiosity, wondering what they do back there.

"The only reason I came in is someone said they have a gym and I should check it out," Perez said. "They had a gym locker, a steam room, a sauna, a workout room, a swimming pool, racquetball,

all for a reasonable price, plus I can go have a drink at the bar if I feel like it."

Of utmost importance to Perez and Lewis are the many benevolent activities sponsored by the Elks. The Elks provide and sponsor many scholarships for local high school students, plus they provide a program that works with troubled youth.

Another important program provided is known as the "The Dictionary Project." The mission is to distribute dictionaries to as many third graders as possible. Perez said Lodge No. 6 also provides a "Student of the Month" lunch for local schools.

The Elks have a program called "The Purple Pig" that supports children who are physically, emotionally or mentally disabled.

Lodge No. 6 provides many cultural events.

"We have a large Cinco de Mayo party in May," Perez said. "We provide music, piñatas and good food."

Many of lodges offer breakfast to the public on Sundays. Lodge No. 6 offers a \$9 breakfast from 8:30 a.m. to 11: a.m.

"The Carmichael Lodge sponsors one of the largest July 4th parades in northern California," Warwick said.

"The parade began 50 years ago and it takes over 200 volunteers to organize it."

Perez said Lodge No. 6 is having a major fund-raiser in 2012 and is selling tickets raffle off a new 2012 Camaro 2SS Coupe. The drawing will be held May 4.

"Women find the Elks Lodge a safe place to meet with their friends," Lewis said. "They can sit in the lounge without being hassled."

Up until 1995, only men were allowed to join the Elks Lodge. Perez and Lewis wholeheartedly agreed allowing women to join in 1995 helped to make the Elks Lodge a better organization.

"We have women in all the big, responsible state and national positions now," Lewis said. "They are doing a tremendous job and that's helped a great deal."

An opportunity for more members opened up when women were allowed to join the Elks – because the women invited their husbands. Perez said it was no longer a group of "guys going off smoking cigars at an exclusive club."

Warrick said the Elks focus changed dramatically in the 1970s, with the emphasis being on the family. The high-

est membership was in 1976 with over a million members.

There are many ways for Elks members and their families to participate in benevolent activities. For those who are interested, current lodge members offer a tour. Membership dues are only \$128 annually.

Perez, Lewis and Warrick believe the Elks have many great programs and welcome folks to check the organization out. Interested parties and the curious are welcome to visit www.elks.org. Contact information is available online.

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Not just about books:

Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library meets the 21st Century

By CORRIE PELC
Pocket News writer
corrie@valcomnews.com

Clergyman and social reformer Henry Ward Beecher once said, "A library is not a luxury but one of the necessities of life."

More than 100 years later, Google has made rifling through thick reference materials obsolete, and e-readers allow avid readers to download the latest novel with the click of a button.

Could it be then that the public library is not needed anymore?

Definitely not, says Brendle Wells, branch supervisor of the Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library.

"I think people have a very outdated view of libraries – they think of them from their childhood and we're

not about just books anymore," she says.

Opened in August 2010, the idea for the library took off in 2003, thanks to the efforts of then Sacramento City Councilman Robbie Waters. It took about six years for the Library to be built, according to Kathi Windheim, board member of the Friends of Pocket-Greenhaven Library.

Windheim refers to the Library as the "jewel of the Pocket" and "the hive" of the community.

"The parking lot is full every day when I drive by there," she says. "I see it as 'the hive' with everybody going in and out – the moms taking their kids, the teens with WiFi to meet up, the seniors to check out the latest Lucky Day book. There's



HIGH TECH LIBRARY. The Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library offers digital technology and old-fashioned reading help – all at one 21st century, modern facility.

something for everyone and it keeps changing as technology changes."

Tech friendly

The Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library has embraced technology from the beginning, starting with its modern eco-friendly design featuring numerous electrical outlets and 24/7 WiFi throughout the building. The free wireless Internet access also lets the Library provide a service to the entire community.

"There are a lot of people that do not have Internet access – we provide that free-of-charge," Wells adds. "They may have a laptop but they can't get WiFi and we provide that."

The Library also features 20 public Internet access terminals and when those are all full, library patrons can check out one of 20 net-books. Wells says the laptop computers are very popular, especially for parents to use while with their young children.

Tech help

For those in need of some technology help, the branch's "tech guru" Dave provides free one-on-one technology help to anyone who needs it.

"The very first appointment (Dave) had, he helped

somebody with no computer skills learn how to fill out a job application online," Wells says. "He's helped people with e-readers use them with library books, helped people who just want to learn how to surf the Internet better – just pretty much anything he can help with."

Technology is also important for the students from the next door School of Engineering & Sciences that frequent the library's Teen Section after school. The area allows them to socialize, work on homework, and play computer games together. This has also spurred the library's Teen Advisory Board (TAB), which Windheim says has two representatives on the Library Board.

Reading help

While technology is a main part of the library, that's not to say reading is not. For early readers, the library offers the Ready to Read Room, offering hands-on activities to help with literacy learning.

"There's a lot of activities that just build early literacy skills because early literacy skills have a number of different components – it's not just reading," Wells says. "The activities we have in there help build those skills."

Reading Tower, mural

Readers of all ages can enjoy Windheim's favorite section of the Library, the Reading Tower – a circular room with windows, padded seating, and a \$20,000 commissioned mural that was a gift from the Friends of Pocket-Greenhaven Library to mark the Library's first anniversary. The mural features pictures from literary treasures like *Little Women*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *Treasure Island*.

"It's really neat just to sit there and watch the kids go in and their eyes just pop open," Windheim says.

Your 'Lucky Day'

For adult book readers, the Library features monthly staff picks. Wells says the library staff is always happy to make a reading recommendation. And if you're looking for a bestseller, it may be your "lucky day."

"One of the things the Friends of the Library sponsor are the Lucky Day books, the best sellers," Windheim says. "You don't have to sign up to be on a waiting list – if you come in and you see the book there, it's your 'lucky day' and you can check it out for three weeks."

Popular programs

The library offers a number of events

See Pocket Library, page 12

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Pocket Library: Buzzing with patrons, Pocket-Greenhaven Library is a 'hive' of activity

Continued from page 10

throughout each month, everything from book and movie discussion groups to a knitting group to its popular Lego Block Party. In January, the library will be offering programs for the college-bound on scholarships and financial aid. In February the library will be launching an ancestry workshop, and in February and March there will be programs for those looking for employment. Wells says the library is always looking for community members to come in and host new programs as well.

Become a Friend

As this modern library looks to continue to be a place for the community, Windheim says they need the community's support to keep it going. Ways the community can help include purchasing books through the Friend's bookstore in the Library and becoming a member of the Friends.

"With the budget cuts and economy, it would be a tremendous help for families of the Pocket to become Friends of the Library members to help us with the programs because we want to keep as many programs as we can," she says.

Busier than ever

It's the ability of the library to provide services and programs for everybody in the community that Wells says is one of the best things about the library.

"I think there are people who say libraries are obsolete, books are dead, and that is just not true," she adds. "We're getting busier and busier because people need us. We fill that digital divide."

For more information on the Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library and the Friends of the Pocket-Greenhaven Library, visit www.saclibrary.org.



Pocket News photo, Corrie Pelc

LITERARY IMAGES. A \$20,000 mural depicting characters from beloved children's books is a feature of the Reading Tower at the Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library. The mural was a gift from the Friends of the Library, celebrating the library's first anniversary last August.



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'Young at Art 2012' opens vista of possibilities to region's middle school students

By SUSANLAIRD
Pocket News editor
susan@valcomnews.com

Art is a path for the exploration of beauty...a door to an infinite number of possibilities. It is not intended to be enjoyed – or created – only by the cultured or the elite. It is for all people, and for every age group.

This is especially true for young people, who see the future through a unique and hopeful perspective.

For the past four years, the annual "Young at Art" show for middle school students in the Sacramento region has showcased the work of young artists. Students and schools from Sacramento, Davis, Auburn, Woodland, Granite Bay, Folsom and El Dorado Hills have participated in the past.

This annual student art show is highly anticipated and well attended. It is sponsored by St. Francis Catholic High School, which is known statewide and nationally for its programs in the visual and performing arts. Although St. Francis is a high school for young women, entries from both boys and girls are encouraged. The competition is open to students from public, private and home schools.

At a time when arts programs are operating in a "reduced" (or

perhaps, non-existent) role in some schools, this program provides individual students an opportunity to shine. There are no entry fees, and the grand opening of the show is a fun experience. The young people of this area are extremely talented.

The show is an opportunity for students to experience the procedures for entering an art show, as well as to have their talents acknowledged in a regional forum. It is an opportunity for inspiration and validation.

The grand opening of the art show will be held on Feb. 1 in the St. Francis High School Arts Complex at 5 p.m. All artists and their families are welcome. Awards will be presented at 6 p.m.

The prizes are pretty cool. These include art supplies (sketchbooks, charcoal, paints and more), gift certificates to local art supplies stores, etc. The grand prize is a full scholarship to the St. Francis High School Summer Arts Workshop for Middle School Students, worth \$275. The grand prize winner will have the opportunity to pursue his or her arts passion with the direction of the Troubadour Art Department's amazing faculty.

Entry details: Students and schools should deliver art works to the St. Francis High School Art Theatre Complex Foyer on Thurs-

day, Jan. 26 between 3:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. Artwork will not be accepted at any other time or date. The campus is located at 5900 Elvas Avenue in Sacramento, just off 65th Street and Highway 50.

Pictures must be matted, but canvas and sculptures do not need matting. A 2"x3" label should be permanently affixed to the front, lower right hand corner of the work. Information on the label should include: 1. Student first and last name; 2. Student grade; 3. School full name; and 4. Art teacher name.

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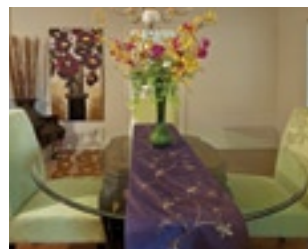
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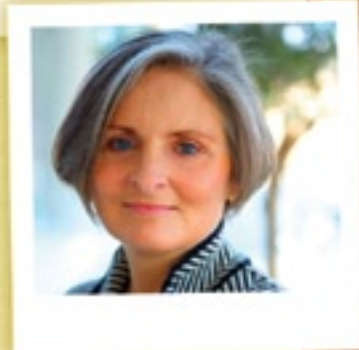
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No sewing skill needed: Volunteers needed to help make pillows for cancer patients

Special to Pocket News

The non-profit organization, Necessities Bag Sacramento (NBS), invites members of the public to participate in its quarterly "Pillow Party" event on Monday, Jan. 9 from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Central United Methodist Church. Come, bring a friend and volunteer on behalf of Sacramento women with breast cancer.

This is an opportunity for community volunteers to craft comfort pillows for local women undergoing mastectomies due to breast cancer. *You need not be skilled at sewing.*

Eight stations allow for work at any skill level.

NBS provides a free tote bag of comfort and wound care supplies to patients. The most beloved items in the bag are two small, soft pillows made from cheery cotton fabrics. The women use these as support for their arms after surgery. The pillows provide a buffer under seatbelts (to and from doctor appointments) and allow women to rest more comfortably, while still sensitive to draining tubes and stitches.

Women use the pillows throughout their recuperations and reconstructive surgeries. They are a comforting, valuable resource.

To learn more, and to read comments from Necessities Bag recipients, visit <http://necessitiesbagsac.org>. RSVP to Joan Eddy at (916) 451-3831 or eddyjk@comcast.net. Central United Methodist Church is located at 5265 H Street (corner of 53rd and H) in Sacramento.

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College entry workshops offered at Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library

Special to Pocket News

The Sacramento Public Library will host two free workshops to provide useful information for college-bound students at its Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven branch on Jan. 11 and 18.

Each program will present the basics of the four types of financial aid (grants, scholarships, work study and loans), plus the details of the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) -- the one financial aid application form all college-bound students should fill out.

Wednesday, Jan. 11 at 6:30 p.m.: Learn about the online FAFSA application, when to apply, and where you can go for help when filling it out.

Wednesday, Jan. 18 at 6:30 p.m.: The Scholarship Search workshop will help participants learn when and where to look for scholarships and the basics to include in any scholarship essay.



Leading both workshops will be Marilyn Van Loben Sels, a certified college counselor, who has been helping students and their families for more than fifteen years.

Registration is required by calling the Sacramento Public Library at (916) 264-2920 or visiting by www.saclibrary.org. The Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library is located at 7335 Gloria Drive in Sacramento.

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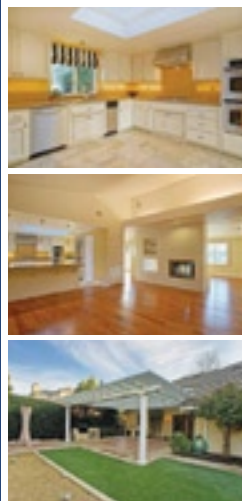
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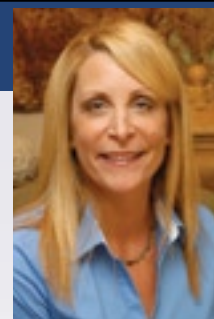
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Vehicles driving new life to K Street businesses

By ELIZABETH VALENTE
Pocket News writer
elizabeth@valcomnews.com

January 12 will mark two months since cars returned to K Street between 8th and 12th streets. The last car to drive down the four block commercial streets was back in 1969 when gas cost an average 35 cents per gallon.

The drive to reopen K Street to motorists was to reconnect people to new and old businesses at the former pedestrian mall. According to a survey conducted by the Department of Transportation last August, other reasons in support of returning vehicles to K Street also included "safety from street persons, general revitalization, and potential for increased business."

"Adding cars back to K Street will only further this effort, spur economic vitality, and provide that additional ingredient needed to continue the renaissance of this key downtown street," said Mayor Kevin Johnson.

Efforts by the City, its redevelopment agency and the Downtown Sacramento Partnership, to bring more business to K Street already have had some success.

"Businesses are thrilled to see cars return to K Street as they expect it will provide additional exposure for their businesses as well as increased convenience with the passenger drop-offs," explained Amy Williams, City media and communications officer.

"Vehicle traffic to K Street has also added visibility to the street, we can



K STREET is open to vehicular traffic after being closed for over four decades.

East Sacramento News photo, Elizabeth Valente

access drivers to Old Sac. and to midtown. It's a way of connecting people better to those properties," added Lisa Martinez, director of marketing and outreach for the Downtown Sacramento Partnership.

Some merchants and daily pedestrians who work in the area say they have seen little change, while others say they have seen a positive difference in their business.

Chuck Karajeh, who manages the Midtown Mini Market at 1026 K St., said he has seen no changes in business so far.

"Not many people know that cars can drive on the street and there's no place to park, so nothing has changed," he said. "If they

had street parking, it would help."

Pizza Rock and Dive Bar, new eateries that opened at the beginning of the year as part of a redevelopment project spearheaded by the City Redevelopment Department, both say business has been good. They are seeing increased activity on the week-ends and at night.

Kim Anderson, general manager at Ambrosia Café located at 1030 K Street, said this was the best December the café has had in the eight years it's been open.

"It's been OK, still too early to tell, but we have seen a new batch of customers who say, 'we drove by and saw your café,' which is always good," Anderson said. "In years past, December has been very slow for us because legislative session is closed for the holiday, but because the street has opened up, it has been a definite plus."

For many drivers this means another option when driving across town.

"J Street has been so congested for a number of years," said Joan Starke, Carmichael motorist. "It will be so nice to know that I have this option now."

Mark (declined to share his last name), who walks down K Street nearly every day, said

he's seen traffic slowly picking up.

"Bringing cars back to K Street is not just about being able to see the shops or the drive down the street, but that it is also about changing the psychology of the space," he said. "That will take time and obviously more than just cars."

The Department of Transportation plans to release a new K Street Vehicle Traffic Data Study, between 8th and 12th streets, in February. The purpose of the new study is to determine the benefits, impacts and feasibility of allowing cars on K Street.

"The new research will help us gather the latest traffic data such as changes of driver's behavior, speed, determine the benefits, impacts and trip frequency," said Linda Tucker, spokesperson for the Department of Transportation.

The department is currently working on tweaking some of the roadway operations, including more signs alerting pedestrians they now must cross only at intersections, not midblock.

"The cars on K Street are new, drivers and pedestrians need time to adjust to using the road," explained Sergeant Dave Valdez, Sacramento Police Department Motor Unit. "Some pedestrians like to cut across directly to a business."

Sgt. Valdez said his team is cracking down on jaywalkers, but not necessarily with citation tickets.

Road rules

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Who let the dogs out?

Making the most out of your next dog park visit

By **CORRIE PELC**
Pocket News writer
corrie@valcomnews.com

Dog parks are a hot commodity right now. According to an article in *USA Today* last month, dog parks are the fastest growing segment of city parks in the United States – there were 569 dog parks in the 100 largest cities in 2010, a 34 percent increase over five years, where parks overall only increased by three percent. The article says this reflects changing demographics as there are now more households with dogs (43 million) than children (38 million).

In Sacramento, there are quite a few dog parks. The City of Sacramento Department of Parks and Recreation currently manages nine dog parks throughout the City, including Partner Park on South Land Park Drive, Sutter's Landing Dog Park at 28th and B Streets, and Glenbrook Dog Park on La Riviera Drive.

Greg Narramore, recreation superintendent for the City of Sacramento Department of Parks and Recreation, says the City began opening dog parks as the community was asking for a place to take their dogs.

"As Sacramento has become more urbanized, people don't have space for their dogs to get a lot of good exercise," he explains. "Walking's fine, but dogs also like to get out and run and play. And for dogs that are very social, this is a great place for them to go and play with other dogs."

It's this ability for dogs to socialize that makes it possible for a dog owner to have a well-adjusted dog, according to Jaimie Scott, owner of Blissful Dog Owner Dog Training and Behavior Modification.

"Dog play is extremely important and I think most people don't realize or understand how important it is," Scott says. "At the dog park, your dog has to learn how to read other dog's social cues, dogs that he doesn't know, and respond. That uses a lot



Photo courtesy, Victoria Cox at Cha Cha's Doggie Daycare

CANDID CANINES. August, Gunner, Winnie, Zahra and Enzo enjoy a quiet moment together, humoring their humans for this candid photo at a Sacramento dog park.

of brain power – it's kind of like paying a long game of chess while you're running up a hill."

Tips for Success

With a number of dog park choices in the Sacramento area, what should you look for in a park?

Victoria Cox, office manager and dog trainer for Cha Cha's Doggie Daycare in East Sacramento says owners should do their research before attending a dog park.

"Drive by it and see: do they have a small dog area that's separate from the big dogs, are there holes in the fencing,

does the equipment look safe," Cox says.

Before you enter the dog park, Cox says to sit outside of the park and just watch. Are dog owners watching their dogs? Or are they texting instead? Is there a "bul-

See Dog park, page 21

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Photo courtesy, Victoria Cox at Cha Cha's Doggie Daycare
OPEN SPACES. Jeff plays with Enzo and Roger at a Sacramento dog park. As Sacramento becomes more urbanized, open spaces for dogs and humans to exercise are becoming more important.



Photo courtesy, Victoria Cox at Cha Cha's Doggie Daycare
DOGGONE FUN. August, Zoe, Annie, and a neighbor dog socialize in a local dog park. Dog parks are becoming more and more popular in the United States – and Sacramento in particular.

Dog park: 'A place you go and enjoy your dog and enjoy other people'

Continued from page 20

ly" dog chasing the other dogs around?

"If any of these red flags pop up, I would just leave and come back another day," she says.

If you do find a dog park you want to try out, Scott suggests walking your dog around the park before going in.

"It gives your dog a chance to calm down a little bit, get used to the idea that there's other dogs around," he explains. "Also, you can check out every single dog in the dog park and if there's a dog causing problems in there, don't go in."

Scott also uses this time to greet dogs in the park through the fence, allowing his dog to calm down by reinforcing "calm submissive behavior." This takes some of the pressure off his dog as it says to him that "Scott's checked out these dogs and they're OK."

For the first 10 or so trips to the dog park, Scott says owners should be prepared to be 100 percent devoted to watching their dog rather than socializing with other owners.

"You're going to be watching your dog like a hawk – following him around, making sure he doesn't get into it with other dogs, making sure other dogs don't get into his face and scare him," he says. "For many dogs, it takes half a dozen trips to the dog park before they feel comfortable enough to be able to run and chase other dogs."

Cox also stresses the importance of basic obedience

training for your dog before ever entering a dog park.

"If they don't listen to you or they don't come when they're called at home, then they're absolutely not going to do it at the dog park when there's a million fun things to do," she says.

Hot Dog!

So how can you help ensure a great time for both you and your canine companion at the dog park?

First off, know what to leave at home. Cox says to leave your pet's favorite toy at home and eat lunch before you come.

"Don't go to McDonald's and bring your cheeseburger to the dog park," she says. "It's kind of a no-brainer, but I've seen it a lot – people bring food and then you have all the dogs in one place wanting the same food and it can cause trouble."

Cox also suggests not bringing small children when possible. She says having a small child with you at the dog park can take your attention off your dog and could result in injuries – such as those from a knocked over stroller.

Some dogs are not used to having children around, which can make them nervous.

"I would just say to make sure that if you're going to take your child, that it's an older child that's comfortable around dogs," she adds.

As far as things to bring, Narramore says to bring a water dish, as water is available at all the City of Sacra-

mento dog parks. Don't forget baggies to pick up dog droppings. And remember if you see anything not appropriate at the park – such as an overly-aggressive dog – dial 311

to request a park ranger be dispatched to your location.

"(The dog park) is a place you go and enjoy your dog and enjoy other people – it's recreational playtime for you

and your dog," Narramore says. "We think you want to go and have a good time. And if you're going to have a good time, then your dog is going to have a good time."

Dog-Gone Fun

Here is a list of some dog parks close to the East Sacramento, Land Park and Pocket areas. For more dog park options, visit www.cityofsacramento.org. Also, Scott has a map of all dog parks in the Sacramento metro area on his blog at www.blissfuldogowner.com.

Glenbrook Dog Park

8500 La Riviera Drive
 1-acre park includes long run turf area and shaded areas

Granite Park Dog Park

8200 Ramona Avenue
 2-acre park includes lights and turf

Partner Park

5699 S Land Park Drive (behind Belle Cooledge Community Center)
 2.5-acre park featuring lights and benches

Sutter's Landing Dog Park

20 28th Street
 2.5-acre park includes areas for large and small dogs

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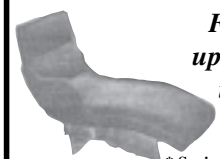
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CALENDAR

For more Calendar entries visit
www.valcomnews.com

Send your event announcement for consideration to: susan@valcomnews.com at least two weeks prior to publication.

ONGOING

'Bingo: the Musical'

Through Jan. 8: Everybody gets to join in the fun at this musical. Call for times, prices. The Cosmopolitan Cabaret, 10th and K streets, Sac. (916) 557-1999 www.CosmopolitanCabaret.com

Clayton Bailey's World of Wonders

Through Jan. 15: 180 works and complementary ephemera span 50 years of Bailey's prodigious production of genuine marvels. A ceramist, sculptor, and self-proclaimed "mad scientist," Bailey aims to surprise and delight with his art. Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St., Sac. (916) 808-7000, www.crockerartmuseum.org

Florence and the Baroque

Through Feb. 12: Drawn from the largest private collection of Florentine Baroque painting in the United States, this exhibition reveals the intense emotion, saturated color, and refined brushwork that characterized painting in 17th-century Florence. Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St., Sac. (916) 808-7000, www.crockerartmuseum.org

The Art of Disegno: Italian Prints & Drawings

Through Feb. 12: This exhibition, from the collections of the Georgia Museum of Art and Giuliano Ceseri, explores the variety and beauty of Italian draftsmanship through drawings and prints from the 16th through 18th centuries. Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St., Sac. (916) 808-7000, www.crockerartmuseum.org

JANUARY

Art Appetizers

Jan. 5, 14, 18, 26: Get a taste of the Museum's most recent exhibitions. Never the same tour twice, Art Appetizers is a 50-minute gallery experi-

ence designed to fulfill your art cravings. Wed. at 12 noon, Thurs. at 6 p.m., Sat. at 4 p.m. Free with Museum admission. Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St., Sac. (916) 808-7000, www.crockerartmuseum.org

Bilingual Toastmasters

Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26: Una oportunidad unica para mejorar sus habilidades bilingues y superar el temor de hablar delante de gente con nuestro club Los Oradores Toastmasters. Improve your language skills and lose fear of speaking in front of people in Spanish and English with Los Oradores. Every Thursday/Cada Jueves 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Sutter Cancer Center 2800 L Street, Sac. Teri Bullington (916) 723-6232 teri.bullington@gmail.com, www.sacramentotoastmasters.com

Bingo!

Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26: Enjoy a great local charity game of bingo every Thurs. night at 6:30 p.m. Benefits projects in the community. Early bird for \$5, Regular game buy-in of \$20. Elks Lodge No. 6, 6446 Riverside Blvd., Sac. (916) 422-6666

Film Frame: "Sunset Boulevard"

Jan. 5: (1950, 110 Minutes) Director Billy Wilder's Academy-Award-winning classic connects Baroque drama with a modern medium. Film scholar Kristen Anderson Wagner will introduce the film and give the audience a sneak peek of Film Frame features to come in 2012. Seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. 6:30 p.m. Free to Museum members, \$5 non-members in advance, \$10 nonmembers at the door. Purchase tickets at crockerartmuseum.org, the Museum Admission Desk, or by calling (916) 808-1182. Film Frame is part of the program series Thursdays til 9. Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St., Sac. (916) 808-7000, www.crockerartmuseum.org

Florin Sears Store Farmer's Market

Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26: Florin Sears Store Farmer's Market. Every Thursday, year round.

8 a.m.-noon. Florin Rd. & 65th St., Sac. www.california-grown.com

Food Addicts Anonymous

Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26: 12-Step group for those who struggle with obesity, food obsession or eating disorders. Meets Thursdays. 9 a.m. St. Andrews United Methodist Church, 6201 Spruce Ave., Sac. (800) 600-6028.

Living Positive with Chronic Disease group

Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26: Meet-up group for people living with chronic disease who honor or how important a positive mindset is. If you want to complain - this isn't the group for you. The group will discuss and support: best practices for managing your condition, communication strategies, ways to laugh, have fun, engage with life and more. Free. Meets Thursdays. 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. Starbucks, 1401 Alhambra Blvd., Sac. Danae Horn (503) 319-4247

Rotary Club of Pocket/Greenhaven

Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26: Hear guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 7:30 a.m., every Thurs. Aviators Restaurant, 6151 Freeport Blvd., Sac. Kelly Byam (916) 684-6854.

Sacramento Downtown Plaza Farmer's Market

Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26: Sacramento Downtown Plaza Farmer's Market. Every Thursday, May-Sept. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 4th & K streets, Sac. www.california-grown.com

Sutterville Heights Optimist Club

Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26: Come enjoy community speakers and community projects for youth. 12 noon., every Thurs. Golden Corral, 7700 W. Stockton Blvd., Sac. Charlie (916) 427-7136 or Mary-Jo at (916) 691-3059

Ballroom Dances

Jan. 6, 10, 13, 17, 20, 24, 27, 31: Enjoy dancing to a live band every Tuesday and Friday. 1:15 p.m.-3:45 p.m. \$5/person. Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Dr., Carmichael

Kiwanis Club of East Sacramento-Midtown

Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27: Come listen to an interesting guest speaker weekly; community service, serving the children of the world. Visitors welcome, first breakfast "on us." 7

a.m. - 8 a.m. Fridays. 2875 50th St., UC Davis Med. Ctr., Sac. (916) 761-2124 www.eastsacmidtownkiwanis.com

Rotary Club of Point West

Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27: Hear guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 7 a.m., every Fri. Double Tree Hotel, 2001 Point West Way., Sac. www.pointwestrotary.com

Soroptimists of Sacramento

Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27: Soroptimist International of Sacramento South, a service club for business and professional women, meets Fridays. 11:15 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Casa Garden Restaurant, 2760 Sutterville Rd., Sac. Barbara McDonald, (916) 363-6927

Country Club Plaza Farmer's Market

Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28: Country Club Plaza Farmer's Market. Every Saturday, year round. 8 a.m.-noon. Watt & El Camino, Butano Dr. parking lot, Sac. www.california-grown.com

Food Addicts Anonymous

Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28: 12-Step group for those who struggle with obesity, food obsession or eating disorders. Meets Saturdays. 8 a.m. Mercy General Hospital North Auditorium, 4001 J St., Sac. (800) 600-6028.

Highlight Tours

Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28: Discover the essence of the Crocker's permanent collection and special exhibitions in this general tour of the Museum. 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Free with Museum admission. Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St., Sac. (916) 808-7000, www.crockerartmuseum.org

Pancake Breakfast

Jan. 7, Feb. 4: Two light, delicious, warm pancakes, a tasty patty of sausage, Log Cabin syrup, tea and coffee, all for only \$3/person! 8:30 a.m.-10 a.m. Every First Saturday of the Month. Benefits the Wednesday Club. Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Dr., Carmichael

Carmichael Farmer's Market

Jan 8, 15, 22, 29: Carmichael Farmer's Market. 8 a.m.-1 p.m., every Sun. Year round, rain or shine. Carmichael Park, 5750 Grant Ave., Carmichael. www.bemoneysmartusa.org

Co-Dependents Anonymous

Jan 8, 15, 22, 29: 12-Step group for those who struggle to maintain healthy relationships. Meets Sundays. 2 p.m. Heritage Oaks Hospital, 4300 Auburn Blvd., Rm.101, Sac (866) 794-9993.

Community Sunday breakfast

Jan 8, 15, 22, 29: Enjoy a delicious breakfast of eggs Benedict, corned beef hash, Joe's scramble, pancakes and more. 8:30 a.m.-11 a.m., every Sun. \$9. Elks Lodge No. 6, 6446 Riverside Blvd. (at Florin Rd.), Sac. Proceeds benefit student scholarships. www.elks6.com

State Parking Lot Farmer's Market

Jan 8, 15, 22, 29: State Parking Lot Farmer's Market. Every Sunday, year round. 8 a.m.-noon. 8th & W streets, under Highway 50, Sac. www.california-grown.com

Sunday Support for the Widowed

Jan 8, 15, 22, 29: The Widowed Persons Assn. sponsors Sunday Support sessions which are held every Sunday, rain or shine - holidays included. 3 p.m.-5 p.m. 2628 El Camino Ave., Ste. D-18 (east of Fulton). Widows and widowers welcome. Barbara Stewart (916) 363-3482

Hatha yoga

Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30: Align the body through breathing techniques, postures and deep relaxation. 3 p.m.-4 p.m. Hart Senior Center, 915 27th St., Sac. (916)808-5462. Meets every Mon. Repeats Wed., Fri.

Nicotine Anonymous

Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30: Nicotine Anonymous meeting. Meets every Monday, 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1300 N St., Sac. Brandi Bowman (916) 984-3501

Rotary Club of South Sacramento

Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30: Hear guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 11:30 a.m., every Mon. Casa Garden Restaurant, 2760 Sutterville Rd., Sac. www.rotary.org.

Tai Chi & Chi Keung

Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30: Chinese exercise combines specific movements and relaxation. 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., Hart Senior Center, 915 27th St., Sac. Meets every Mon. (916) 808-5462

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Toastmasters

Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30: Have fun while improving speaking & leadership skills. Klassy Talkers Toastmasters. 7 p.m.–8:30 p.m. Mondays. Executive Airport, 6151 Freepoint Blvd., Sac. Ann Owens (916) 601-4652 www.klassytalkers.freetoasthost.org

ASG Evaluation Day

Jan. 10: The Art Service Group will sponsor an antique appraisal session focusing on paintings, prints, lithographs, and antique maps with Charles Gray; gold, silver, coins, currency, and antique photographs with Doug Scougale; and pottery, glass, and memorabilia with Sylvia Fitzgerald. Informal appraisals or verbal approximations of value are \$10 per item or \$45 for five items. 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Appointments are required. For an appointment, call (916) 808-7752. Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St., Sac. (916) 808-7000, www.crockerartmuseum.org

Homeschool Day: Opposites Attract

Jan. 10: School and family groups are invited to visit the Museum regularly for thematic Museum adventures designed to support various aspects of the California standards and are sure to intrigue children ages four and older. Scour the galleries for art big and small, tall and short, and up and down. 12 noon–2 p.m. \$2 per student in advance, \$4 per student at the door. One chaperone is required for every five students and receives complimentary admission. Additional chaperones are \$4 per person. To register, visit crockerartmuseum.org or call (916) 808-1182. Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St., Sac. (916) 808-7000, www.crockerartmuseum.org

Rotary Club of Arden-Arcade

Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31: Hear guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 12 noon, every Tues. Jackson Catering and Events, 1120 Fulton Ave., Sac. (916) 925-2787, www.ardenarcaderotary.org

Rotary Club of Carmichael

Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31: Hear guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 6 p.m., every Tues. Palm Street Pub & Grill, 6416 Fair Oaks Blvd., Carmichael. www.rotary.org

Sam Brannan Middle School

Visitation Days

Jan. 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19: Sam Brannan Middle School will host parent and 6th grade student visitation days. Come discover the exciting transformation taking place at Sam Brannan Middle School. See first-hand some of the best teaching taking place in Sacramento! All classrooms will be open to students and parents to visit, 8:30 a.m.–12 noon. Contact the school office to schedule your visit. (916) 264-4350 x 1001.

Upholstery class

Jan. 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25, 31, Feb. 1: Learn how to upholster! All types: furniture, auto, boat. Adult ed class taught by an upholstery professional. Tuesdays, 11 a.m.–3 p.m., Wednesdays, 9 a.m.–1 p.m. \$45 for four weeks. McClaskey Adult Center, 5241 J St., Sac. Jerry Prettyman (916) 806-2172

Co-Dependents Anonymous

Jan. 11, 18, 25: 12-Step group for those who struggle to maintain healthy relationships. Meets Wednesdays. 7 p.m. Friends Community Church Fireside Room, 4001 E St., Sac. (866) 794-9993.

Crochet Guild

Jan. 11, Feb. 8: Crocheters of all levels of ability and all ages are invited to join the Sacramento Crochet Guild. Learn new crochet techniques, exhibit at State Fair, do charity work. Mentoring program. Show and tell. Mini classes. Library and newsletter available. Club member of the Crochet Guild of America. Meets the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Seniors: \$6/yr. Enter from parking lot. Church of the Cross, 45th & H sts., Sac. Karolyn (916) 457-4044

Genealogy Program

Jan. 11: Janice Sellers will speak about how to use newspapers in your genealogical research at the Root Cellar Sacramento Genealogical Society meeting. Visitors welcome. 7 p.m.–8:30 p.m. Citrus Heights Community Clubhouse, 6921 Sylvan Road, Citrus Heights. Contact Sandi Benward 916-412-3511 or www.rootcellar.org.

Referrals Plus

Referrals Plus

Jan. 11, Feb. 8: Referrals Plus, a women's networking group, helps women in business with connections, resources, promotions and ideas. We meet the 2nd Wed. of every month. 12:15 p.m. for meeting/luncheon in Greenhaven area. RSVP required. www.referralsplus.org

Rotary Club of East Sacramento

Jan. 11, 18, 25: Hear guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome. 12 noon–1:15 p.m., every Wed. Evan's Kitchen, 855 57th St., Sac. (in the 57th St. Antique Mall) www.rotary.org

Senior Wednesday Club

Jan. 11, 18, 25: The Senior Wednesday Club meets to chat, play bridge, pinocle or bingo. Free. Bring a brown-bag lunch. Free coffee, tea and dessert. Meets Wednesdays. 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Mission Oaks Community Building, 4701 Gibbons Dr., Carmichael. Judi (916) 247-6020

Toastmasters

Jan. 11, 18, 25: All area business people invited to hone their speaking skills. Noon–1:15 p.m., every Wed. River City Speakers Toastmasters Club, Coco's Restaurant, 1830 Arden Way, Sac. (916) 747-8282

Wee Wednesday

Jan. 11, 18, 25: Bring your little one and yourself to this gallery-based activity for children ages three to five. Space is limited and is first-come, first-served. Visitors are encouraged to arrive when sign up begins at 10 a.m. at the Museum Admission Desk. 11 a.m. Free with Museum admission. Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St., Sac. (916) 808-7000, www.crockerartmuseum.org

Art Mix: Baroque Bash

Jan. 12: Indulge in artistic extravagance as you explore the exhibition "Florence and the Baroque" with music from Doom Bird, live period costume drawing facilitated by artist Ben Walker, mask making, and live scenes from "Servant of Two Masters," the most famous example of "commedia dell'arte," performed in the galleries by Scavenger Theatre. 5 p.m.–9 p.m. Free with Museum admission. Art Mix is part of the program series Thursdays 'til 9. Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St., Sac. (916) 808-7000, www.crockerartmuseum.org

um, 216 O St., Sac. (916) 808-7000, www.crockerartmuseum.org

Volkssport walking

Jan. 12: Come join the Sacramento Walking Sticks Volkssport Club! Monthly meetings held every second Thursday at 7 p.m. SMUD Headquarters Bldg., Conference Center, 6201 S St., Sac. Those who wish to walk before the meeting, meet at Starbucks, 1420 65th St., Sac. At 5 p.m. to walk a 3-mile walk to CSUS campus & back. Barbara Nuss (916) 283-4650 or (916) 691-7618 or nussb@surewest.net. Also www.SacramentoWalkingSticks.org

Carmichael Geranium Society

Jan. 13: Come to the monthly meeting of the Carmichael Geranium Society. Guests welcome. Meets every Second Friday of the month, 10 a.m.–12 noon. No mtg. in Aug. Carmichael Park Community Clubhouse, 5750 Grant Ave., Carmichael. Jean (916) 481-2076

Please join us... NBS Pillow Party Event To Help Local Mastectomy Patients

Monday, January 9th, 2012, 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.
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Faces and Places Happy New Year!

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Residents of East Sacramento and the surrounding area gathered in Old Sacramento to usher in the New Year and say goodbye to 2011.

Members of the Sacramento Walking Sticks Volkssport Club chose to start 2012 off with the burning of calories. Others chose to say goodbye to 2011 by attending the festive celebrations sponsored by the City on New Year's Eve.


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1/19/12: 6:30m-9pm at Robbie Waters Library
1/21/12: 11:30am-3pm at Caroline Wenzel Elementary School
1/28/12: 8:30am-12noon at Caroline Wenzel Elementary School

Winter Warm-Up Clinic: January 21, 2012: Noon to 3pm
Player Evaluations: January 28, 2012: 9am to 12noon

On-line registration until January 28, 2012
www.PocketGirlsSoftball.org

Turning Your Dreams Into An Address



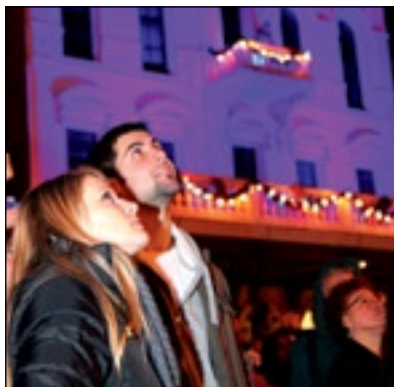

Ilah Turner
GRI

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Hollywood Park Cutie
Coming Soon! Charming 3 bedroom, 2 bath updated home. Large family room with big mature backyard. Newer roof, CH/A, hardwood floors, & plantation shutters. Traditional sale - call me for a private showing.
\$268,000

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See More Photos & Open House Schedule for my "Featured Homes" at:
GreenhavenPocketHomes.com

Just Listed! Greenhaven!

\$329,900

< 6 Healdsburg Court – \$329,900!
 Immac 3bd 2ba, 1-story w/3-car garage! Lrg family rm. Lots of updates, including granite kitchen counters & much more! Great locale near the School of Engineering & Sciences, Pocket Library & bike path. Apx 2,142 sq'

234 River Acres Dr – Now \$325,000 >
 Exceptional location & features! 3bd 2.5ba "Great Room" plan w/formal dining rm, upd stainless kitchen appliances w/Blue Star gas range. Tile roof. Upd laminate & tile flooring. Apx 25' deep garage. More! Apx 1,899 sq'

Pocket / Didion Area

 Open Jan 7th & 8th, 1-4

Pending Sale!

 Pocket / Didion Area

< 6965 Riverside Blvd – Pending Sale!
 Easy living in this attractive, well-maintained 2bd 2.5 bath halfplex home. Both bdrms are large & have private baths – like having two master suites. Low-maint stucco exterior & updated comp shingle roof. More!

1332 Eloah Way – Pending Sale! >
 Charming 3bd 2ba with elegant formal living & dining rms. Updated kitchen, roof, heat & air, flooring, more! Lrg master ste w/French doors to yard. Enclosed patio room, plus bonus room. RV or boat parking.

Pending Sale!

 Rio Park Area

"Bill did a fantastic job in all aspects of selling our home in this market... total days on market was under 30 days! Bill is very professional and communicated with us constantly throughout the whole process. Thank you, Bill!"
 Naida Rasmussen, Seller – SLP HRHs

*Per public records or other sources deemed reliable, but has not been verified by agent or broker; interested parties to verify.



Over 30 Years Experience - References
 Greenhaven / Pocket Area Specialist
 Masters Club, Outstanding Life Member

Bill Bonner
 (916) 320-1888
 Bill@PocketAreaHomes.com



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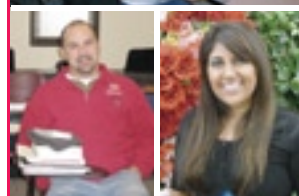
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SELLS GREENHAVEN/POCKET

7610 BRIDGEVIEW DRIVE \$375,000



HALF PLEX, 3 BEDROOM, 3 BATH, 2381SF.
TERRY MULLIGAN 768-3796

6492 RIVERSIDE BLVD. \$348,000

PENDING



SINGLE FAMILY, 5 BEDROOM, 3 BATH, 3-CAR 2823 SF.
BRANDON M. SHEPARD 916-479-1936

6 HEALDSBURG COURT \$329,900

NEW LISTING



SINGLE FAMILY, 3 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHS, 2,142SF.
BILL BONNER 320-1888

234 RIVER ACRES DRIVE \$325,000



SINGLE FAMILY, 3 BEDROOM, 2.5 BATH, 1899SF.
BILL BONNER 320-1888

380 DEER RIVER WAY \$319,000



SINGLE FAMILY, 3 BEDROOM, 2.5 BATH, 2109SF.
JOHN WONG 531-7150

6708 BREAKWATER WAY \$275,000

PENDING



SINGLE FAMILY, 3 BEDROOM, 3 BATH, 2023SF.
LYNN LUK LEE 628-2843

1332 ELOAH WAY \$259,900

PENDING



SINGLE FAMILY, 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 1880SF.
BILL BONNER 320-1888



7 NORTHLITE CIRCLE \$249,900

PENDING



SINGLE FAMILY, 4 BEDROOM, 2 BATH 2186SF.
MELODY TACTAQUIN 612-0825

7311 RIVERWIND WAY \$189,900

NEW PRICE



HALF PLEX, 3 BEDROOM, 3 BATH, 1779SF.
JOLEEN DUNNIGAN 717-3559

6965 RIVERSIDE BLVD \$169,500

PENDING



HALF PLEX, 2 BEDROOM, 2.5 BATH, 1420SF.
BILL BONNER 320-1888

7358 AMBROSE WAY \$150,000

PENDING



HALF PLEX, 2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 1177SF.
MARSHA CHAN 217-5500

1116 ROSA DEL RIO WAY \$145,000

PENDING



SINGLE FAMILY, 2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 1155SF.
MARY JEW LEE 425-3749

ELK GROVE

3525 MARSH CREEK WAY-\$375,000
PENDING

SINGLE FAMILY, 5 BEDROOM, 3 BATH, 3951SF
JOLEEN DUNNIGAN 717-3559

9069 QUAIL TREE COURT-\$289,000
PENDING

SINGLE FAMILY, 4 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 2425SF
LYNN LUK LEE 628-2843

8611 ELK RIDGE WAY-\$155,900
NEW PRICE

SINGLE FAMILY, 4 BEDROOM, 3 BATH, 1761SF
BRANDON SHEPARD 479-1936

9491 SEA CLIFF WAY-\$169,900
SOLD

SINGLE FAMILY, 4 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 2193SF
FARES ALIE 247-7198

8732 MORNING GLORY WAY-\$245,000
SINGLE FAMILY, 4 BEDROOM, 3 BATH, 2832SF
NEAL ALIE 981-7129

5 BENT CREEK COURT-\$165,000

PENDING

SINGLE FAMILY, 4 BEDROOM, 3 BATH, 2090SF
NEAL ALIE 981-7129

6120 DEEPDALE WAY-\$235,900

PENDING

SINGLE FAMILY, 4 BEDROOM, 3 BATH, 2900SF
FARES ALIE 247-7198

9601 ELK GROVE BLVD-\$299,000

SINGLE FAMILY, 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 1374SF
JOHN WONG 531-7150

9898 BOBBELL DRIVE-\$270,000

PENDING

SINGLE FAMILY, 4 BEDROOM, 3 BATH, 2751SF
JOLEEN DUNNIGAN 717-3559

6901 SPRINGMONT DRIVE-\$130,000

NEW LISTING

SINGLE FAMILY, 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 1239SF
NEAL ALIE 981-7129

9918 TARZO WAY-\$165,000

NEW LISTING

SINGLE FAMILY, 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 1324SF
GARY T LEE 595-4279

SACRAMENTO

9096 BEDROCK COURT-\$249,900

PENDING

SINGLE FAMILY, 4 BEDROOM, 3 BATH, 2781SF
DAVID OHARA 600-9495

4305 GRIFFITH DRIVE-\$275,000

SINGLE FAMILY, 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 1365SF
JOHN WONG 531-7150

2319 V ST. - \$495,000

SINGLE FAMILY, 4 BEDROOM, 3 BATH, 3100SF
DAWN O'CONNOR-ROWE 799-4835

1939 AUBURN BLVD-\$449,900

NEW LISTING

COMMERCIAL/RETAIL
GARY T LEE 595-4279

377 DRAGONFLY CIRCLE-\$150,000

PENDING

SINGLE FAMILY, 3 BEDROOM, 3 BATH, 1552SF
BRANDON SHEPARD 479-1936

2517 7TH AVENUE-\$259,900

SOLD

SINGLE FAMILY, 2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH, 1154SF
BRANDON SHEPARD 479-1936

2885 NORWOOD AVENUE-\$350,000

NEW LISTING

RESTAURANT, 139.392SF
DAVID OHARA 600-9495

7272 FAWN WAY-\$49,900

NEW LISTING

SINGLE FAMILY, 3 BEDROOM, 1 BATH, 1036SF
GARY T LEE 595-4279