

POCKET NEWS

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Pocket resident enjoying life as a softball executive

See page 19

- The Pocket Watch3
- Valentine's at Primrose.....7
- Darrell's Notes8
- School News14
- Calendar25



Kennedy band teacher continues, builds upon predecessor's legacy

■ See page 6



Pocket's Turtle Lady joins forces with McKinley's Lady of the Lake

■ See page 20

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Kennedy student wins regional Poetry Out Loud contest

Jibril Kyser from John F. Kennedy High School is the winner of the 2014 Sacramento County Poetry Out Loud competition and will now represent Sacramento County in the California State Finals, March 23-24 at the Capitol.

Kyser took first place from a field of 13 during the Sacramento County finals, held February 6 at Rosemont High School. Taylor Tuers from Rio Linda High School was runner-up. Sacramento Poet Laureate Bob Stanley served as master of ceremonies at this year's County competition.

The Sacramento County Poetry Out Loud program encourages high school students to learn about poetry through memorization, performance and competition.

Poetry Out Loud provides students with the opportunity to perform poetry in English classes. Competitions are modeled after the National Spelling Bee, beginning in high school classrooms with winners advancing to school-wide, then regional competitions. The program has grown annually with more than 375,000 students competing across the country this school year.

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The Pocket Watch

Where have YOU been? A 20-year personal retrospective

By JEFF DOMINGUEZ

Of course, no one will remember my first run as a columnist with the Pocket News back in the previous millennium. There may still be some folks in the neighborhood who were old enough to read back then, but anyone that old couldn't possibly remember my humble musings. Suffice it to say that it is true—I did write a column that appeared in every issue of the Pocket News for a few years back in the 90's, I had a lot of fun with it, and it won lots of awards.

Okay, that last part isn't true, but one loyal reader did clip out a column I wrote about a River Village couple whose home had been defaced with graffiti while they were out of town, and she mailed it to Reader's Digest. They paid me \$1,000 for the right to run it in their "He-

roes for Today" section, and that's the story of how I became an "internationally-published" writer.

Lots of water has rushed under the bridge since then, and, in consideration of the fact that I'm asking you to take an interest in the things I have to say in this column in the foreseeable future, I think it's only fitting that I fill you in on what I've been up to since the last time we met here in these pages.

One of the biggest things that happened in my life was that I got the idea to throw a parade here in the Pocket area. Tired of trekking down to my hometown in the Delta every year to enjoy Independence Day the way it was meant to be enjoyed, I decided to organize an annual 4th of July parade here back in 1995. Pulling that off involved more of a struggle than locals might be-

lieve. Among the many initial logistical battles I fought was the idea that the parade would take place on one side of the street while the other side was left open to allow the uninterrupted flow of traffic and avoid angering constituents. Luckily, logic prevailed, and Windbridge Drive was completely blocked off, more than 60 floats safely paraded all the way to Garcia Bend Park, and the event was well received by a community so well suited for it.

That inaugural event was, in fact, so well received that I got really chesty the following year and proposed an accompanying full-on aerial fireworks display to be held at the park the night before the parade. This idea was met with immediate and understandable resistance. After all, with so many shake roofs bordering the launch zone, the risk of fire was not unrealistic. Still, I had established a bit of a track record with community events, so I used the momentum generated by the parade to convince the powers that be to grant the permits required, and, voila, another success.

Unfortunately, the event ultimately became too successful for its own good. What started out as a wonderful evening attended strictly by Pocket/Greenhaven residents soon began to burst at the seams with spectators from all over the Sacramento region. Within five or six years of existence, we began to outgrow Garcia Bend Park, really the only facility in our community suitable for such a crowd. My solution was to skip a year. I figured we could cancel the show one year, have all those people who drive in from

outlying communities show up to find nothing going on, and reap a thinned out audience the following year once word got out that the event was canceled.

Our representative at City Hall was not inclined to risk disappointing the voters in the community and insisted that the show go on without me, despite my vigorous protest. Two years later, with no steps taken to curtail the encroaching crowd, local residents—along with resi-

See Pocket Watch, page 24



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Kennedy Interact Club has grown leaps in bounds over the last two years

By KEALANI OSAKO

If the Rotary foundation can be described in one simple word, it would be beautiful. Beautiful people, beautiful service, beautiful actions. Today, it is hard to find a large group of people that truly care about the world's communities and it's people. With Rotary International however, it's hard to find a person that doesn't. Rotary is an international club that was founded in 1905 and is recognized as the world's

first volunteer service organization. There are three levels; Rotary, the mother club for adults, Rotaract for college students, and Interact for high school students.

One of the most important and most profound missions of the Rotary family is the eradication of Polio. Interact Club of JFK was founded just last school year 2012-2013 and one of our first service projects was Purple Pinky. This is a fundraiser in which we set up a booth in the quad of our campus and



Photo courtesy

The John F. Kennedy High School Interact Club participated for the first time in the Kennedy Club Rush this year. The club membership has doubled since their charter one year ago!

for whoever donates a dollar to PolioPlus gets their pinkies painted purple in order to raise awareness for the cause. Along with this, we hosted an assembly for the students at our school and had guest speaker Motorcycle Bob speak about his experience with Polio. This year we plan to have the same type of assembly with a variety of speakers and will also have the same Purple Pinky fundraiser.

JFK Interact in only two years of existence has quite a history. In all honesty, we had a very rocky start. It was difficult for founder and former Interact President Daniel Li to stir up

the passion he had for the club in other students. The club was a baby; we had to create our own foundation. We had to create new connections. That's where the Rotary Club of Pocket-Greenhaven comes in. The members of the club are so involved with JFK Interact. They play the perfect role of a mother! They helped us learn what we didn't already know about the club such as RYLA, a summer leadership camp, the annual Rotary Speech Contest, and kindly included us in their Bento Box fundraiser. With their help, we sent two students to RYLA, myself (Kealani Osako) and current Inter-

act VP Sam Trumbly. With their help, we sent Daniel Li all the way to Tahoe for the Rotary Speech Contest. This year we will again team up with Rotary for the smoke detectors project and with their Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser. With their help we created a foundation of strength, service, and hard work. They have inspired the JFK Interact club to serve our community in unimaginable ways.

This year, we started with a whopping number of over 100 members which is an absolute jump from last year's sign ups. The club has grown significantly. The year started with "Grow Our Garden" in which Interact partnered with Garden Club and after much sweat, dirt, weeding, and planting, cleaned up our school's garden. The food that grows will be donated to our kitchen, cafeteria, and local food banks. To create some fun and school unity, we are scheduled to partner with Yacht Club and have a school wide Dodgeball Tournament. Also this year we have our own club t-shirts and wear them to any and all service events we participate in.

JFK High School is lucky in so many ways to have been introduced to Rotary. Interact is a JFK addition that we all hope will stay strong for many years. Thank you so much, Rotary Club of Pocket-Greenhaven. The community would not be half as good without the people that are involved with this family.

Kealani Osako is the John F. Kennedy Interact Club President.

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Rotary Club of Pocket Greenhaven is dedicated to 'Service Above Self'

Rotary International is an organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide who provide humanitarian service and help to build goodwill and peace in the world. Rotary is the world's first service club organization with more than 1.2 million members in 34,000 clubs worldwide. Rotary club members are volunteers who work locally, regionally, and internationally to combat hunger, improve health, sanitation, clean water, literacy provide education and job training, promote peace, and eradicate polio under the motto 'Service Above Self.' Rotary International is responsible for important international relief efforts such as Shelter Box; health safety efforts such as Safe Blood Africa and certified training in Peace and Conflict Resolution through the Rotary Peace Fellowship.

Rotary District 5180 encompasses the Sacramento County with parts of El Dorado, Placer, Yolo counties and going north to Oroville. Our district includes 40 clubs and nearly 2,000 members. The Rotary Club of Pocket Greenhaven is one of clubs which comprises Rotary District 5180.

Club President Randall Burton, a local Family Law Attorney and a resident of the Pocket Greenhaven neighborhood, has been a member of the Rotary organization for more than 20 years. He oversees a club which boasts multiple honors for "outstanding club," including twice as 'Best Small Club' in the district. The Pocket Greenhaven Club also has, amongst its membership, the 2012 "Rotarian of the Year." Judy Foote, a well known, now retired, local elementary school principal received that well deserved honor.

"I find the word 'awesome' to be a highly over-used word" says club President, Randall Burton, "but, on occasion, I have been forced to admit that no other word better describes my opinion of this Club." Rachele Herendeen, Pocket Greenhaven club's President-elect agrees. "I couldn't be prouder of our Club."

The Rotary Club of Pocket Greenhaven is involved

in a numerous annual projects. Some of these projects include: sponsorship of Kennedy High School's Interact Club, providing leadership training to local high school Juniors through Rotary Youth Leadership Academy (RYLA), sponsoring Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) candidates, providing personalized dictionaries to the 3rd graders at Yav Pem Suab school on South Land Park Drive, service at St. John's Shelter as well as the ACC Senior Services, assisting Friends of the Robbie Waters Library, BloodSource Blood Drives, clothing donation drives, as well as assisting additional charitable events and providing monetary donations on an as needed basis.

The Rotary Club of Pocket Greenhaven meets on Thursday mornings at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast at Aviator's Restaurant at Sacramento's Executive Airport.

The meetings include a wide-range of informative speakers and discussion opportunities. Just a few of the topics include: international culture, philanthropic opportunities, local political issues, and any number of other subjects from ballroom dancing to technology. Members also have the chance to enjoy the

support and camaraderie of varied, yet like-minded individuals. "We enjoy a unique kinship, similar to a close family which is ultimately part of the larger Rotary family. It is a haven," said Herendeen.

The Rotary Club of Pocket Greenhaven welcomes guests who wish to learn more about what our club has to offer and who might have an interest in joining. To learn more about the Club, visit www.pocket-greenhavenrotary.org or contact Randall Burton at BurtonandWhite.com

If you would like more information about the greater cause that is Rotary International and its global initiatives visit www.rotary.org.



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Welcoming Mr. Hammond to Kennedy:

The new band teacher, has big shoes to fill, but is succeeding

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

Since the retirement of Kennedy's longtime band teacher George Miles last May, Sam Brannan's Jeremy Hammond has added high school curriculum to his schedule, leading students to multiple first and second place wins at regional competitions.

Between the last two to three years, the band program at Kennedy has blossomed in growing attendance each year as well as in accomplishments. At this point in time, the band has 115 students enrolled in band class compared to 87 students.

Since Hammond has been teaching at Sam Brannan, the seniors he currently teaches at Kennedy, he first taught when they were in fifth grade. He sees this an unusually grand teaching opportunity.

He sat down with the *Pocket News* after school one day to discuss his good fortune.

"I have an advantage over most everybody else. I run the feeder program, so, for instance, this year I have at Sam Brannan, in the advanced class 57 students. Out of all those kids, most of them will come here, so I will make sure they go to the right place. And I'll be here. It's an easy transition. It feeds itself. It's a cycle."



Shown here is this year's Kennedy color guard at Sacramento City College on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The marching band annually participates in the March for the Dream.

With other schools, they don't necessarily know which students they are going to get, since they cannot rely on one particular school to send their students. Over the course of the years working with the same students, Hammond has undoubtedly seen tremendous personal achievement.

"The ones who stuck with it are pretty amazing," he said. "And, that's all of them. There's just a whole lot of talent in the group and it hasn't been all me. Mr. Miles did a great job. I was set up really well to be able to do the things that we've been doing."

Hammond teaches beginning and advanced band at Sam Brannan and at Kennedy, year-round he conducts jazz band and orchestra, as well as, marching band during the fall, and concert in the spring. In the past, he has also taught at California Middle School.

Asked if the schedule is "too much", he laughed, and said: "There are days where you just wanna cry. I'm kidding. It's a lot of responsibility and it's a lot of staying organized and thankfully I have lots of people that help."

For starters, there's Mr. Miles. He just can't stay away.

"He comes and supports us a lot. During marching season he assisted in every way possible. So it's really cool. It's really cool for the kids because it's not just such an abrupt change with all of a sudden the teacher they've had for years is all of a sudden just gone. It was good for them and it was good for him. He enjoys being around band. That's his love."

For seconds, there's his wife Cheryl, who teaches the drum line, and has no plans of her leaving anytime soon.

Outside of those two, Hammond has a lot of people who



Photos by Monica Stark

On a typical day of school, John F. Kennedy teacher Jeremy Hammond conducted his concert band class on Friday, Feb. 14. Hammond started teaching at Kennedy last fall, following the retirement of long-time teacher George Miles.

work with us. My kids too, we have a really good group of leaders.

In addition to all the help from the school community, Hammond attributes the success of his career thus far on a lot of luck and being in the right place at the right time. Nine years ago, Hammond began teaching at age 25 after graduating from Sacramento State University with a degree in music in 2005. As soon as he graduated, he entered the Sacramento City Unified School District's internship program.

"When I finished in 2005, I was able to get into the internship program in the district, so I didn't have to waste two years of credential work. So I got my foot in the door and got some seniority before they did all these terrible cuts. So I've ridden through without losing my job. So it's been really nice."

As far as his teaching style goes, well, Hammond said: "I can joke around a lot. I believe I have a pretty good

sense of humor, but I can sometimes be a tyrant, sometimes. Because we have to get stuff done, it can't just be fun and games. I have extremely high expectations of what they can achieve. They can play at an extremely high level because I've heard them, and, they are some of the smartest in the district."

JFK Marching Band and Color Guard is hosting a Drive-Thru Spaghetti Dinner on Friday, Feb. 28 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. in the high school parking lot (at Gloria Drive and Florin Road). For the price of \$10, diners receive a to-go container of spaghetti (meatless or with meatballs), garlic bread, side salad, a drink and dessert. Rain or shine!

Proceeds will help fund our award-winning program, including instrument repair, uniforms, and transportation costs.

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Happy belated Valentine's Day

Here are three love stories shared by Primrose residents

Jim and Carol Donovan

Jim and Carol first met at a house party in 1950. They did not see one another again until college in 1955. That began their courtship and later their engagement in 1957. They married in June, 1958. Both Jim and Carol were born, raised and educated in San Francisco. In 1969, they moved to Sacramento along with their two sons. They have been married for 55 years. How? Love, understanding, compromise and shared activities, which have been chiefly responsible for the longevity of their marriage.



Courtesy of Primrose

Shown here is a collection of photographs from Primrose's Valentine's Dinner. Accompanied on these pages are three love stories from residents there. Primrose is located at 7707 Rush River Dr.

Bob and Jean Carroll

"We will have had 60 great and not so great years together in April of this year. We met 61 years ago in Sacramento, and I can say, without a doubt that I have been the luckiest man on the Earth to have had such a wonderful girl as my partner and rock. Jean was always there to greet everyone with a smile, even me, when I deserved far less. I've heard the best thing a man can hope for is the love of a good woman and I was one of the lucky ones." – Bob Carroll

Paul Hemesath. They gave us three terrific grandchildren; Sam, 10; Lucy, 8; and Kate, 6. A bonus for us was finding Primrose for Irene. The Day Club is a big help. We also have a son, Gregory Benison and his wife, Effie Greathouse. We have two grandchildren from Greg and Effie; Hazel, 2 and Kevin, 2 months (who we get to meet in two weeks). I was born in New York City and Irene was born in Germany just before World War II. Irene left her family at age 17 and worked in England, then in Paris and

on to New York City before visiting San Francisco when we met. We have had and still have a wonderful life, since that first lucky meeting a short time ago." – Bill Benison



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Darrell's Notes



By Councilmember
Darrell Fong

GONG XI FA CAI!

A happy Chinese New Year to all of my constituents who celebrate!

There are 12 animals in the Chinese zodiac, and this year is the Year of the Horse. Individuals who are born in the Year of the Horse are often said to be giving and energetic, and fond of travel and following their goals.

They're back! 2014 Food Truck Expo

Mark your calendars, our monthly Food Truck Events return to Garcia Bend Park in March! Join us for some delicious freshly prepared food from Sacramento's top-rated food trucks. Bring your wallet, lawn chair, and your appetite.

Please note that we have changed the Food Truck Expo to the third Friday

of the month to accommodate your busy schedule. All food truck events begin at 5 p.m. We look forward to seeing you on March 21! Look for our completed 2014 event calendar in the upcoming weeks.

Old Sacramento State Historic Park—Excursion Train Plans

As many of you already may be aware, the California State Parks Commission has issued a proposal to expand the programming of the Historic Sacramento Train Museum and State Park to include the operation of two excursion lines. The plans include two separate train lines: Train Line 1, which would run one way from Old Town Sacramento to the Zoo, and; train line 2, which would originate from Pocket/Meadowview, and run through Hood.

As the current plan stands, the train will run through a small section of in the south part of District 7. Neighboring communities of Land Park and South Land Park would be heavily impacted by having the train line running adjacent to their property using the existing tracks and right-of-way, under the control of the State Parks Department and Sacramento Regional Transit.

Though the expansion plan is still very tentative, the Commission held a meeting on Jan. 24 to decide whether to vote on moving forward with the proposal. At the conclusion of that meeting, the State Parks Commission decided to postpone their vote to a date yet to be determined, presumably so further outreach could be conducted. My staff attended this meeting and continues to track this issue.

VITA and TCE Tax Program Schedule, January-April 2014

Individuals who wish to do their own taxes without assistance may utilize the Special Portal for the City of Sacramento. This site allows taxpayers to complete federal and up to two state returns for free, electronically file and have their refund directly deposited in their account. This service is provided through the City of Sacramento City-wide Volunteer Program in partnership with My-FreeTaxes, United Way Worldwide and Goodwill. Income is limited to a maximum of \$58,000 for 2013 in order to file for free.

Those with incomes of \$52,000 or less for 2013 qualify for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program

(VITA). VITA volunteers will help prepare federal and state taxes. It is possible to also qualify for additional credits such as the Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Care Credit and more, which could increase the refund amount.

City Expands Household Junk Pickup Program to Two Appointments Per Year

The City's Household Junk Pickup program (formally the Appointment Based Neighborhood Cleanup Program) is taking appointments for the 2014 season. This year, all residential customers can make two appointments – per year – for the free pickup of acceptable bulky items including yard waste.

Household Junk Pickup occurs from February through October. The same equipment and personnel used for Leaf Season operate the Household Junk Pickup program.

"We hope that the additional appointment will be helpful to customers as well as useful in discouraging illegal dumping," says Steve Harriman, Integrated Waste General Manager

See Darrell's Notes, page 17

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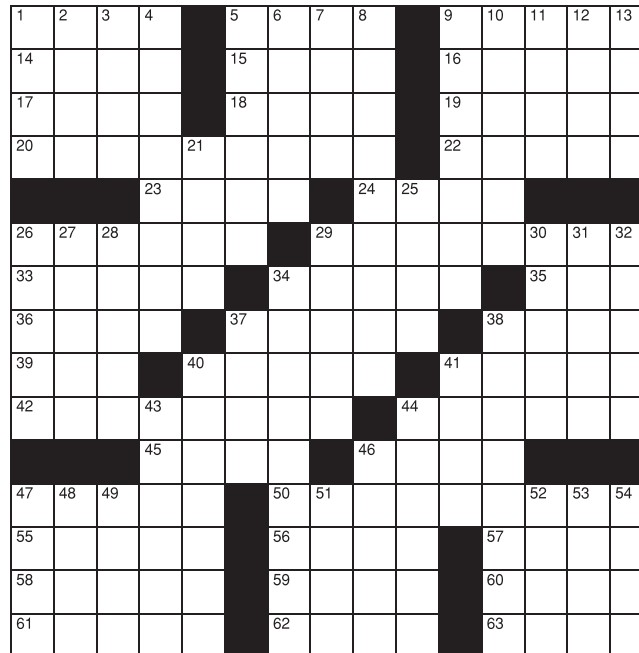
To participate on this page, call (916) 429-9901 for information

The Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- Land parcels
- Long-legged wader
- Fats Domino tune, "Ain't That a ___"
- Gumbo veggie
- Raven's haven
- Ear-related
- Smear on, as paint
- Flooring unit
- Lengthy lock
- Startling revelation
- Fit to be tied
- Astronaut's drink
- Notion
- Add to
- Duck-billed mammal
- Unspoken "I dunno"
- Parishioners
- Big galoot
- Rain buckets
- Take forcibly
- Water conduit
- Word after tight or tail
- Woodworking tool
- Like some jackets
- Unnecessary
- Gate guard
- Ill-mannered
- Uncap, perhaps
- Goad
- Judge's title
- Three, it's said



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- Sad news item
- Filthy deposit
- Monopoly purchase
- Ill-gotten gains
- Extend credit
- Playful water critter
- Say no to
- Apt to snap

DOWN

- Ore deposit
- Rubber-stamp
- Test answer
- 1942 Hitchcock thriller
- Have in mind

- Supreme follower
- Dot on a map
- Boil, perhaps
- Fullness
- Victory shout
- Square footage
- Nautical pole
- Ultimatum word
- Hungry feeling
- Postmark part
- Colorado ski town
- Conversation piece?
- Fuddy-duddy
- 80's TV sitcom, "Growing ___"
- Spotted horse

- Shoe top
- Down-and-dirty
- Rented property
- Husky's tow
- High point
- Pirate treasure
- Look of lechery
- Flirt with sleep
- Hit-or-miss
- Vidalia veggie
- Resound
- Poetic cave
- Joint ailment
- Woodwind instrument
- Raised, as dogs
- Breathing apparatus?
- Whirlpool

Answers page 24

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Shown above, students at the Short Center North shake a rain stick to urge the heavens to bring down more rain. This group activity was held before students went to their appropriate classes for the day.



Sculptor Miguel Paz and his students at the Short Center North worked on ceramic Valentine's boxes.



Working with adults with disabilities:

Pocket sculptor teaches at the Short Center North

Photos and words by MONICA STARK

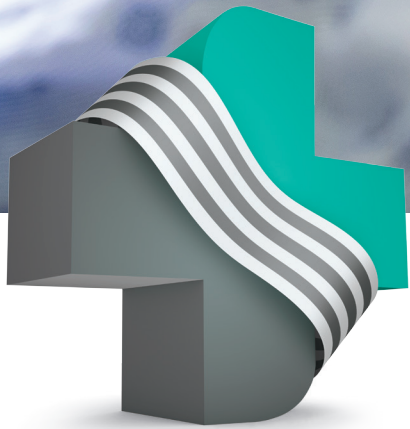
Editor's note: This is the third part and final part in a series about a prominent sculptor from the Pocket area whose work inspires and teaches students locally at the Short Center North and internationally in a small Bolivian town called Huayculi.

As was mentioned in the previous articles in this series about Pocket sculptor Miguel Paz, the artist hails from La Paz, Bolivia and has taken multiple trips back to his home country to share his expertise with fellow artists in an effort to create an international artists' collective on the most basic level of community building and sharing of ideas and resources. With a teaching background from Columbia University's Teachers College and experience working with the Sacramento Arts Commission, he teaches at the Short Center North in the Arden-Arcade area where he he has enjoyed watching talent flourish from his students with disabilities and over the years.

"I've been there for three years because the work there is just so great," Paz told the *Pocket News*. "It was formed in 1975 during a time when society's common response to those with developmental disabilities was one of disregard, but Mary Short, wife of California Senator Alan Short, started a program that was the first of its kind in the nation," Paz said.

According to the organization's website, the Alan Short Center (ASC) utilizes visual and performing arts as a tool for teaching people with developmental disabilities. Developmental Disabilities Service Organization has since grown to operate eight day programs located at three different sites, including one in the Arden-Arcade area and another which has recently moved from Land Park to 5051 47th Street.

Here is a collection of photographs taken from a recent visit to Paz's sculpting class at the Short Center North, which is located at 2331 St Marks Way.



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A Passport to Eggventure:

Pocket resident explains her love of egg art and describes the process

By MONICA STARK
 editor@valcomnews.com

Pocket resident Alice Cameron is like many other egg artists. Once she got into the art form, she quickly devoted much of her time to producing elaborate designs, using a variety of infertile eggshells from such animals as ostriches, emus, geese and ducks.

Gearing up for the Northern California Egg Artists 24th annual Egg Show and Sale, to be held March 1 and 2 at Crown Plaza, Cameron, continues to whip out the egg art. While she considers herself "rather new" at the art form, she has been dedicated to it for the past 10 years.

Sitting inside her dining room with an array of eggs she put on display on a table for the interview, Cameron chuckles as she discusses her progress. "I still attend classes, but I am not good enough to be an instructor," she laughed. But on the table sits elaborate eggs that have been carved, painted and some hinged with doors and windows. About 10 years ago, Cameron attended the annual egg show where

she took one class and got hooked. "It's just a lot of fun," she said.

Asked where she gets her eggs from, like many egg artists, she orders some from special catalogs and others have been gifted to her from a local rancher. "There are several farms out there, some local and others not, but I happened to play bridge with a lady friend who happens to have a small ranch here in the Pocket area and she had three geese. For a long time, she was giving me the goose eggs. I would make the little holes in the middle and pull out the insides, sterilize them, let them dry, and then spray them with light paint."

While Cameron had a beautiful display of eggs on her dining room table, inside her craft room is where the magic really happens. Demonstrating the process, she grabbed an egg, and turned on a high speed dremel tool, one that reaches about 400,000 rpms, or one that has the capability of carving an egg without vibration. As gentle as using a pencil to draw a design, the dre-

See Eggs, page 13



Photos by Monica Stark
 (above) Pocket resident Alice Cameron is eggstatic about the upcoming Passport Eggstravaganza on March 1 and 2. She has worked on egg art for about 10 years. Shown here is a small representation of the work she has done.

(left) Shown here is a display of Pocket resident Alice Cameron's "miniatures", which like dollhouses, are representations of houses, but unlike dollhouses, they are even smaller -- just snapshots of a room, rather than an entire house. Though she enjoys egg art, miniatures are Cameron's artistic passion.



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Eggs:

Continued from page 12

mel tool, is quite easy to use; it just seems to take some patience. Most of the work comes from the preparation, including mapping out the design.

Downplaying her artistic talent, Cameron said the following about how she goes about preparing the eggs: "I am not an artist, but if you give me some instructions, I can usually follow them," she paused to laugh before continuing: "So, consequently I have no ideas of what to do myself. There are many patterns and I have books of patterns. You decide what you want to do. At the egg show, the teachers will give you a kit and they will give you a picture of the egg and instructions of what to do. And with the kit, they will give you the egg and all the directions.

Themed "Passport to Eggventure", the show will celebrate the diversity of the artists. There will be artists representing Spain, China, South Africa, Canada, the Netherlands, the UK, Japan, South Korea and Scotland. Excited for the Eggventure,



Cameron signed up for four classes. "There will be one lady from Korea, one from Japan and I am thinking I will never get to Korea or Japan, but as long as they're here, I want to take a class from them," she said.

If you go:

What: Passport to Eggventure, Northern California Egg Artists 24th annual Egg Show and Sale

When: Saturday, March 1 and Sunday, March 2

Where: Crown Plaza, 5321 Date Ave., Sacramento

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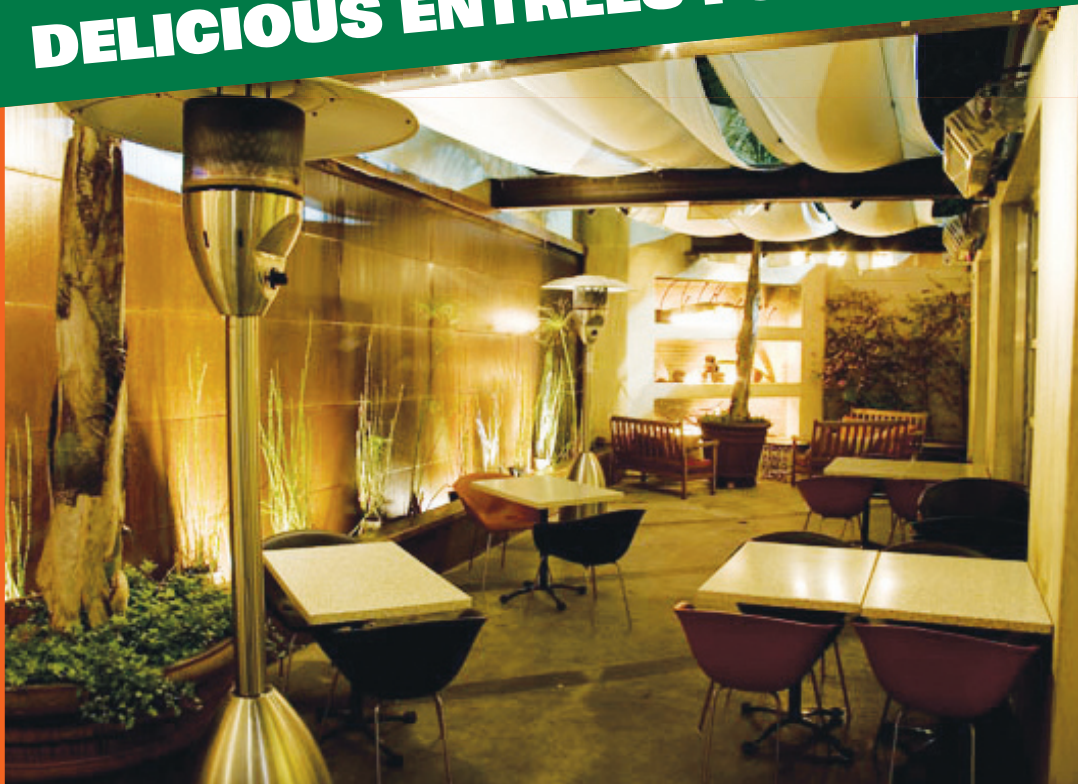
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Photo by Monica Stark

Shown here is the current state of the track at John F. Kennedy High School. Come April, the scene will improve as the school will get a brand new stadium.

Kennedy High School to get a new stadium!

Editor's note: Look for ongoing updates on this continuing story.

When voters passed Measures Q&R in the November 2012 election, they made way for exciting projects that will improve our local schools, one of them being Kennedy High School! Principal Chad Sweitzer told the *Pocket News* there have been several meetings and plans are ready for a new stadium, a new track, bleachers and concessions with improvements beginning in April. "I have designs as well," he said.

One of the projects that have been completed district-wide so far is a new batting cage at McClatchy High School. (Visit www.valcomnews.com for more information on that controversial project.) The average age of Sacramento City Unified District schools is 50 years. Schools built years ago need significant updating.

To follow the district's projects, visit: <http://www.scusd.edu/bond-projects>

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e-mail editor@valcomnews.com

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Caregiver Burnout: Tips on how to deal with the stressful time

At Primroses' monthly seminar that was held on Jan. 28, Deana Chitambar, RN, BSN, CHPN, LCA, a certified hospice and palliative care nurse, and a licensed RCFE Administrator who has received training from the National Institute of Health Research and Public Health Training Center, gave tips on how to find hope and courage while caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's Disease.

Chitambar is a community liaison clinical educator for VITAS Innovative Hospice Care. She provides education in hospice and palliative care to caregivers, healthcare professionals, and the general public. She also provides continuing education to licensed nurses, healthcare providers and administrators of assisted living and nursing home facilities. Chitambar is

an approved educator by the Hospice and Palliative Care Nurses Association, qualified to train nurses for hospice and palliative care certification. Also, she is a certified trainer in ELNEC (End-of-Life Nursing Consortium), specializing in veterans, geriatrics, and core curriculum education.

Through personal reflection, Chitambar presented the challenges and diffi-

culties caregivers face from day-to-day while caring for a loved one with dementia. She discussed how navigating care while trying to cope with emotions of grief and loss can be difficult and spoke on the importance of advocating, planning, and gaining support from others is critical. The presentation included Chitambar's perspective as a clinician and as a daughter.



Linda Pohl

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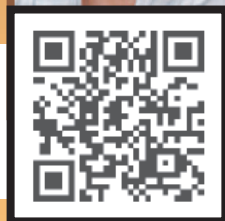


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Darrell's Notes:

Continued from page 8

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The City will collect up to five cubic yards of material (4'x4'x9') per appointment—approximately the amount that will fit into the bed of a pickup truck. Extra charges may apply if load is in excess of five cubic yards. Piles put out more than 24 hours before an appoint-

ment or put out without an appointment will be considered illegal dumping and fines may be issued.

Accepted items include yard waste, one appliance, television sets, computers, e-waste, furniture, mattresses, carpet, toys, and four unmounted tires. A full list of acceptable items and guidelines for the Household Junk Pickup Program can be found at www.sacrecycle.org.

Welcome Police Captain Dave Peletta

For the past two years, District 7 residents had the privilege to be in the care of Police Captain Neil Schneider. As is general practice with the Police Department, Captains switch roles every few years. The new year brings a new Captain, Dave Peletta. I had the privilege of working with Captain Pelet-

ta while I served in the Police Department, and I can assure you that we are in good hands. Please continue reading to learn more about our new captain:

"I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Dave Peletta, and I am the new area captain for the South Command, which encompasses police Districts 4 and 5. As you may have heard, Captain Schneider and I have recently switched assignments and he now oversees our Investigations Division. Captain Schneider, along with his staff, did an amazing job, which made my transition much easier.

Though I am new as a captain to the South Command, I began my career with the Police Department in 1988 and I have worked as an officer, a sergeant, and a lieutenant in the south area.

I am also a native of Sacramento, having attended John Cabrillo Elementary School, Sam Brannan Middle School and John F. Kennedy High School.

The South Command staff has also seen some changes; Lieutenant Jason Morgado is now assigned as the Executive Lieutenant. The Watch Commanders for the station and their respective beat responsibilities are as follows:

- Lieutenant Justin Risley/day watch (5B/5C)
- Lieutenant Mark Greenlee/mid watch (4A/4C)
- Lieutenant Steve Oliveira/late watch (4B/5A)

See Darrell's Notes, page 24

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Faces and Places:

Matsuyama family dance

On Jan. 25, the Matsuyama Elementary School community came together for a family dance in order to raise money for the school's Parents Teacher Association. The PTA helps pay for extra activities at the school for things like assemblies, equipment, the crossing guard, books, computers, classroom supplies, and after school programs, like band and robotics. Three hundred and seventy-five people danced the night away to fun music spun by parent volunteer and disc jockey, Rege Farina. The red-carpet event sold out and Farina got the crowd line-dancing, doing the limbo and forming a conga line.



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Pocket resident enjoying life as successful softball executive

By LANCE ARMSTRONG
Lance@valcomnews.com

Fran Dowell, a resident of the Pocket area for more than a quarter century, said that she thoroughly enjoys the community in which she lives. But she added that she is, nonetheless, often many miles away from her home.

For about the past eight years, Fran has served as the executive director of Senior Softball-USA (SSUSA), which is the nation's largest senior softball organization. With that job, she travels from coast to coast.

Despite her current position, Fran, 61, said that she was actually never a softball player, if one does not count her brief time playing the game when she was attending Kit Carson Junior High School (now Kit Carson Middle School), which was then located at 1324 54th St.

"At Kit Carson, I played on a tournament (softball) team," Fran said. "It was just a thing on 'Play Day.' I have a picture of myself on my wall in my office (from that day)."

In recalling her years of growing up in East Sacramento, Fran, who was born in Sacramento, said that she enjoyed spending time with her friends. And she added that she has maintained several of those friendships in her adult life.

Since Fran was raised in East Sacramento, she attended schools in that area. Those schools were David Lubin School at 3575 K St., the aforementioned Kit Carson Junior High School and St. Francis High School at 6051 M St. She graduated from the latter school in 1971 before attending Sacramento City College.

Fran's life went in a new direction after she met Dave Dowell in Phoenix, and they were married on July 31, 1976.

Together, Fran and Dave, who worked for a certified public accounting firm, lived in Phoenix for the following eight years, during which time they had their three children, Kelley, Matthew and Christopher.

The family next resided in Denver, where Dave had been hired to work as the financial officer of a construction company.

In 1987, Fran, Dave and their children became residents of the Pocket area, since Dave had accepted employment as an accountant in Sacramento.

During her earlier years of living in the Pocket area, Fran, who was officially recognized as a distinguished alumna of St. Francis High in about 2007, was a member of the St. Francis' board, a room mother at Genevieve Didion K-8 School, a catechism teacher at St. Anthony Parish and a "soccer mom."

When Kelley went to college in about 1996, Fran decided to go to work, becoming a part-time teller at Wells Fargo Bank at 5660 Freeport Blvd.

Fran explained that, in 1998, she left her banking position for another job that was recommended to her by a local resident.

"I was getting my haircut in the Pocket and some lady said that there was a company (SSUSA) looking for a part-time bookkeeper," Fran said. "So, I went out on an interview and I was hired on spot."

Ultimately, after excelling in work with the company, Fran became a full-time employee.

SSUSA was founded by Bob Mitchell (1930-2010), who established the company in his garage in the Pocket in 1988. Mitchell sold the organization to Terry Hennessey and Bill Ruth in 2002.

SSUSA, which provides softball playing opportunities for men and women, ages 40 and older, had



Photo by Lance Armstrong

Pocket area resident Fran Dowell has been serving as the executive director of Senior Softball-USA since 2006. The organization was founded in the Pocket in 1988.

its headquarters in a duplex on Pocket Road for many years, before moving to its present headquarters at 2701 K St. in about the early 2000s.

Around the same time, Fran began her move toward her current position with SSUSA when she became the business's marketing director.

In 2006, Fran accepted an offer to become the company's executive director, and in doing so, she explained that she made history.

"I was the first lady executive director in the history of the sport," said Fran, who often refers to softball as a country club without the membership. "It turned out to be really great, because I listened to the players, their complaints, and I treat them with the utmost respect. We've been able to grow and grow and grow, and I think it's because we're such a great partnership – Terry and myself. He and I both are really great visionaries. And I think customer service has been the thing that has made us absolutely do so well, and I really truly believe in customer service."

After being asked to discuss some of the responsibilities of her job, Fran said, "We have about 60 tournaments across the United States in a year. There are 20 (tournaments) that we physically put on from the Sacramento office, and they're all over the country. So, I set up with the cities, I set up with all the fields, I set up all of the contracts with all of the hotels. I have to set up and make sure that all the field preps are ready, do the awards and the merchandise. I get to do it all."

Because of her expertise at her position, in 2009 and 2012, Fran was named as one of the top 12 sports promoters in the United States by *SportsEvents Magazine*.

In a *SportsEvents Magazine* report, Hennessey was quoted as saying, "Fran Dowell began with us in 1998 and greatly exceeded our expectations in every job we gave her. She flat out earned the position. She has become one of the best known people in the sport in America and one of the most respected."



Photo courtesy of SSUSA

An infielder is shown in action during the SSUSA Senior Softball World Championships in Las Vegas last October.

The magnitude of Fran's respectability in her position is better understood when considering the size of SSUSA. The organization consists of about 1,700 teams.

In addition to creating an entertaining and competitive environment for its teams, SSUSA annually generates millions of dollars in economic impact for host cities of its championship tournaments.

For instance, according to SSUSA, its Western Nationals Championships in Sacramento last year had an economic impact of \$3.4 million.

Furthermore, the organization has taken on a global approach, bringing international tournament teams to Europe, Mexico, Dominican Republic, Australia and New Zealand.

Fran, who was anticipating the birth of her fourth grandchild while she was meeting with this publication last week, said that she has enjoyed her career with SSUSA.

"I've enjoyed my career in senior softball," said Fran, who foresees herself working for many more years with the company. "I've enjoyed meeting people across the country and I'm thankful that I've had this opportunity."

Pocket's Turtle Lady joins forces with McKinley Park's Lady of the Lake

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

With pointed fingers and curious faces, McKinley Park visitors have taken to watch neighbor Judy McClaver row a paddle boat back and forth across and around the pond, filling up a large trash can with garbage, tree branches, tennis balls, fishing lines, hooks and even syringes. She and her friend, Rick, have also worked together to remove domestic birds, replant the island, fix the sprinklers, and prune the shrubs.

A local hero to the community, Judy has taken on a mission to educate the public and city officials about the health of the water and the importance of feeding the waterfowl a proper diet. The pond, measuring about an acre in size, she explained, should not have more than 30 birds in it at any one time. In this pond, at the worst time of year, migration time, Judy estimates the pond as being home to about 100 geese and 100 ducks, compared to now with about 20 geese and about 30 ducks. It's also home to about 75 turtles and a variety of fish.

"I knew the pond was dirty – that it had no care," Judy told the East Sacramento News on a warm Thursday afternoon, as she did her routine maintenance. Pointing toward the island that sits in the middle of the pond, she described the gravity of its spoilage.

"That whole island was in disrepair. The birds were getting hurt over there; they were being trapped because of the bamboo. They would trip over it. It's so thick when it grows, and the females would go into the bamboo when they were chased by the males to get away, but they couldn't get out. And there were rats on the island. And there were rotten eggs. It was definitely horrid over there," she said.

Though the pond is much cleaner now thanks to her ongoing work, she knows that her physical efforts aren't enough – that the water is disgustingly dirty.

"I am the one that told the city how dirty this pond was and about its lack of maintenance and management, so that they finally commissioned an estimate to be done of four city ponds. This estimate proved what I had been telling them...this pond is a human health hazard," Judy said.

Sure enough, deemed as such, a Lake Management and Assessment Report,



Photos by Monica Stark

There is an abundance of turtles at the pond. About 75 turtles were spotted on a recent visit to the pond.

commissioned by the City of Sacramento identified dangerous levels of E. coli from the waters of McKinley Pond. And after much insistence from neighbors to repair and clean it out, the city has set aside \$225,000 in Park Impact Fees and Quimby funds, which will be brought to City Council with the 2014-15 budget for approval. If approved in June, parks staff will work with the community on the scope and design of the revamped pond. It's estimated the construction will be completed in late 2014 or early 2015.

They'll drain it, erect a fence around it, but someone will need to find homes for all the wildlife living there. As Parks and Recreation Director Jim Combs said in a phone interview, "You can't just clean these ponds every year. It's not like your bathtub. We have to relocate the animals. It's a big undertaking."

Combs said as the pond empties, staff will monitor the drains and pipes. "We don't know what we will find as we restore it. We would like to continue to put a fence around the pond. That would help monitor the crowds. Families like to feed the ducks and geese. I have seen big loaves of bread in there. Wild animals shouldn't be eating that! Sometimes kids chase the ducks into the pond. And we've seen adults in the pond, including one adult woman who swam to the island in the nude. I didn't see her, but there were reports."

Ideally, Judy hopes the draining of the pond will occur during the non-migration season, minimizing the impact on the waterfowl. As for the remaining ducks and geese, Combs said they can find another pond for them and a res-



Judy McClaver picked up large branches out of the McKinley Park pond on Thursday, Feb. 13. She is on a mission to have the pond cleaned up and have a fence built around it.

cue effort will have to be done for the fish and turtles.

"Oh, I've got a plan," Judy says elusively, as she continued to fill a can with debris she's accumulated since the last time she was on the water, which was just four days prior. Paddling across the pond, Judy took time to further discuss her efforts over the last few years and how she began her journey as the "Lady of the Lake."

Meanwhile, Judy has been in contact with local rescuers, such as the Pocket area's "Turtle Lady," Felice Rood. In a July 2013 interview with the Pocket News, Felice described her home as "a hotel, hospital, hospice, orphanage and maternity ward all for turtles and tortoises." But she said more recently on Tuesday, Feb.

18, her yard currently is nearing capacity to take on more turtles.

Upon describing Judy's efforts and how Felice herself will partake in the rescue of the turtles, Felice said: "Judy is a wonderful, caring person and very concerned about keeping the turtles safe during the cleaning process. If you remember my yard, there is hardly any room for the local residents! I am reaching out to people who can hopefully house them until the work is done and they can be returned with a fence around the pond. It won't be easy, but I'm always up for the challenge!"

"Turtles have a mind of their own, so there might be some that won't re-

See McKinley, page 21



Among many of the things Judy McClaver has done to restore the pond, include replanting shrubs on the island.

McKinley:

Continued from page 20

turn to the pond. are also some turtles that are going to be removed from Putah Creek and I have been asked to help with that, but not to return, but to find new homes for them.”

Judy’s mission to protect the pond’s wildlife began one day in September, 2011 when she walked from her car to McKinley Library, passing geese suffering from a wing deformity, known as angel wing. But at the time, she didn’t know what the problem was, so she phoned Animal Control. “They said they weren’t into pursuing anything with domestic ducks,” she recalled. After researching the subject, she and Rick have been educating people on proper feeding, explaining how most of the waterfowl at the McKinley Park pond do not migrate, and so their nutritional needs are not balanced in the wild, which has led to many of the birds developing wing deformities.

On another instance, Judy came across a dead Muscovy Duck and immediately called the city to remove it, but again, that wasn’t in their parameters, so she did it herself. “I don’t remember all of the details, but they owned up to the fact they have a boat at William Land,” she said.

With permission from the city to use the boat, Judy and Rick went over to the island and that’s when they saw rat-infested wood duck nests, dead and decaying rats, and rotted eggs. “It stunk from high heaven from the nests that died and rotted over there. So Rick and I decided to clean all of that. It took us all summer (of 2012) to do it. It was piled high.”

Again asking for the city’s help transporting the piles from across the pond, Judy said city staff made an effort to bring one pile across, but decided to quit after that. So she and Rick built a raft, and brought the piles over to shore. “We worked



Ducks rest on the island that is situated in the middle of the pond at McKinley Park. The pond has been deemed a human health hazard.

real hard,” she said, explaining how she asked the city to once again help out and dispose of the piles, which sat on the shore for about a month, near where volunteers tirelessly worked on the playground rebuild efforts.

She figured the city should clean up the piles. “They were not happy with us. It was like, come on guys. You haven’t touched this in 20 years and we’re asking for just a little bit of assistance,” she said. “It sat there for about a month, but they cleaned it up before they opened the playground. We intentionally put it where they would have to do that. It was devious on our parts, but, please,” she said.

Judy’s fearless efforts have led to friends calling her a whistleblower.

“I really got on the city’s bandwagon so much so they wouldn’t respond to my emails anymore. So I would get my friends to email them. And so when there’s a will, there’s a way. It’s like somebody said to me last night, ‘How does it feel to be a whistleblower?’ And I said, ‘I’m not a whistleblower. All I am doing is making public documents.’ If it was an aesthetic issue, it wouldn’t be an issue.”



Judy McClaver is shown here picking up trash out of the pond at McKinley Park on Thursday, Feb. 13. She has special permission from the City of Sacramento to use the Parks and Recreation Department’s boat to get around the pond.



Judy McClaver demonstrates the work she and her friend, Rick, have done to clean up the pond.



Ducks and geese bask in the sun on a warm, February afternoon.

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Pocket Watch:

Continued from page 3

dents from North, South, East, and West Sacramento and beyond—witnessed the last fireworks show ever held in the Pocket. Fortunately, unlike the aerial fireworks show, the parade lives on to this day, and, every time it comes around, I think of the incredible neighbors I worked with when these events were in their heyday. I know that, by singling out a few of these folks, I run the risk of offending the many folks who gave so freely of their time and effort to make the parade and fireworks show such great successes, but I would certainly be remiss if I were not to mention the names of Vonne Matney, Joanie Johnston, and Diane Chin, all of whom did much of the actual work in bringing my ideas to fruition. You may not know them, but, if you've ever enjoyed a parade or a fireworks show in the Pocket, you're in their debt.

Frequently in my old columns, I used to mention my grandparents, who lived with me at the time. They raised me from the time I was born, and when they reached a certain age, it was time for me to, more or less, return the favor. My grandfather passed away in 2005 after suffering a massive coronary in the middle of the night in our home. It was the kind of exit that didn't allow me to say a proper goodbye, and that's a thing that haunts me to this very moment. I think about him every day, honest to God, and I shed a tear for his absence from my life.

My grandma, bless her heart, is still alive. She turned 100 years old in May. A couple of years after my grandfather died, she began to develop dementia, and it's pretty severe right now, so much so that I was compelled to admit her to a nearby convalescent home so that she can receive 24-hour care. This was probably the most difficult decision I've ever had to make, and our home will forever seem empty without her. Dementia is a cruel disease. She is healthy and communicative, but she really has no idea who we are. It would have been such a blessing to be able to enjoy her ample wit and wisdom at this point in her life, but, with about a 10-second-term memory, she is unable to muster much of either.

My little son, Ruben, about whom I also wrote extensively back in the day, is now a senior in college, a living, breathing, monument to the idea that time does, indeed, fly. He is currently the Editor-in-Chief of the school newspaper at the University of the Pacific—a better writer than his old man—and I spend a great deal of time worrying about him moving around the city of Stockton, which, well-deserved or not, seems to be featured prominently on the news every night.

In 2002, Ruben received a little sister for his 10th birthday, one Gabriella Faith Dominguez, the little miracle baby that my wife, Lisa, and I spent so many years longing for but thought we'd never have. Despite being cut from the same cloth and looking very much as though she could be Ruben's twin,

one decade removed, Gabby could not be more different than Ruben in many ways. She possesses a razor-sharp sense of humor, is pointedly opinionated, and ultra competitive. Athletically, she exhibits the killer instinct that Ruben was always too kind to wield in competition. She manages to impose her will on the field while simultaneously being the sweetest, most thoughtful, and, to me, most beautiful, girl I could ever imagine.

The last major difference in my current life that I'll tell you about is that I began working as a Realtor right about the time that I stopped writing columns for the Pocket News. All I can say about that is that, ever since the big collapse and the ensuing foreclosure crisis in 2006, the banks have completely transformed the way we do business in the industry. It's an unwritten rule that a Realtor should never speak ill of the market, but, after nearly 20 years in the business, I feel I've earned the right to say that I feel as though I've gone through the worst period ever in real estate in America and lived to tell about it. Now that we're all caught up, I look forward to returning to telling you stories about our neighbors here in the Pocket/Greenhaven area and sharing observations about life here in our little corner of the world. What happens in, say, Vegas may stay in Vegas, but I think everyone should know about our wonderful community and the people who make it that way.

The Pocket Watch appears in every issue of The Pocket News. Jeff Dominguez can be reached at jeff.dominguez@yahoo.com.

Darrell's Notes:

Continued from page 17

For reference, our website at <http://www.sacpd.org/crime/beats/helps> further define these beats.

I also would like to mention that Lieutenant Greenlee has taken a great leadership training opportunity and will be absent until this upcoming April. In his absence, Lieutenant Morgado will be assuming his position as watch commander and take his area responsibilities.

Earlier in the year we went through a shift change. Simply, sergeants and officers have the opportunity to move (or stay) in an area and the opportunity to possibly change which days to take off. I mention this because you may start seeing different faces in your communities. With that in mind, our core principles of protecting the community, partnerships, professionalism, prevention/intervention and ownership will remain our priority.

As you may have heard before, the Police Department's goal is simple: make Sacramento the Safest Big City in California. However, there are two realities behind this statement: One, it will not happen overnight; and two, the Police Department cannot do it without your help and involvement!

To help the public become more involved, the Police Department began utilizing Nextdoor.com in June of 2013. The Department realized that it is a great forum for us to communicate with our neighborhoods. Please encourage your neighbors, coworkers, and families to become part of it. We do not monitor your neighborhood pages, but this avenue creates a great way for me and my staff to communicate with you in real time. Please feel free to send me a message via Nextdoor.com with any questions or concerns in your neighborhood."

I-5 Interchange Project Charges Forward

Progress is continuing on one of the largest public works projects in City history, the new I-5 Interchange and Cosumnes River Boulevard Extension. Linking Interstate I-5 and Route 99 east together, this project will relieve traffic congestion and decrease travel time. In addition to improv-

ing transportation, the project will spur economic development through construction of a regional park, a retail center, and 5,000 new housing units. Once a mere concept, the project has made remarkable progress in the last six months.

The new interchange is expected to be completed by fall of 2014, with the completion of the entire road extension to follow.

Neighborhood Association Meetings

Charter Pointe Neighborhood Association meets as needed

Deerfield/Mesa Grande Neighborhood Association meets the third Thursday of the month, at 7 p.m., located at Union House Elementary School, 7850 Deer Creek Dr.

Lake Greenhaven Homeowners Association will have its annual general meeting in April, location changes

Marina Oaks Homeowners Association meets quarterly on the second Saturday of the month, 11 a.m., location changes.

Park Place South Homeowners Association meets Second Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., rotation of board members' homes

Park Rivers Oaks Estates Homeowners Association meets the last Tuesday of the month, time varies, meet in Clubhouse.

Reith Park Neighborhood Association meets the first Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m., John Reith Elementary School, 8401 Valley Lark Dr.

Riverlake Community Association meets the third Wednesday of the month, 6 p.m., 799 Lake Front Dr.

Riverwind Place Owners Association meets the first Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library, 7335 Gloria Dr.

Sacramento Roundtree Homeowners Association meets the third Tuesday of the month, time varies, 601 Roundtree Court.

South Pocket Homeowners Association meets quarterly on the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m., Bergamo Preparatory School, 82 Pocket Rd.

Valley Hi Neighborhood Association meets the second Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Hope United Methodist Church, 6161 Valley Hi Dr.

*Confirm with each organization. Meeting information can be found on the Neighborhood Services website.

Solution to Crossword:

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CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Land Park Pacific Little League collecting memorabilia as part of 60th anniversary

Land Park Pacific Little League (LPPLL), a youth baseball organization serving children in the Land Park, Curtis Park, Hollywood Park, South Land Park, Little Pocket, and neighboring areas, celebrates its 60th anniversary season in 2014. As part of the celebration, LPPLL is collecting photos and other memorabilia to display throughout the season. LPPLL's home fields are located at Dooley Fields, located behind Holy Spirit Parish School at the edge of William Land Park, and the baseball fields located in William Land Park. Originally, Dooley Fields

were the home of Pacific Little League, created in 1959. Through the years, some of the area little leagues merged. In 1994, Dooley Fields also became the home fields Land Park Little League, which was established in 1954. In 2000, Curtis Park Little League also merged into the league. As part of the Opening Day Parade, scheduled for March 22 at 8:00 a.m., old photographs, jerseys and other memorabilia will be on display. Alumni from past years are invited to attend and share memories. Anyone willing to share or donate items should contact info@lppll.com. Additional information about the league is available at www.lppll.com

AARP tax aide seeks volunteers for 2014

The nation's largest free, volunteer-run tax assistance and preparation service is seeking volunteers for tax assistance/preparation and leadership coordinators. Volunteers of all ages and backgrounds are welcome. Each year from

Feb. 1 through April 15, AARP Tax-Aide volunteers prepare federal, state, and local tax returns for low and middle income taxpayers, with special attention to those age 60 and older. Volunteers are especially needed to assist with electronic filing of tax returns. You do not need to be an AARP member or retiree to volunteer. For more information on how you can join the AARP Tax-Aide team in Northern California, contact Ron Byrd at NoCal-TaxAide@Outlook.com or visit website at: www.aarp.org/taxaide

Mahogany Urban Poetry Series

- Queen Sheba - poetry readings
Each Wednesday from 8-11 p.m. at Queen Sheba in Sacramento, local talent makes it way to the restaurant for weekly open-mic events. \$3-\$5. 1704 Broadway.

Registration Open for Nature Bowl Science and Conservation Competition

Registration is now open for the 29th annual Nature Bowl, an elementary school activity-based competition held in the spring. Coordinated by the California Department

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See more Calendar, page 26

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\$20 general, \$15 senior, \$10 student
For further information, call (916) 428-7379 • www.capitolchamberplayers.org

Jewish Composers
Sunday, March 30th, 3 p.m.
Congregation B'nai Israel Choir
LuAnn Higgs, soprano, CBI Director
Robert Samson Bloch, violin
Mary Blanchette, violin
Rhennie Boyle, viola
Gay Currier, viola
Rejean Anderson, cello
*Hebrew Love Songs
*String Quintet No. 2, Op. 87 in B flat Major
*Serenata Nocturna Theosophical Musings for Sleepless Night (October 1 through 7, 2001)

SCUSD Child Development Department and Partners for School Readiness Present the
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March 8, 2014 ~ 10:00am ~ 2:00pm ~ **FREE! FREE! FREE!**
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Wonderful three bedroom two bathroom home in Land Park on a nice cul-de-sac street. Newer upgrades include: dual pane windows, composition roof, remodeled bathrooms, interior paint, ceiling fans and more. This charming home also features hardwood floors, open floor plan, two car garage, bay window, inside laundry, brick exterior, lots of storage, alarm, fantastic yard and RV parking. This is a spectacular home and location. Please call for a private showing.

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Realtors
"Call me for a private showing or an estimate of value"

CALENDAR

Continued from page 25

of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) in partnership with local organizations and agencies, the Nature Bowl increases the science and conservation literacy of third through sixth grade students in the Sacramento Valley and Sierra foothills. The Nature Bowl is open to students from any school, group or organized youth club. Participants employ teamwork, creativity and critical thinking while participating in group learning activities centered on local and regional natural environments. The first round will be held at 10 locations from mid-March through early May. Teams will consist of three to seven students each and several teams will advance to the finals to be held at California State University, Sacramento on May 17, 2014. Teachers, youth group leaders or parents can coach a team. The semifinal at Nimbus Hatchery is scheduled April 3, 2014. To register, call (916) 358-2884. The semifinal at Effie Yeaw Nature Center is scheduled March 11, 2014. To register,

call (916) 489-4918. A new semifinal is also being offered at Sutter's Landing Regional Park in Sacramento on May 1 or 2 (date to be determined). For more information, please call (916) 284-1627. For more information about the Nature Bowl, please call (916) 358-2353 or visit the CDFW website at www.dfg.ca.gov/regions/2/naturebowl/.

Brain Gymnasium

Exercise your mind and have some fun at this on-going Brain Gymnasium class! Inviting all seniors to Eskaton Monroe Lodge, 3225 Freeport Boulevard, 9:20 a.m. Thursdays. \$6 per class. Call 441-1015 for more information.

Women with Good Spirits monthly meeting

Women With Good Spirits is a networking group that engages women in the Sacramento community with non-profit organizations that make contributions to our quality of life and care for our fellow residents.

Each month, Women With Good Spirits invites a community non-profit to present on its mission work. The meeting is held at Revolution Wines on the second Tuesday of each month and starts at 6:30 p.m. The presenter will start their presentation promptly at 7:15 p.m. and will last 15-20 minutes with an open question and answer forum after. RSVP is appreciated as well as a \$5+ donation per person that will go directly to the non-profit presenting that month. Revolution Wines is located at 2831 S St. Visit www.womenwithgoodspirits.com or find the group on Facebook.

Davis Art Center invites teen girls to write and publish

The Davis Art Center is offering a six-week creative writing class for girls ages 13-18 from 4 to 6 p.m. Tuesdays starting February 11. The class will offer a positive, supportive space for girls who love reading and writing and are interested in discovering and developing their individual voices. Participants will use short stories by a diverse range of contemporary women writers as jumping off points for their own writing sessions. Each student will pick her best writing to include in a class-produced literary magazine. The class will be taught by Elise Winn Pollard, who earned her M.A. in

creative writing from UC Davis. The fee is \$95 for Art Center members and \$105 for the general public. To enroll, stop by the Art Center at 1919 F. St., call (530) 756-4100 or register online at www.davisartcenter.org. Students must be registered at least two weeks before the first class session.

Attn. students: Submit now for water efficiency video contest

High school students can win cash prizes and the chance to view their video on the Raley Field Jumbotron by entering the 2014 Water Spots Video Contest. The contest, sponsored by the Regional Water Authority (RWA) and the Sacramento Bee Media in Education (MIE) program, challenges teens to create compelling and original 25-second Public Service Announcement (PSA) videos on a select water efficiency topic. The 2014 water efficiency theme is: Don't be a gutter flooder: Prevent overspray and runoff. Judging will be based on creativity, entertainment value, accuracy, originality and incorporation of the water efficiency topic. Finalist videos will be displayed on the Raley Field Jumbotron screen and winners announced at a Sacramento River Cats game in April 2014. Winning students and their teachers will also get cash prizes. The grand prize winner's spot may become part of RWA's 2014 television ad campaign. Submissions due Feb. 28. Visit www.BeWaterSmart.info for more information and tips on using water more efficiently and to submit entries or get more information about contest rules, judging and prizes, visit www.sacbee.com/water-spots

California Youth Basketball League taking applications

CYBL is a non-profit year round league for ages 4 through 18 that prides itself on being well organized that aims to develop basketball skills, sportsmanship and self-esteem

through coaches, gym official and organizers. Visit www.cybhoops.com or call 391-3900.

Artisan holds Food Drive

Artisan Salon is participating in the Spirit of Giving Food Drive. Over the last 17 years, the Spirit of Giving (SOG) drive has helped Sacramento Food Bank collect and distribute over 4.6 million pounds of canned and non-perishable food items for local families in need. Help support families in need by participating in this year's drive! Artisan Salon is located at 3198 Riverside Blvd.

Soroptimist International of Sacramento South meetings

A service organization dedicated to insure the status of women and girls, the group meets at Aviator's Restaurant, 6151 Freeport Blvd. for lunch and to discuss the day's topic. Meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 12:15 p.m. The meetings discuss our fund raising Projects and Community Service, often with speakers from our community.

FEBRUARY

Carmichael Chamber of Commerce February Business Luncheon

Feb. 22: Featured speaker will be Peter Tateishi, Chief Executive Officer of the Carmichael Recreation and Park District Foundation who will be presenting on "Improving Our Community-Remodeling Carmichael". Networking: 11:30 a.m., program is from noon to 1:30 p.m. Location: The Church on Cypress - Education Building, 5709 Cypress Ave., Carmichael, 95608. Cost: \$18 for members with reservations; \$23 for guests and members without reservations. Cash, check, Visa or MC.



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South Land Park

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RIVERFRONT IN GREENHAVEN/POCKET



Custom 4 beds, 2 1/2 baths plus game room on .51+ acre lot which includes the levee with 79ft of waterfront & boat dock w/steel ramp. Lg family room, updated kitchen w/granite & gas, remodeled master bath, enclosed patio & Didion (K-8) too! **\$674,500**

Nick LaPlaca 764-7500

HERITAGE LAKESIDE - ELK GROVE



2 bed, 2 ba plus home office, 1694sf. Custom paint, crown molding, corian countertops, glass tile backsplash, stainless steel appliances, glass enclosed office, fireplace insert, surround sound plus much more! Park like backyard. **\$360,000**

Liz Gonzalez 718-4753

FALLBROOK IN ELK GROVE - PENDING

Rare opportunity to own a meticulously maintained single story with a sparkling built in pool on one of the most desirable courts in highly coveted Fallbrook! 4 beds, 2 1/2 updated baths, huge 3 car garage on a spacious lot. Walking distance to Elk Grove Elementary and a great park! **\$329,900 - Mandy Shepard 213-3013**

WALNUT GROVE

Cute as can be on almost a 1/4 of an acre! This 2 bed, 1 bath is located just 3 doors down from the Sacramento River so all you need is your fishing pole! Newer comp roof & gutters, 2 car detached garage, many fruit trees with lovely view. **\$190,000 - Terry Mulligan 768-3796**

EAST SACRAMENTO - PENDING

Looking for a large 2/3 bedroom home in East Sac? Look no more! Approx. 1434sf, home office, spacious family room, beautifully remodeled kitchen and bath, large closets, lots of built-ins, skylights, hardwood floors and private brick patio in backyard. Newer roof, newer HVAC & fresh paint. **\$376,000 - Dawn Rowe 799-4835**

CLARKSBURG

1910 Queen Anne Victorian on 2.1 acres! This 3 bed, 3 baths, features separate laundry, basement, 3 car shop and additional 1 car garage. Frontal views of the Sacramento River and rear views of Bogel Vineyards. You can have your own private boat dock! **\$599,000 - Terry Mulligan 768-3796**

1.2 ACRES IN ELK GROVE - PENDING

This 6 bedroom 3 bath, 7 car garage on 1.2 acres has all the amenities present on your wish list! Features include solar heated swimming pool with its own outdoor bathroom, separate in-law quarters with 2 bedrooms 2 bath, kitchen and living room. The spiral driveway leads you from the auto RV gate to a separate 4 car garage. **\$799,999 - Neal Alie 224-9640**

ROSEMONT

This 4 bed, 3 bath, well maintained home features a sparkling built in swimming pool, new carpet, new paint, newer roof, dual pane windows throughout, newer exterior paint & tons of closet space. Hurry and see this great floor plan! **\$250,000 - Brandon Shepard 479-1936**

SOUTH LAND PARK



This 4 bed, 3 bath home features a large kitchen, tile flooring in the kitchen, entry, laundry room & baths, beautiful wooden floors in the livingroom, family room, bedrooms & hallway. Good sized master w/jetted tub & separate shower. **\$525,000**

Karla Oppliger 799-0010

GATED GREENHAVEN/POCKET



This 4 bed, 2 1/2 bath home is located on one of the largest lots in the community and features laminate flooring, Granite kitchen countertops, separate living & family rooms, double sided fireplace and 1 bed and 1 bath downstairs. **\$409,000**

Lynn Luk Lee 628-2843



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Casa Garden 'Girls Just Want to Have Fun' lunch and Red Hat fashion show

Feb. 26: "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" lunch and Red Hat fashion show at 11:15 a.m. and 1:15 p.m. seatings at the Casa Garden Restaurant, 2760 Sutterville Road, Sacramento. Entree choices: Chicken Stuffed with Spinach and Smoked Gouda or Black Bean Tostada Salad with Grilled Chicken Breast; dessert: Chocolate Torte with Raspberry Coulis -- \$22 per person, includes tax and gratuity. First-come, first-served group reservations by one person, one check. Reservations a must -- call (916) 452-2809. Proceeds benefit the Sacramento Children's Home.

Microbiology in Sickness and in Health

Feb. 27: Learn how to keep healthy from an infectious disease, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., free; held at ACC SSC, 7375 Park City Dr, Sacramento, 393-9026.

Just Say No! – Senior Scams

Feb. 27: Learn the various types of senior scams in our community and how to prevent it, 2:30-3:30 p.m. Free. Pre-registration required. Held at ACC SSC, 7375 Park City Dr, Sacramento, 393-9026.

MARCH

Lunch and "Wine Social" at Casa Garden

March 4: There will be a lunch and "Wine Social" at Casa Garden with red and white wine sips offered by BellaGrace Vineyards of Sutter Creek paired with delicious Casa hors d'oeuvres at 11:30 a.m. [one seating only], Casa Garden Restaurant, 2760 Sutterville Road, Sacramento. Entree choices: Three-Cheese Garden Lasagne or Chicken Caesar Salad; dessert: Latte Mocha Torte -- \$22 per person, includes tax and gratuity. Reservations a must, open seating -- call 916-452-2809. Proceeds benefit the Sacramento Children's Home.

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**For information contact Centennial Church
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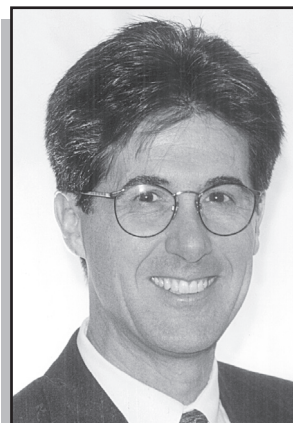


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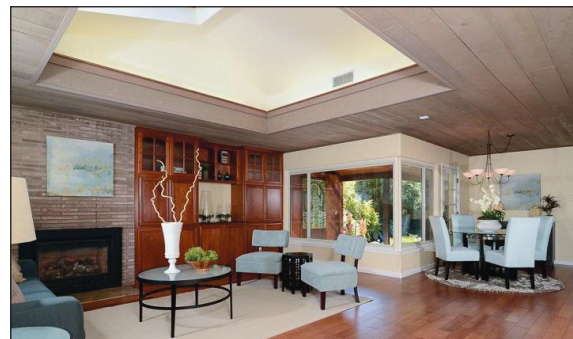
PAULA SWAYNE 425-9715



RIVERGATE HOME

Wonderful four bedroom home on a quiet street. This home has a great floor plan with lots of light! Private living room, kitchen family room combination and spacious master suite. Sliding glass doors in family room and master suite leading to generous sized backyard. \$329,000

PAM VANDERFORD 799-7234



STYLISH AND ENERGY EFFICIENT

Gracefully appointed, South Land Park 3 bedroom 2 bath home. The home combines natural elements of wood, masonry and light to create alluring spaces throughout. Lush landscaping, pool and koi pond and spacious 2 bedroom guest cottage. Comme see the magic! \$667,000

STEPHANIE GALLAGHER 342-2288



PENDING

S. LAND PARK HILLS DUPLEX

This is a wonderful duplex in a great location! Spacious 1500+ square foot units, 3 bedrooms 2 baths with formal living room, family room and master suite on each side. Central heat and air, dishwasher, disposal, garages and small yards. \$400,000

PAULA SWAYNE 425-9715



PENDING

QUALITY WEBER BUILT HOME

4 bedroom 2½ home on almost 1/2 acre lot with RV access. Gorgeous remodeled items: kitchen, baths, flooring, imperfect smooth finished walls, windows, sliders, counter tops, custom cabinets, stainless steel appliances, high-end granite, designer lights, fireplace & more. Tons of quality upgrades! \$569,000

MONA GERGEN 247-9555



PENDING

HOLLYWOOD PARK

Welcome to one of the finest streets in Hollywood Park! Great curb appeal and a huge professionally landscaped backyard. This adorable 2 bedroom home offers plantation shutters, an updated bath, California Custom closets and a home theater center ready in the living room. Newer HVAC. \$290,000

KAREN SANDSTROM 803-0530



PENDING

HOLLYWOOD PARK CHARM

Hard to find updated 3 bedroom charmer with central heat and air. Country kitchen is large with granite counters, new cabinets and stainless steel appliances. Dual pane windows, hardwood floors and a wonderful fireplace in the living room. Big backyard a garden delight! \$235,900

LISA MCCAULEY 601-5474



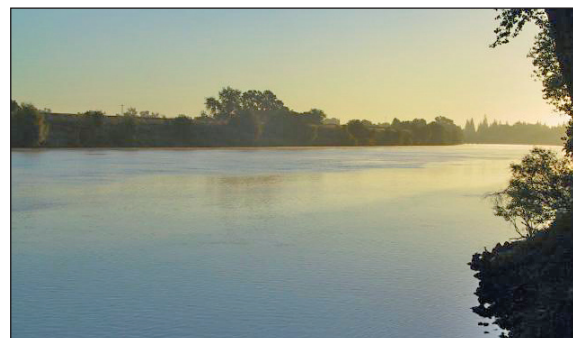
PENDING

WONDERFUL WEST SAC

Wonderful single-level home in a quiet cul-de-sac. 4 bedrooms, 2½ baths on almost a quarter acre. Granite counters and glass subway tiled back splash set the kitchen apart. Solar heat for pool and house (annual electric bill \$300 - \$500!), dual pane windows and a tile roof. \$430,000

NANCY WEGGE 600-5458

LISA MARTIS 612-7548



LOT ON THE RIVER

Must see this beautiful lot! A rare opportunity to build your own home on a riverfront lot in the Little Pocket area close to the freeway and downtown. Riverside Blvd close to 35th Ave. Go by, walk around the lot and enjoy the Sacramento River. Call agent if you have questions. \$259,000

MONA GERGEN 247-9555

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