POCKET NEWS

November 7, 2013 Community News in Your Hands www.valcomnews.com





Faces and Places: One Book Dinner

■ See page 7



JFK women's
Volleyball
goes down in
history
See page 5

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Capitol Ballet Company creates holiday magic with Tchaikovsky's 'The Nutcracker

Don't miss this enchanting holiday classic. Experience the beauty and artistry of ballet and the wonder of Tchaikovsky's The Nutcracker. This classical ballet, first performed in Russia over a hundred years ago, has become a family holiday tradition. Audiences in Northern California have long been enjoying Capitol Ballet Company's sold-out performances of The Nutcracker.

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The Nutcracker will be performed on Saturday, December 14th, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. at the Sheldon High School Performing Arts Center, 8333 Kingsbridge Drive, Sacramento, California. Tickets are \$18-\$22 for adults; \$12-\$16 for children, seniors (65+), students and military with ID. Tickets may be purchased at www.capitolballet.com or by calling Capitol Ballet Company (916) 484-1188.

Capitol Ballet Company is a non-profit organization funded in part by the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission Cultural Arts Awards with support from the City and County of Sacramento. Visit us at www.capitolballet.com



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Congratulations Kennedy Women's Volleyball! Editors note: See the next issue of the Pocket News for

an expanded article about the game and the team that worked so hard to win Metro.

The Kennedy Women's Varsity Volleyball team won the school's first Metro League Championship in school history against Burbank on "Senior Night" at home on Tuesday, Nov. 5. The gym was in high spirits all evening long with the school band performing, families cheering
Coach Aaron Pollock, a science teacher at Ken-

nedy, said he has coached some very skilled volleyball players in his career, but never had this many all around skilled players with such a high volleyball IQ on one roster. "This is the 1st time in my coaching career that I have been able to run the same advanced offensive plays that I ran as a college player. Nothing makes a coach prouder than teaching a skill at practice one day and seeing this team go out and execute the same skill effectively at the next game."



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In the Pocket

By SHANE SINGH

Kick starters: Our kids move. That's one of the best features of life in the munity - very few sedentary youngsters. Adding to the Olympic sport of taekwondo. From its origins in 1950s-era Korea, the martial art is taking Taekwondo for more inforhold at a new retail loca- mation. The school also ofnext to our local Wells Farties. Maybe Lor's young Taekwondo, the school is run by Xai Lor, who opened her business in Oc-

tober. "We have about 60 kids, children ranging from tions to prepare for the national tournament in June visit schools and neighborhood groups to introduce dles off their cakes...

white to brown belts," Lor et-Greenhaven residents are after hearing about worried said. "We used to be at Lis- jumpy after more thunder- neighbors..." bon Elementary for the last ous rounds could be heard two years. Our kids are as Halloween approached. Pocket-Greenhaven com- training for local competi- Neighbor Chris Tapio did some investigating. He the athletic mix this fall is at San Jose." Lor plans to not bullets, but part of a ings of possible showers Patch in West Sacramento. her sport, but drop by iYa It's a different world across er - rural, timeless - and tion on Greenhaven Drive fers space for birthday par- only about 700 watery feet tion at Pocket Little League, about Wilkie winning the from the Pocket communigo branch office. Called iYa masters can kick the can-ty. "This incident is a good of us live to active agriculbe good, responsive neigh-

month, local street crime Code Enforcement. The opdiscussions involved shots erators at Dave's Pumpkin being fired after a gang-re- Patch, who've been in the

Little balls & strikes: learned that the shots were Chilly mornings and warnshow at Dave's Pumpkin can only mean one thing in Pocket-Greenhaven - baseball season! Well, not exactthe mighty Sacramento Riv- ly. But Nov. 1 was the first date for on-line registrameaning parents were thinkreminder of how close many 2014 moments after greeting the last ghosts and gobture operations and how to lins from Halloween 2013. Pocket Little League Presbors," Tapio said. Chris was ident David Starnes inable to get to the meat of vites families to check www. the pumpkin pyrotechnics pocketlittleleague.com for thanks to assistance from news and forms. He also ad-

Pumpkins Patched: Last Sac Police and West Sac league's Facebook page for updates on in-person registration dates and requirements. Pocket Little League lated gathering at Gar- game for many years, did has broken ground on a new cia Bend Park. Now Pock- not act like pumpkin heads field north of its current AAA diamond. The project is part of improvements by Sacramento City Parks and Recreation, which include more parking at Bill Conlin Youth Sports Complex...

> Medal chest: The awards keep coming for Pocket res-

ident Wilkie Liang, This column has already told you Sacramento Police Depart-Award. But that was just a warm-up. In October, Wilkie bagged the Volunteer of the Year award at the 14th annual Law Enforcement Volunteers of California state conference in Lodi. Mavbe Wilkie should slow down with his rest of us a chance...

ing about signups for Spring ment's Volunteer of the Year Sacramento Police, West vises parents to check the volunteer service. Give the Blow away the barriers to happiness with this EXPLOSIVE bestseller!



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Purple-out: Quite a sight around Sacramento for the Kings' season opener, with various local landmarks - the Tower Bridge, City Hall and even the Capitol bathed in purple lights celebrating our local NBA team. The waterfront hotel Embassy Suites changed room keys to a purple hue (per a Tweet from Kings owner Vivek Ranadive, Twitter handle @Vivek). The whole region should be proud of the work of the grassroots community, NBA Commissioner David Stern, Mayor Kevin Johnson and others to save the Kings for Sacramento. The first game was broadcast on local TV without commercials and beamed to India, Ranadive's homeland. One notable landmark not colored purple was the giant Pocket water tower. The tank stayed neutral. At least



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Faces and Places:

All Friends One Book Sacramento Dinner

Photos courtesy of Kathi Windheim

On Oct. 25, the Friends of the Library held its annual fundraiser dinner at the Sacramento Elks Lodge, No. 6. According to a message from the Library Director Rivkah Sass, the 2013 summer reading program broke all previous records. They set a goal of 30,000 participants for the summer and met that goal before the end of July. They also set a goal of participants reading 100,000 books and saw that goal reached as well. The Third Annual One Book Sacramento Dinner celebrated Edgar Allan Poe, which sold out.



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iYa Taekwondo celebrated expansion with demonstrations

On Oct. 19, iYa Taekwondo celebrated its grand opening at its new location at 7385 Greenhaven Dr. with performances by its talented youth who are enrolled at the local martial arts school. The new location will allow them to provide more flexible hours, professional training floor and convenient location. The school offers a taekwondo university every Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 382-9058.





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Pocket residents help raise funds for Sacramento Life Center dinner

More than 600 local residents will celebrate the Sacramento Life Center's free medical care, counseling and education for pregnant women and teens at the organization's annual fundraising dinner on Nov. 9. Among them will be Rich and Connie Koppes, Pocket residents who are founding members of the Sacramento Life Center and this year's Naming Sponsors for the event. The Salute to Life Dinner

and Auction will begin at 5 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Ballroom in Sacramento and will include a gourmet dinner, auction, raffle and stories of people who have received help from the Sacramento Life Center. The event will raise funds for the nonprofit's programs, including their primary medical clinic and Mobile Medical Clinic that provide free services such as al moments over the last 40 pregnancy tests, STD tests, years that the Sacramento well woman exams, ultrasounds, counseling and more. eration, he names the day the Last year's event raised more than \$400,000.

The Koppes family was instrumental in purchasing the organization's Mobile Medical Clinic in 2011, donating a substantial portion of the cost. The group hopes to Life Dinner grow exponenhave a second Mobile Meditially over the last 40 years cal Clinic up and running by early 2014.

'These are the only two Mobile Medical Clinics can get involved. in the greater Sacramento area," said Connie Koppes. skyrocket since we began offering services in multiple locations, and we can't wait ple effect."

to see this second clinic out Rich and Connie Koppes

have served on the board of directors for each of the last 40 years. When Rich Koppes describes the top four pivot-Life Center has been in oporganization got its first office, the first Salute to Life Dinner, buying the first ultrasound machine and purchasing the first Mobile Medical Clinic. For Rich, seeing the organization and Salute to tially over the last 40 years ter also offers a school-based has been a dream come true, teen education program, a 24and he wants young people in the community to know they

RESERVE YOUR SPACE

"It's never too late to get involved and do something," "We have seen our numbers Rich Koppes said. "You never know the impact you have. It can have a wonderful rip-

on the road soon."

For more information about sponsorships or to purchase tickets, visit www.saclife.org.

The Sacramento Life Center's mission is to offer compassion, support, resources and free medical services to women facing an unplanned or unsupported pregnancy in the greater Sacramento area. The center's licensed Sac Valley Pregnancy Clinic includes a primary clinic and mobile clinic, both providing free services including well woman exams, pregnancy tests, STD tests, ultrasounds, counseling for men and women, education and resource referrals. The Sacramento Life Cenhour hotline and a program for women seeking support after having an abortion. For more information about the Sacramento Life Center's Sac Valley Pregnancy Clinic, visit www. sypclinic.com. For more information about the Sacramento Life Center: www.saclife.org.

IN THE UPCOMING

Reuse It: Pony Express to start official launch for school fundraiser

Fundraising for cash-strapped schools has taken a new approach. Local schools have partnered with Re-Use It, a recycling company that collects "soft items" such as old clothes, shoes, purses, belts, pillows, towels, comforters, toys, and, in turn, provides the schools with a cut of profits after selling to thrift stores.

The official launch of the fundraiser happens Nov. 15 to Nov. 25 at Pony Express. During that period of 10 days, there will be a ReUse It drop box in the parking lot. People can put their goods in the drop box during that period of time. But the program runs through mid February, as other schools will be involved, including Matsuyama, MLK K-8, Caroline Wenzel and Didion. There will also be a second designated drop box site at the parking lot of Florez Bar and Grill and Kombat Soccer, starting Nov. 12 and going until Feb. 20. Money will be divided equally amongst the five schools as a bonus.

For up to 10,000 pounds, a school gets 10 cents a pound. If they go over 10,000 pounds, the price per pound goes up to 15 cents a pound.

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Greenhaven Lutheran Church

475 Florin Road (at Gloria Dr.) • 428-8449 9:00am Bible Study & Sunday School 10:15am Traditional Liturgical Sunday Worship Service www.GreenhavenLutheran.org Angels Nest Pre School 2 yrs. - 5 yrs. (916) 428-4651

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5401 Freeport Blvd. • 452-4477 • centennialumc.com United in Christ ~ Embracing Diversity Sunday Services: 10:30am, 1:00pm (Fijian), 6:00pm (Informal)

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St. Anthony Catholic Church

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Sunday Masses: 8:30 and 10:30am, 5:00pm (5:00pm vigil on Saturday) Daily Mass: 8:00am Monday-Saturday

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Free books are just around the corner

Bv MONICA STARK

Give a book; take a book. It's as simple as that at the three Free Little Libraries now open in the Pocket-Greenhaven area, thanks to McClatchy High School student Jonathan Louie who installed the newest additions last month on Park Riviera, just a short walk from Didion Elementary. A second is located on the corner of Pocket and Arabella, and a third on Riverside Boulevard between Galley Court and Ashore.

Full of books ranging from children's to histories and mysteries, passersby have a good variety of fun reads to choose from.

Apprentice to two McClatchy The Humanities and International Studies Program (HISP) students who started the Bound Together, Free Little Libraries project in Pocket, Allison Yamamoto and JasMin Kehoe, Louie finished this Eagle Scout Project with the help of family and Kennedy students Finn Ducey and Ronald Montoya, who will be working on that next Little Free Library, which will be located on El Douro Dr. Some of the Friends of the Library (who sponsored the project) met Louie last month at the location with Sacramento City Unified School District trustee Darrel Woo.

"I wanted to help the Robbie Waters Library and I asked (Friends of the Library member) Kathi (Windheim) about an upcoming project and we both liked this idea because it can help promote literacy around neighborhoods and because it's free," Louie told the Pocket News on a Friday afternoon just beside his latest project. "Lots of people should read books and having access to free books can help that," he said.

The homeowner whose property has the little library said so far they are getting one or two people knocking on the door, making requests. "They love ies. "In the beginning, we researched having them the fact it's here. It's on the way to Didion for those walking to school. Give a book and receive a book. also across from Lewis Park and under a great palm tree," Windheim added. (Names of homeowners were requested to be kept private.)

Windheim said Jonathan has done an incredible job, making improvements to the first design, making it larger and extremely waterproof. Moreover, he added a frame for support. "There's inside pieces in there. We built a first frame, then put the pieces on top of it,"

Louie added, as he investigated his piece of work.

In regards to any difficulty in getting the project started, Louie said he had to find someone with none of my helpers knew how to build it. It was a ings," Windheim said. little difficult to explain to them how to build it how I wanted it," he said.

is still on the move, Louie sent photos of his project to both Yamamoto, now a student at Columbia University and Kehoe, a student at Lovola.

Windheim said The Friends of the Library keep a list of people willing to house the Free Little Librar- library know of their interest.





Photos by Monica Stark (above) Jonathan Louie looks through the door of the new Little Free Library he helped create for his Eagle Scout Project.

(left) Front row: Pocket-Greenhaven Friends of the Library Student Representatives Anthony Fukuhara and Jonathan Louie. Cindy Louie Back Row: SCUSD School Board Member Darrel Woo. Pocket-Greenhaven Friends of the Library Secretary Linda Kirkland former SCUSD School Board President Rick Jennings, Pocket -Greenhaven Friends of the Library President, Kathi Windheim, Art

on the levees or in the parks, but too many permits and hoops to jump through and different jurisdic-It's a great," he said. "Park Riviera is perfect for stu-tions to get an OK, plus no guarantee they would dents walking home from school, Didion, and lots be taken care of," she said. So they sought out peoof neighbors on the street were excited about it, It's ple willing to watch over them, have them on their property and asked library staff and Friends members. Next they try to space them out on a walking or bike route.

One of the homeowners that hosts another Little Library location, said her structure is "well-used by all the little tots in my court," Also a new library staff member at Pocket has asked for one. "So we add people as we go," Windheim said. "You just need to be a Friends of the Library member and agree to watch over it and call us if they need more books or assistance. I try to check in with each one, power tools. "That part was a little tricky to get. once or twice a month and send more books from This is only the second time I actually built that and our Friends Books Store if needed to boost offer-

The Friends of the Pocket-Greenhaven Library have sponsored all of the Free Little Li-To show his mentors the Little Library movement braries, costing \$500 so far. If anyone is interested in being on the list to have one in front of their house, they can call Windheim at 392-0101 or Board Secretary, Linda Kirkland at 429-0259 or even just let one of the staff at the



Jonathan Louie and his father, Art Louie, who was very instrumental in helping his son complete the project.

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Parent University workshops announced at Kennedy HS

For those looking to get more involved in your child's education, people can come to John F. Kennedy's free Parent University workshops where people will learn about subjects such as graduation expectations, college acceptance requirements, and financial aid assistance.

The Parent University program, offered through John F. Kennedy's ASSETs program, collaborates with several community partners to offer free monthly workshops covering these topics and much more, including positive discipline, school safety, bully prevention, and health and wellness. Parent University is an opportunity for parents to become more informed about current and post-high school opportunities as they advocate for the education and well-being of their children.

The primary goal of the program is to educate, inspire, and empower parents to meet the developmental, emotional, and, intellectual, needs of their children. Through these workshops, parents sharpen their skills and are encouraged to play an active role in their child's driving and safety education and life.

During these sessions, parents also have the opportunity to discuss concerns and share solutions with community experts and fellow parents. Workshop topics are determined from annual parent surveys assessing the specific cultural, socioeconomic, and educational needs of John F. Kennedy students and the community in which it serves. These workshops are offered once a month from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in the JFK Library, located at 6715 Gloria Dr.

The schedule is as follows:

Nov. 20: Staff meet and greet, school safety, and gang identification

Dec. 18: Positive discipline and bully preven-

Jan. 15: Financial Aid

Feb. 19: Health, Wellness & Nutrition/Sex

March 19: UC Merced Field Trip April 9: Drug and alcohol awareness/teen

May 21: End of the year celebration





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Values: Coming to Pocket parking spaces near you

A new project hitting the pave- the fall workshops. There, we'll brainment is connecting people to their values. Aptly called the Values Project, it's public art through which values are brainstormed during community workshops, and the resulting set of values words, like Respect, and Integrity, are painted in parking spaces at that group's facility. It is happening at businesses, non-profits, schools, churches, hospitals, libraries and community centers throughout Sacramento. The project has begun with pilot workshops and painting of 35 words at the Teichert and Raley Boys & Girls Club and Leataata Floyd. And it took place last summer and this fall at community centers and libraries, like Belle Cooledge, Arden Dimick, Oak

Park, Mims-Hagginwood and more. The Friends of the Robbie Waters Greenhaven-Pocket Library are brining the Values Project to Pocket. Having Peter Hassen come to a meeting at the library on Nov. 20 from 12:30 p.m. to 1 p.m. with principals form the School of Sciences and Engineer-

ing, MLK K-8 and Kennedy.

The key to the project are the group workshops that brainstorm sets of values words that we then paint. The project is endorsed by Supervisor Serna, Councilmembers Hansen, Schenirer, Cohn and McCarty, as well as the Sacto Interfaith Council and other community leaders. Priority Parking is participating with their 29 midtown and downtown lots. We're also working with the SCUSD in schools, libraries and community centers.

To Hassen, this is a chance for scores of students and thousands of viewers to discover the values we all share - what unites us all. The small-group workshops are a good place for students to wrestle with these abstract concepts. The novelty and surprise of seeing the words in parking spaces will jumpstart meaningful conversations about our most important qualities.

Volunteers coordinate with schools

storm the values words that we'll paint in the parking lots. Then, we arrange for professional crews to paint select parking spaces with the values words each school chooses that best represent them. As a not-for-profit project, a variety of funding: crowdsourcing, angels, grants and businesses. Just \$50/word needs to be raised, but we help with that. The artist, Peter Hassen, is donating his time, so the fee covers hard costs: materials, painting and gas. With the endorsement from SCUSD superintendent Jonathan Raymond, each school principal can choose if it's right for their campus, and work with Hassen directly. Peter Hassen has painted more than 500 values words in 63 parking lots and coordinating 25 workshops in 32 businesses, hospitals, churches, non-profits and schools in Napa.

The Sacramento Values Project Connecting Communities to Their Values PLEASE CHOOSE TO PARTICIPATE! Email Peter: peter@theValuesProject.org or call: 415-264-1493

What Is "The Values Project"? It is a public art project for Sacramento that paints values words in public parking spaces in dozens of Sacramento parking lots, and holds group workshops to determine core values. It is a low-cost, upbeat way to get people talking about positive values. Schools, businesses, hospitals, non-profits, churches, libraries and community centers are all participating.

What Will It Accomplish? This is a chance for scores of students and thousands of viewers to discover the values we all share - what unites us all. The smallgroup workshops are a good place for students to wrestle with these abstract concepts. The novelty and surprise of seeing the words in parking spaces will jumpstart meaningful conversations about our most important qualities.

How Does It Work? This Spring and Summer, our Volunteers will coordinate and after-school programs to set up with schools and after-school programs and a creative extension of what they

to set up the Fall, 2013 class workshops. There, we'll brainstorm the vallots. Then, we arrange for profession- message to students, parents and staff. al crews to paint select parking spac-

chooses that best represent them. Who Pays For It? As a not-for-profit project, we rely on a variety of funding: crowdsourcing, angels, grants and businesses. Just \$50/word needs to be raised, but we help with that. The artist, Peter Hassen, is donating his time, so the fee covers hard costs: materials, paint- nesses that participated. ing and gas.

Who Is Participating? Superintendent Raymond has endorsed it, so South Natomas Comm. C each school principal can choose if it's right for their campus, and work with Peter Hassen directly. It can be seen now, in English and Marshallese, at the Leataata Floyd school. It's also endorsed by Council members Cohn, Schenirer, Hansen and McCarty, and the Sacramento Interfaith Council.

What Are The Benefits? Schools in Napa found the Values Project to be an engaging enhancement of their positive behavior instruction program (PBIS)

are working so hard to achieve. Seeing these words in both English and the

ues words that we'll paint in the parking other school languages sends a strong

Who Am I? Peter Hassen is the es with the values words each school project artist who produced the successful Napa Values Project, painting over 500 values words in 63 parking lots and coordinating 25 workshops in 32 businesses, hospitals, churches, non-profits and schools. That project is endorsed by the Mayor, County Supes, Superintendent of Education, and all the busi-

- · South Natomas Comm. Center on July 30th @ 6pm;
- Boulevard Park neighborhood: on July 13th At 6pm, in the common area bordered by F and G Street and 21st and 22nd
- Midtown neighborhood: on 8/6 5:30pm, on 22nd Street between L & Capitol
- Many more being firmed up right now, for Belle Cooledge CC (youth and adult), Mims Hagginwood CC (youth and adult), Colonial Heights Library (youth), Oak Park CC (general).







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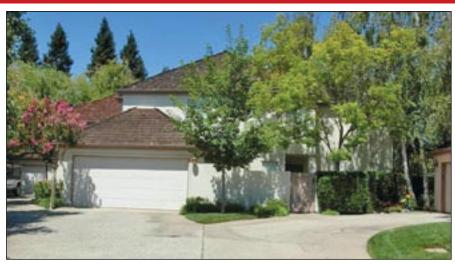


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C.K. McClatchy Sports Hall of Fame induction dinner recognized 40 athletes and coaches

By JIM COOMBS

family, friends and Lion rootnual C. K. McClatchy Sports undefeated. Hall of Fame induction dinner. Forty athletes and coach-1979 were honored.

Many of Sacramento's greatest athletes who still hold school and section records were in attendance. Included ger who swam the length of Lake Tahoe at age 13 and was the first female to swim the English Channel at age 14.

Judy Ghilarducci taught golf Chirstine O'Connor, who won the first two diving section championships in 1977-78, still holds the school record. Jim Gray, who still holds the Sac-Joaquin section diving record with 499 points 34 years later, lost to Greg Louganis by only two points in the nationals.

Christine Nakamura Mac-Danald, a two-time All-American at CSU Sacramento who set most of McClatchy's girls swim records and tennis greats Bob Reynolds, Carolyn Ishii and Mark McNally were also honored.

An other inductee includ-

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holds the Lion's high jump re-

Stotz, who pitched the seces and four outstanding teams tion championship victory in mostly from the years 1963- 1970, just retired after coaching baseball 37 years at Stanford University. Terry Teale, two-time All City in both dy Wong, a four year startwas Lenore Modell Messen- er on the Stanford baseball team, and Roland Office who played 11 years in the major leagues were also inducted.

The 1972 section track champion in the 440 and third at Haggin Oaks for 30 years. in the state meet, Paul Lewis ran four years for the University of Arizona. Harlan Karnofsky, an All-City quarterback, passing leader and all purpose yards leader in 1975, won four letters his senior year. Ron Blanchette, a local dentist, still holds the McClatchy rebounding record in one season at al-

most 18 per game. The 1975 boys soccer team, one of the first to win a section title, had over 40 friends and family in attendance. Most came originally from the Seavey Circle-Southside Park area and have gone on to be successful in the Sacra-

ed was Paul Fuller who still

cord at 6'4" ¼ after 50 years was honored was Al Baeta who On Friday night Oct. 11, and who hit a half court shot coached at American River in more than 400 ex-athletes, against Hiram Johnson at the track and cross-country. His track buzzer to keep the 1963 Met- teams qualified for the junior colers attended the second an- ro League champion Lions lege state championship 22 years pions, coached five different coach football and baseball in a row and his cross-country Baseball standout Dean teams qualified 33 out of 35 years

> for the state championship. Seven McClatchy coaches were honored. Stan Dison who coached Metro League championship basketball and soccer teams, and Scotfootball and baseball, Ran- ty Bingham, an outstanding track and cross-country coach, were inducted as well as Jan Olmsted, who pioneered women's sports in the 1971, long before Title 9.

> > The last group to be inducted were four outstand-

Another early graduate who ing McClatchy athletes who returned to coach a combined 90 years for the Lions. Mike Nishio, an All-City halfback for the 1962 football chamsports at McClatchy and was athletic director.

Brad Klopp, who came back to coach for 22 of his 30 years and still holds a section rewhile working in the junior high system, is the only coach to win both varsity Metro League football and basketball titles. Klopp finally got on the McClatchy staff as a counselor in 1999.

Jeff Ota, one of Sacramento's 100 greatest basketball playcity high schools as early as ers and the leading scorer his junior year in the Sacramento area, is presently the boys basketball coach and assistant

girls coach. He has coached the Lions since 2004.

The last inductee was John Warren who returned to teach science 36 years and for 30 years. Warren was a member of the section champion baseball Lions in 1970 cord for four interceptions in one game against Sacramento High in 1970.

The first year McClatchy Sports Hall of Fame inducted coaches, players and teams from 1937 to 1962. This year they inducted those players they missed in the first 25 years as well as those from 1963-79. Next year they will choose players and coaches







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The Pocket Area Churches Together organization is recruiting volunteers for community assistance activities that require your time and talent:

- Gardening and general labor talents are needed for the Kennedy High School JV Baseball Field rebuilding project scheduled for Saturday, November 16th from 9am -1pm. Volunteers will be moving sod, rolling the infield and spreading grass seed. Other smaller projects may be addressed dependent upon the number of volunteers attending. Please bring shovels, rakes and work gloves.
- Looking for a way to help bring food to the tables of our community's needy residents? Donate canned and staple foods only to the South Sacramento Interfaith Partnership emergency food locker. Located at Bethany Presbyterian Church, the food locker program distributes food to families throughout the South Sacramento area. During the weekend of November 23rd and 24th PACT member churches will serve as drop off centers for this Thanksgiving food drive. Please bring your donations to the following member churches: Faith Presbyterian, Greenhaven Lutheran, Riverside Wesleyan, Greenhaven Neighborhood Church, and St. Anthony Catholic. Monetary donations are also welcomed with checks payable to "SSIP".

For the Thanksgiving food drive organizers are interested in canned and staple foods which are non-perishable such as dry stuffing, instant potatoes, dry/canned gravy, canned pumpkin, canned ham, olives (can or jar) and canned cranberry sauce. Other canned vegetables and fruit will also be welcomed.

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Sacramento resident discusses life as the Kings' mascot

By GREG BROWN

East Sacramento resident Todd Maroldo is the man behind the Slamson costume. He's been entertaining the crowds at Sacramento Kings games with his high-energy antics for over 10 years. This will be his 11th season as Slamson The Lion. He ferociously slam dunks from a trampoline. He enthusiastically high fives the young and old. Slamson can also be seen roller blading all over the court and zig zagging in and out of the aisles at the Sleep Train Arena. Todd Maroldo started out as the Virginia Tech Hokiebird and eventually went pro with the Carolina Panthers as their mascot for six years. You'd think being a team mascot is all fun and games but for Todd it's serious business. I caught up with Todd at the Sleep Train Arena where there was lots of activity as the arena was being prepared for opening night. After a busy morning visiting children at a local hospital Todd was nice enough to do a little Q And A session with me .We ducked into a side room where he took off the Slamson head and introduced himself as Todd Maroldo.

Q. What made you decide to get into mascoting?

A. My parents put me into every sport known to man growing up. I kinda had ADD. I was good at everything. I actually saw the mascot at my college and thought it was really funny and I wanted to get involved. I auditioned in college and got the gig as the Virginia Tech Hokiebird. I did well in a competition when I graduated and I had pro teams calling me to audition.

Q. What do you like about being

A. I think everyday is completely different and I think you truly make a difference in the people's outlook of their day. I just got back from a hospital visit in the pediatrics unit and those are the hardest appearances but you know you're changing somebody's outlook on their day. I think that's the thing that makes the difyou're doing a wedding. You're kind

of in the "happy business". It's the most gratifying job I can think of where you're giving back in a unique

Q. What did you think last year? Were the Kings leaving town? Where they staying?

A. I really don't know how to answer that. We're going, we're staying. We're going, we're staying. We were just so numb to it because for the past three years there were so many changes. We heard about all this two years ago so I was to the point last year thinking to myself, Whatever happens happens. I gave it my all.

Q. I see you on the court going full bore and all out. Have you received any injuries?

A. My knees. My left shoulder, I can't do what I used to do. I've knocked myself out a couple times. I've passed out in costumes because of the heat in Carolina. Yeah, I've woken up in ambulances. I knocked myself out about eight years ago doing a stunt that I'm going to try and do this year.

Q. Do you have a workout regime?

A. I worked out this morning. I do two days of yoga and three days I don't work out on game days. I used to and then what would happen is I'd show up in game day and year besides the games. be spent.

Q. How many Slamson costumes do you have?

A. I have about five costumes, but only two if them are wearable. The events. heads are custom made to my face so when you put them on I can see everything great. It's about \$6,000 per costume. \$4,000 just for the head. This is custom fit to groom? my head. This is really cool, they lay you down on a table and pour A. Haha. No. A lot of times they want Vaseline on your face and then they pour this dental molding on your face and you breath through three latex mold.

Q. How much is your dry-cleaning

A. I actually wash the costume myself. I throw it in the washer and then I have an assistant who combs

Q. Oh Slamson has an assistant?

of weights and two days of cardio. A. I do, but he's not here today. He goes with me on all my appearances and events. I do about 200 events a

Q. What kind of events do you do?

A. You know everything. I did a couple of weddings this summer. I do bar mitzvahs. Birthday parties. Company

Q. What do you do at weddings? Are you marrying the bride and

requests we get.

Q. Since he's not married I asked if he ever uses the Slamson thing with the ladies. "Hey, I'm Slamson how you doing?" as a pick-up line.

A. You know I keep pretty private but I'm dating a girl now who I told up front but I'm usually slow to tell people. In this small community people find out believe it or not. But in my off time I don't like crowds and I don't like waiting in line. It's weird.

A magician will never give his secrets away. There's a code in the mascot world we don't talk. We don't tell people what we do. And I try not to take pictures with tobacco or alcohol products. And the fourth thing is kids under 2 I try not to pick up. Those are my rules. But I really don't tell people what I do. If I'm in Sacramento I usually tell people I'm an accountant. If I'm outside of Sacramento I'll tell people what I do because if I'm flying I won't see them again and I don't mind.

Q. Do you have a favorite mascot?

me to break the ice on the dance floor. A. I grew up watching the Phillie I'll kick off the dance, I had a couple Fanatic. That guy is an icon. I actuwho's first date was at a Kings game ally did a marketing study on him ference. Whether it's at a game where straws for 45 minutes while it sets. and they thought it was suitable for in college and how well that team you're getting people amped up or Then they rip of off and make the me to attend. You'd be amazed at the

18 Pocket News • November 7, 2013 • www.valcomnews.com Valley Community Newspapers, Inc. www.valcomnews.com • November 7, 2013 • Pocket News 19 Former Pocket area resident was Sacto's

"Disco Kina" By LANCE ARMSTRONG

series about former Sacramento disco cover narcotics in Germany. I king, Paul Ďale Roberts.

during the 1970s.

years of his life residing in Fres- I got out of the Army, the very as a tax investigator, his family thur Murray's Dance Studios (at relocated to other parts of the 1422 K St.). So, I became an Arstate. Among those places were thur Murray's dance instructor, San Bruno, Monterey, Stockton and I became really, really profiand Visalia.

School in Pacifica, Calif., Roberts enter some of these dance conhas had a lifelong love of music.

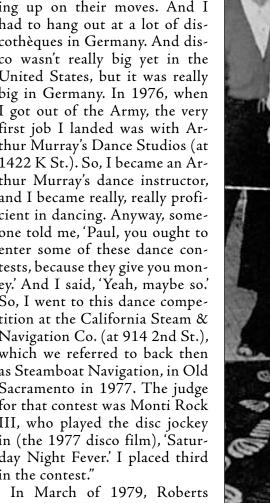
memories about his connection So, I went to this dance competo music, Roberts said, "Before tition at the California Steam & disco was popular, I was real- Navigation Co. (at 914 2nd St.), ly heavy into rock and roll. So, which we referred to back then I was seeing bands, going to as Steamboat Navigation, in Old concerts (featuring) Santana, Sacramento in 1977. The judge Tower of Power, Crosby, Stills, for that contest was Monti Rock Nash and Young, Buddy Miles. III, who played the disc jockey Oh, I went to the Monterey Pop in (the 1977 disco film), 'Satur-Festival, and at (that festival), I day Night Fever. I placed third snuck in. And I saw Jimi Hen- in the contest." drix, Janis Joplin and Otis Reddidn't make it."

how he became involved with disco king." disco, Roberts said, "I learned

Editor's Note: This is part one in a to 1976, I was working underwas working with CID - Criminal Investigation Division. I Former Pocket area resi- would watch all these dancers dent and California native and before I knew it, I was pick-Paul Dale Roberts has lived an ing up on their moves. And I eventful life, which includes had to hang out at a lot of dishis recognition as Sacramen- cothèques in Germany. And disto's only two-time "disco king" co wasn't really big yet in the United States, but it was really Roberts spent the first nine big in Germany. In 1976, when no, and due to his father's work first job I landed was with Arcient in dancing. Anyway, some-A 1973 graduate of Oceana High one told me, 'Paul, you ought to tests, because they give you mon-In recalling some of his earlier ey.' And I said, 'Yeah, maybe so.'

ding. That was a famous con- entered another dance contest, cert. So, I went to the Monterey which was held at Country Club Pop Festival and I was so hap- Plaza and (the famous disc jockpy and proud that I got there. I ey) Wolfman Jack (1938-1995) In response to the question of ward my dancing career as the the week.

how to do disco dancing when I contest, Roberts was approached I didn't go out was on Monwas in the Army. So, from 1973 by the California Steam & Navi- day nights. (The disc jockey)



gation Co.'s disc jockey, Bill Law- said, 'Paul, you have so much wanted to do Woodstock, but I was the judge. I came in second ley, who had noticed that he was energy. You're always dancplace. It was the beginning to- out dancing nearly every night of ing and you're really good.' He

After placing second in that Roberts said, "The only night the) 'Guinness Book of World

said, 'Have you ever thought In recalling that moment, about breaking the (mark in

See Disco King, page 21







ne two-time "disco king" of Sacramento, Paul Dale Roberts won many dance contests and dancing disco dance marathons, one for 79 hours which generated a new record for disco marathon dancing and finally dancing 205 hours of disco dancing, allowing him to have the Guinness Book of World Records for a period of one month. The collection of photos shown here are just a small collection of his time as the disco king. His 205-hour disco dance marathon record was broken within one month by 329 hours, nevertheless, Ripley's Believe it or Not went ahead and published Roberts in one of their comic strips, indicating he danced for 205 hours.

Disco King: continued from page 20

Records' book) in disco dancing?' But come to find out, he was eating. there was no record for disco ness Book of World Records' record. (mark). The very first time was 79 hours. And I accomplished man woman there," Roberts said. it, and there were a lot of pa- "She was a weight lifter (with) huge come to find out that the 'Guin- there to hold me and dance with me they said, 'No, you don't have soon as I got my energy, I said, 'I a record, because your breaks can do it on my own now. You can were too long.' But because of let me go." that, I got other people excited. They wanted the Guinness ed his goal of dancing for 205 Book of World Records' (mark), consecutive hours, partially at because I made national news Country Club Plaza and partialwith that. So, some other per- ly at the Sacramento Community son did it and they had like 185 Center. He was transferred from Seals telethon. hours. So, I had a local televi- one venue to the other, while consion news reporter, and he goes, tinuing to dance inside of a van. 'This guy has the 'Guinness

mark official, Guinness sent ey for Easter Seals, his dancing of Roberts.

a half days."

their own representatives to observe him, and that these witnesses monitored his eating and Records' (now 'Guinness World bathroom breaks. And he mentioned that he had to dance while

Roberts explained that he dancing in the 'Guinness Book had an assistant who occaof World Records.' So, I at- sionally aided him in his tempted (to establish a) 'Guin- quest to set a new Guinness

"They had this incredibly big Gerparazzi there. There was even muscles, everything. You would (a photographer from) a disco think she was on steroids. And magazine from Germany that there was a couple times where I was there taking pictures. And was ready to fall out, and she was ness Book of World Records,' slow, so I wouldn't fall out. So, as

Roberts eventually complet-

Can you beat him?' And I said, said, "I was hallucinating, be- with a mark of 329 hours. 'Yeah, I can do it.' So, I said, 'I'll cause I was dancing so much dance for 205 hours - eight and and everything."

Roberts said that to make the hours of dancing generated mon- comic strip featuring drawings I said, 'Yeah.' The only thing is,



was televised live on the Easter

onto his record of 205 consec- co dancing mark by dancing In further speaking about his utive hours of dancing for one for 400 consecutive hours, Book of World Records' (mark) successful efforts to achieve month, as a man from South he later became discouraged for disco dancing for 185 hours. that then-new record, Roberts Africa beat Roberts' record to do so.

Since Roberts' 205 consecutive It or Not!, which presented a beat this guy?' Roberts said. "And

Roberts said that although he had planned to break the Roberts would only hold South African man's dis-

"So, I had another reporter, But his short-lived record was and he goes, 'Paul, are you gorecognized by Ripley's Believe ing to (dance for) 400 hours and disco died."

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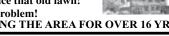
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Slamson

markets him. They do a phenomenal job. So that was my inspiration.

Q. What do you like about Sacramento?

A. There's so much about it I like. The first thing that comes to mind on that is the fans. Of all the places I've traveled I've never been to a fan base where A. And that takes time. You develop the team might not have been the best a rapport with the fans. There's a genevery year, but their fan base is loyal. We sold out 19 of the past 27 years. The fans are unreal. I'm so thankful the team stayed in Sacramento. I get those little things. Little tricks with goose bumps just talking about it.

Q. What do you think of the new ownership group?

A. I think it's awesome. Very forward thinking. One of the things I like is Vivek said there are not enough team stores in Sacramento. There's four or five going in right now. I love people that say something and actually do it. It's win-win. It's exceeded my expectations.

Q. Are you going to do anything different this year in regards to performance?

A. Yeah I have some ideas. There's one stunt that I've been trying to do for the last couple years. This year I might do it at the end of the season because if I get hurt it's okay because it'll be at the end of the season. There's some new things I just can't relinquish them right now. You'll just have to come to the games.

Q. Is there a code of conduct you have to adhere to:

A. You're only good as your last performance. I treat every audience member, even if it's a Lakers fan, with respect because they pay their money to see the games. I try and give everybody a good wholesome experience. Especially in this town it's very family oriented. And I try to keep it G/PG rated.

Q. You have a good camaraderie with fans.

tleman who broke his foot a couple years ago so every time I see him I pet his foot. He remembers that. It's like every season ticket holder I do.

Q. Got a favorite Kings player past

A. That's a tough one. I have to say Bobby Jackson truly epitomized this town. This town is very blue-collar hard working town and I think Bobby went out and hustled every night and people loved seeing him dive for balls and I think he embodies the spirit of what a Kings player is supposed to be.

Q. Do you have a set routine or are you improvising most of it?

A. When I'm in the crowd I'm improvising. They usually give me 25 skits a year. I write the skits, I order the props for the skit, I do the music for the skit. It's either an off court skit, a video skit or stunt. As far as routines go I try to keep it loose because if it's too rigid it looks too performed and too enhanced and I try to remain in the character of Slamson.

I do have a game day routine. Certain socks, certain knee pads. On game day certain things have to be in certain

places and I'm a little obsessive about it. Like for example if I don't have one I'm stretching. And then at 6:45 I'm of these, he pointed to a skull cap, I go nuts because it keeps the sweat out of my eyes. I do have a game day routine like what I eat. I eat a pregame well balanced meal at 5:30. And then at 6-6:30 I try and get my mind off things. I'll read or just relax. I have a locker room back there. 6:30 the costume is done

being brushed and washed. 6:30-6:45 drinking two bottles of water and then we go out to entertain the crowd.

As the interview ended Todd put the Slamson head back on and proceeded to high five the construction workers and people gathering and off he went in the

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Balance and mobility training to reduce falls class

Kelly Ward, Parkside Community Church's "Fall Prevention Lady" will be presenting a 4week Beginning balance and mobility class on Monday and Wednesdays 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., starting Oct. 2 through Oct. 30 at Parkside Community Church at 5700 Land Park Drive. The one-hour classes will include warm up, balance and mobility training, muscle building exercises, flexibility, and range of motion exercises, followed by a cool down segment to review the day's lesson. Wear loose comfortable clothing and sneakers. Kelly Ward is a certified fall, balance and mobility instructor and a certified Senior Fitness Training, M.S. Therapeutic Aging. For questions, call 821-5715.

November

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Nov. 7: Guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome 7:30 a.m., every Thursday. Aviators Restaurant, 6151 Freeport Blvd. (916) 684-6854.

Rotary Club of South Sacramento meeting

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Nov. 7th 3-8, Nov. 8th 9-8 & Nov. 9th 9-4. Handmade only boutique style craft show. Centralized checkout for our custon er's convenience. Unique gift and holiday decorations. SALE ROOM, 7777 Sunset Ave., Fair Oaks, 95628 on free admission More info, www.craftvtreasures.com.

Bi-Polar Anonymous

Nov. 8: Free 12-step program/support group for people who have Bi-Polar and those who love them. Meets every Friday, 7-8:30 p.m. 4300 Auburn Blvd., Room 106. (916) 889-5786.

Soroptimist International Sacramento presents Lisa Armstrong

Nov. 8: Linda Armstrong, founder of Local Roots Food Tours, will be the guest speak er at the luncheon, which begins at 11:30 a.m. at Casa Garden. The entire speaker series is posted on the Club Calendar page of the S.I.S. website at www.soroptimistsacra mento.org. A limited number of seats are available to the public on a first come, first served basis. The cost is \$15. If you want to eserve a seat for lunch and hear an upcoming speaker, contact Rosalie Gladden; rosaliegladden@comcast.net. Meetings are held Fridays, 11:30 a.m. at Casa Garden Restaurant, 2760 Sutterville Rd., Sacramento.

Spare One For the Kids

Nov. 8: The bowl-a-thon will feature two hours of bowling for teams of four, all youcan-eat pizza and soda, prizes and raffles. We anticipate that 100 individuals will be in attendance. The event budget is approximately \$1,000 and our goal is to raise \$10,000. 100% of the net proceeds will support our Sacramento County Kinship Support Services Program (KSSP). The bowl-a-thon will go from 6 to 8 p.m. at Country Club Lanes, 2600 Watt Ave. Visit www.lilliput.org/ for more.

Midtown Nov. 8: Visitors Welcome, weekly break-

fast meeting on first, second and third Fridays at 7:00 AM and Dinner meeting on fourth Thursday at 6:00 PM. Topical weekly speakers and first meal for visitors on us. Meet at The Kiwanis Family House, (at UCD Med Ctr/50th St & Broadway) 2875 50th Street Sacramento, CA 95817. www. eastsacmidtownkiwanis.com http://www.astsacmidtownkiwanis.com eastsacmidtownkiwanis.com>, Meeting/ Membership info: 916-761-0984, volunteers always welcome!

Kiwanis Club of East Sacramento-

25th Annual Asian Community Center Craft and Bake Sale

Nov. 9: From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at ACC Greenhaven Terrace, 1180 Corporate Way Sacramento CA 95831. For more information, call: Khonnie Lattasima at 916-394-6399 ext 143 or e-mail volunteer@accsv.org

Taste and Toast to Theodore

Nov. 9: The Theodore Judah PTA invites the inity to Taste and Toast to Theodore Judah, which will be happening from noon to 4 p.m. at Compton's Market on McKinley Blvd. It's a family event with beer tasting, food, bounce houses and other kid activities.

Pops in the Park Benefit Concert at the Torch Club

Nov. 9: There will be a benefit concert fea turing The Count at the Torch Club from 4 to 7 p.m. Free admission, no host bar. The Torch Club is located at 904 15th St.

Alternative Christmas Market

Nov. 9 and 10: Annual Alternative Christ mas Market. 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Fremont Presbyterian Church, H St. at Carlson Dr.,

Sacramento. Several local and international charitable organizations will feature Benevolence Gifts. Gift cards will be provided. Crafts from Third World countries will be on sale. Free admission. Call (916)- 452-7132 or visit www.fremontpres.org.

Nov. 10: Are you interested in starting to play golf, but not sure where to begin? Bing Maloney is offering Free Family Clinics for 2013. These clinics are family oriented for any level of golfer. Each clinic will be held on Sundays from 1 to 2:15 p.m. at the Bing Maloney Golf Course: 6801 Freeport Blvd. in Sacramento, Call 808-2283 for more information.

Rotary Clubs of Arden-Arcade,

Nov. 12: Guest speakers address local, regional and international topics. Visitors welcome, every Tuesday. Arden-Arcade meets at noon, Ruth's Chris Steakhouse in the Pavilions on Fair Oaks Blvd. (916) 925-2787 Carmichael meets at 6:30 p.m., Ancil Hoffman Golf Club. www.rotary.org

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Save the Date!

CALENDAR

Soroptimist International of **Sacramento North meeting**

Nov. 12: An organization for the bette ment of women and children meets at the atria El Camino Gardens at 2426 Garfield, Carmichael. Call Sheila at 624-4643.

The Asian Community Center **Senior Services Center presents 'High Blood Pressure and What It** Can Do To You'

Nov 12: Learn what high blood pressure is and what medications are prescribed and what you should know, Free, 2-3pm, 7375 Park City Dr, Sacramento. 916-393-9026 ext 330.

East Sac Rotary

Nov. 13: Meets at noon, Evan's Kitchen, 855 57th St. Sacramento. www.eastsacrotary.com.

The Asian Community Center Senior Services Center presents 'Caregiving Involves Many

Challenges: As a Family Caregiver' Nov 13: Learn practical tips for increasing self-care and reducing personal stress. Free. 1-2 p.m. 7375 Park City Dr, Sacramento. 393-9026 ext 330.

Rotary Club of Pocket/Greenhaven

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Kiwanis Club of East Sacramento-

Nov. 15: Visitors Welcome, weekly breakfast meeting on first, second and third Fridays at 7:00 AM and Dinner meeting on fourth Thursday at 6:00 PM. Topical weekly speakers and first meal for visitors on us. Meet at The Kiwanis Family House, (at UCD Med Ctr/50th St & Broadway) 2875 50th Street Sacramento, CA 95817. www. eastsacmidtownkiwanis.com, Meeting/ Membership info: 916-761-0984, volunteers always welcome!

Soroptimist International

Sacramento presents Thad Nodine Nov. 15: Thad Nodine, author of Touch and Go, a book about Foster Kids & Foster Parents, will be the guest speaker at the luncheon, which begins at 11:30 a.m. at Casa Garden. The entire speaker series is posted on the Club Calendar page

of the S.I.S. website at www.soroptimist sacramento.org. A limited number of seats are available to the public on a first come, first served basis. The cost is \$15. If you want to reserve a seat for lunch and near an upcoming speaker, contact Rosalie Gladden; rosaliegladden@comcast.net. Meetings are held Fridays, 11:30 a.m. at Casa Garden Restaurant, 2760 Sutterville

River City Quilt Guild annual show

Nov. 15-17: the River City Quilt Guild annual show featuring, quilts, wearable art, rations, silent auction, door prizes and a country store. Hours are Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Scottish Rite Temple, 6151 H St. Admission: \$7 per day, Ages 12 and under free if accompanied by an adult. For more information, email quiltshow@rivercityquilters.org

Tree Pruning Clinic

Nov. 16: From 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., learn how to help your trees develop good structure and form. A variety of pruning tools will be presented and discussed. This is an indoor class and if weather permits, there will be a walkabout on library grounds to look at tree structure and pruning. Bring photos of specific tree pruning questions. For more information, visitwww.sactree.com/events. Belle Cooledge Library, 5600 South Land Park Drive, Sacra-

Sacramento Senator Lions Club's **DandeLions Arts & Crafts Show**

Nov. 17: Sacramento Senator Lions Club's DandeLions Arts & Crafts Show will be held 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Riverside Elks Lodge, NO. 6, 6446 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento 95831

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Who's reading our paper?

Outside Greenhaven Bike, this cyclist got a chance to read about the enduring love of one Greenhaven couple.





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

7843 River Estates Dr - SOLD! > Mediterranean style 3bd 2.5ba halfplex w/tile roof & stucco ext. Kitchen w/updated granite counters/dining bar, updated appliances, gas stove! French patio door to patio & spa. More! Great locale near the river & park.





1121 Westlynn Wy – SOLD! Well cared for by original family. So Land Park Hills area 3bd 2ba 1-story. Updated comp roof, heat/air, master bath shower, windows. Kitcher w/brkfst area, formal dining, family rm w/frplc. Nice locale near Reichmuth Park.

286 Rivertree Wy - SOLD! > Charming 4bd or 3+den, 3ba Great Room plan w/downstair bdrm & bath w/shower! Cul-de-sac location. Within the Didion school boundaries.* Formal dining. Large kitchen w/breakfast area & granite countertops. Flexible loft area, too!





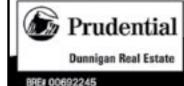
< 5 Rasha Court - SOLD! Pristine 4bd 2.5ba w/separate living & family ms, formal dining rm, brkfst area. Lrg master suite. Cul-de-sac location near the bike path, parks, more! Potential boat access. Within the Matsuvama school boundaries.

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BRANDON SHEPARD 479-1936

5 SEA COURT \$299,000



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LYNN LUK LEE 628-2843

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2 PRINCEVILLE CIR \$315.000



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230 PORTINAO CIR \$259,900



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SACRAMENTO DAWN O'CONNOR-ROWE 799-4835

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