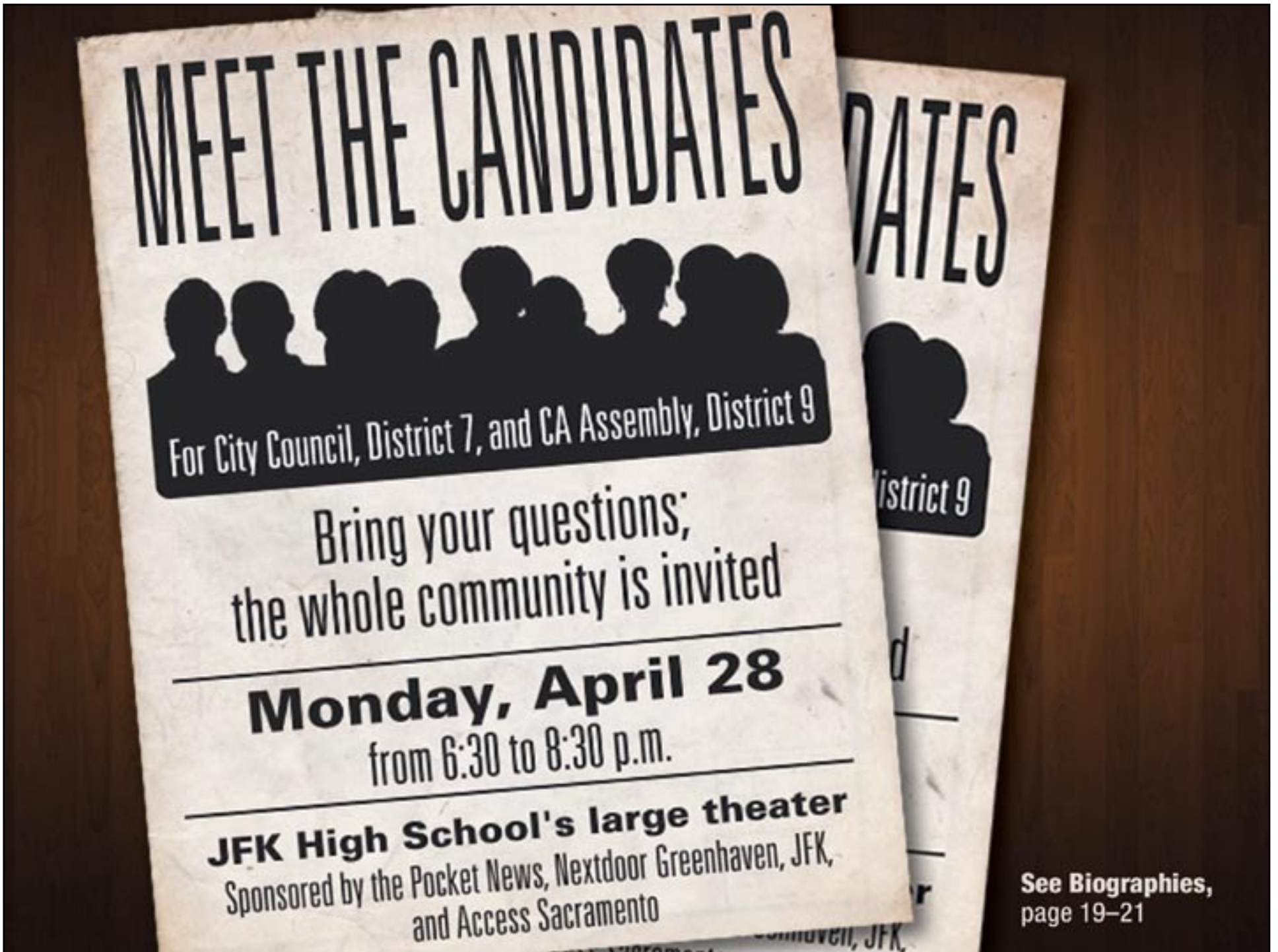


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Happy Easter!

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Brookfield School site is a place of much history

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Darrell's Notes



By Councilmember Darrell Fong

Great work by SPD

Captain Dave Peletta's team deserves a huge thank you. Starting in January of this year, several iPads and laptops were being stolen from patrons at Starbucks, some in the Pocket Greenhaven area. SPD Detectives along with Elk Grove Police Department detectives have been

actively investigating these thefts. We are pleased to inform you that an arrest has been made in the investigation and that the suspect confessed to several of the thefts in the City of Sacramento. SPD is continuing the investigation, in the hopes that other suspects will be identified.

2014 Food Truck Expo

Our monthly Food Truck Events have returned to Garcia Bend Park! We kicked off the season on Friday, March 21 with another successful and delicious event. Join us Friday, April 18 for some delicious freshly prepared food from Sacramento's

See Darrell's Notes, page 9

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The Pocket Watch Sly Park and a Wreck



By **JEFF DOMINGUEZ**
 jeff@valcomnews.com

The way my wife, Lisa, greeted the news that she'd been approved as a chaperone for our daughter's class trip to Sly Park, you'd have thought she'd won Powerball. OK, maybe not Powerball, but you'd have definitely thought she'd hit a couple grand on a scratcher. Me, personally, I had mixed emotions. I mean, it was great that Gabby wouldn't be hundreds of miles away (alright, 68) for a week, having to fend off the misdeeds of the two-and-a-half despicably mean girls in her grade all by herself, but Ms. Johnson's acceptance of Lisa's application also meant that I'd be doing something that I hadn't done in the last 25 years of our marriage. I'd be spending three days and two nights... completely

alone. Twice since we were married, I'd been compelled to spend a night away from home on business—once in San Diego and once in San Francisco—but I'd never stayed home alone while everyone else was gone. And the night I was in San Francisco for a company convention, I ended up driving home to sleep, then driving back to the convention early the next morning.

Weird, I know. I guess. Most everyone I spoke to about my apprehension at the prospect of being home alone replied with incredulity, though in varying measure. Some seemed downright envious, while others at least strained to appear a bit empathetic. But, I mean, come on, it may be unusual for a guy to be so attached to the company of his immediate family, but is it really a bad thing? Anyway, the core issue for me wasn't sleeping in an empty house and waking up to nothing, it was the heart wrenching fact that I was about to go an entire week without seeing my 11-year-old daughter. That prospect petrified me, and whether or not people

think that's weird, well, I just don't care either way. It's been 11-plus years since I'd gone a day without seeing that little face, and I didn't relish the thought of breaking that particular streak.

Don't get me wrong about this next point. We love Gabby's school. Our son, Ruben, had gone all the way through middle school there before Gab had even started kindergarten. We're dedicated volunteers—I chair the school's annual crab feed—and we're always willing to provide any other support that's needed. But, with regard to the whole Sly Park fiasco, we skipped from the announcement of the dates of the trip directly to dealing with it as best we could, when, really, there's a question that deserved to be asked and answered before we, like sheep, proceeded: If and when I feel like my daughter would benefit from extended time away from our family, shouldn't that be my decision as a parent? My kid is 11 years old, and if it's not obvious that this is too young an age for a child to spend a week away from her parents with no contact, it certainly isn't a slam dunk that it's not. I mean, the point is, at the very least, debatable, isn't it?

Isn't it a bit presumptuous of all of these schools that ship their 6th graders off to Sly Park for a solid week at some point during the school year to assume that everyone is fine with the timing of this milestone in our children's lives and just go ahead and schedule it without a discussion? I know it's been a tradition, at least locally, for many years. My friend, Lisa Golden, responded to my outcry on Facebook with a reminder that our class at Clarksburg Grammar School went in the 8th grade. "But not me," I retorted. I'd read *The Lord of the Flies* in the 7th grade, so the last place I wanted to be in the 8th grade was in some remote mountain camp with Jerry Fairly and Steve Slater

Pocket Watch:

Continued from page 4

calling the shots. I opted out of the trip, stayed home that week, and chopped down a grove of locust trees with my grandpa on the levee just south of Merritt Landing. This was a much better fate to me than ending up with my head on a stick.

Before she left, I offered Gabby \$500 to stay home that week. I was totally serious, but she laughed at me. She knew all too well that she didn't want to be the one kid who missed everything to stay behind because of her weird parents. How did she know this? Her brother told her. How did he know? Well... because... I refused to allow him to go to Sly Park when he was in the 6th grade, and I still haven't heard the end of it. That decision totally came back to haunt me.

Determined not to make the same mistake twice (even though I'm not entirely convinced that the first one was a mistake), I didn't force the issue with Gabby. Over the past few months, like a dark cloud looming out there on the horizon, that fateful week grew closer and closer. When it finally arrived, here's how it went:

Day 1

Awkward drop off. Tear in eye. Lump in throat. At a time when I need as much human contact as I could get, I avoid it to the fullest extent that I'm

able. Still, I know one or two parents have seen me. They probably think I'm an idiot. What's new?

Immediately after my girls drive away, a windy rainstorm fittingly hits the Pocket. "We may see snow this week in Pollock Pines," a weather girl on TV with two distinctly different colors of hair proclaims with a broad smile. There are three things I can't bear to think of my children being: lonely, hungry, or cold. An order of Edokko spicy chicken for dinner for me, although the joke I made with our friend, Melissa Sanders, at last week's volleyball tournament crosses my mind. We were talking about me being home all alone, when I wondered aloud, "What if I choke on something?" She erupted in laughter and suggested an all-Jello diet until Lisa comes home. Though he usually spends Monday and Tuesday nights in Stockton at school (UOP), Ruben comes home and spends the night with me. No Jello necessary.

Day 2

Grouchy all day. Lisa's cell reception at Sly Park is sketchy, to say the least. The only contact we've had so far is a couple of fuzzy phone calls and a texted picture of Gabby with a snake around her neck. I can't stand snakes. Or mice. With an appalling indifference, Weather.com informs me to expect 6-18 inches of snow at Sly Park

in the next 24 hours. Ruben calls to tell me he has a late newspaper meeting and won't be able to make it home from school tonight. I become distraught. Ten minutes later, he bursts through the front door and yells, "April Fools!!!" I love my son. We go to OZ Korean barbecue for a celebratory dinner.

Day 3

Lisa comes home today. She's being relieved on her chaperoning shift by our good friend, Martha Cruz. I drive to Pollock Pines to pick her up, but I'm not sure that I'll be able to see Gabby, because, from what I can pick up from Lisa's cryptic texts, the way the camp is run is a tad reminiscent of the old TV series, *Hogan's Heroes*. During the entire trip up, I imagine myself making a big scene demanding to see my daughter. I foresee myself punching Sgt. Schultz in the face. Fortunately, no such theatrics are necessary in reality. Long lost Gabby appears in the parking lot shortly after I pull up. Again I offer her a substantial amount of money to come home now, and this time I video the exchange and later post it on Facebook. The following comments posted in response to that video tell you everything you need to know about the quality of many of my Facebook friends, these two of whom I've known since grammar school:

Steve Gardner: "Of course she doesn't want to come home; she probably met a cute boy up there!"
John Elmore: "Hey, is that a hickey???"

Day 4

Having just been transferred from the front lines, Lisa is magically receiving crystal clear, blow-by-blow descriptions of Gabby's activities in her absence, complete with pics, in a series of texts from her former chaperoning partner, Jennifer Chappelle. Here's Gabby building a shelter; here, she performs a skit; here, she's making a t-shirt; here is the night hike. It's comforting on one level, but the overall emotion I'm experiencing is extreme anxiety. I want my daughter home now. The house is eerily silent all evening. Lisa and I don't really speak to each other. Is she mad at me? Wait. Am I mad at her? I think we're both just in a state of suspended animation until our family is whole again. The silence in our room that night is broken only by my snoring, the existence of which I refuse to admit as staunchly as a Koch brother on climate change.

Day 5

I barely remember anything I did to kill the time before Gabby's bus arrives—Lisa's parents arrive in town to welcome the snow queen back from her voyage—every minute that passes seems like five. Finally, it's time to fetch her from the school. It's quite a scene. Obviously, I'm not the only parent who desperately missed his kid. Soon, we're all back home again. Gabby showers and plops on our bed with the dog, the cat, and the remote. Within minutes, she's out like a light. Ruben and Lisa enter, along with Mum and Pop, and the five of us stand there around the bed, looking approvingly at sleeping beauty. "Hey dad," whispers Rube. "Yes?" I respond. "Only two more years till the 8th-grade trip to Catalina!" he chortles.

Suddenly I'm not feeling so bad about keeping that one home from Sly Park.

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

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See Pocket Watch, page 5

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New Brookfield School site is a place of much history

By LANCE ARMSTRONG
Lance@valcomnews.com

As the dust continues to take flight on the 5-acre, future Brookfield School site behind The Trap bar at Riverside Boulevard and 43rd Avenue, the topic of history is also in the air.

For instance, until Friday, March 21, the 90-year-old concrete stairs and foundation of a building could be seen a few hundred feet north of the bar.

Many Riverside-Pocket area residents recall when a house was once located on that foundation.

Although many people might imagine that the house was demolished, it was actually moved in two sections in 2004 by the Fisher Bros. House Moving Co. of Manteca, Calif.

According to the Portuguese Historical and Cultural Society, the structure was trans-

ported to a lot somewhere on T Street in Sacramento.

A request by this publication for additional details regarding that move from the Manteca company were not yet fulfilled upon the deadline for this article.

The house was built in 1924 for Tony Pimentel, then-owner of the bar, which would later become known as The Trap.

Tony resided in that home with his wife, Margaret "Maggie" (Valine) Pimentel, who he married on Jan. 21, 1916, and their children, Lloyd, Kathryn and Geraldine.

All three of the Pimentel children attended Sutter School on Riverside Boulevard, about a half-mile south of Sutterville Road. The old schoolhouse still stands at 4605 Karber Way and is presently home to Cabrillo Civic Club No. 5.

Although many people today would identify the 5-acre



Photo courtesy of PHCS

Pimentel's Ingleside Café – now known as The Trap – is shown in this c. 1912 photograph. Part of the original Pimentel family home is shown on the left hand side of the photograph. The people standing in front of the bar and grocery business building are, left to right: Anna Savoie, Ernest Garcia (child), Joe Prady, Mamie Koch (child) and Ernest "Alvin" Savoie.

site that includes The Trap as being located in the Pocket, the site is actually part of the historic Riverside area.

The northern boundary of the Pocket is located at the sharp "S" turn of Riverside Boulevard at 43rd Avenue.

The Pocket lies on the south side of the boulevard, while the Riverside area (which includes the 5-acre site where The Trap sits) is located on the north side of the boulevard.

Incidentally, historic school districts in those areas used the same boundaries.

Schoolchildren residing in the Pocket area attended schools of the Lisbon School District. Those schools were the Upper Lisbon School and the Lower Lisbon School.

The aforementioned Sutter School was attended by children of the Riverside area, thus coinciding with the previous trivia that the Pimentel children attended that school.

The left hand side of a c. 1912 photograph accompanying this article shows a por-

tion of the Pimentels' original house on the property, which has become the future site of Brookfield School.

Although the house had a rural, county address during its early years, it would later acquire the address of 6115 Riverside Blvd.

Tony and Maggie resided in their Riverside Boulevard home until about 1960, when they moved into a 1935 Tudor-style house at 2622 14th St. in Land Park.

After Tony died at the age of 74 on Aug. 26, 1968, Maggie continued to live in the 14th Street house, which still stands about two blocks south of Broadway.

Maggie continued to reside in Sacramento until her death at the age of 97 on Sept. 3, 1991.

As for the Pimentels' former Riverside Boulevard home, Tony and Maggie sold the house to Don E. Garwood (1907-1980) and his wife, Edith E. (Noland) Garwood (1914-1996), in 1968. The Garwoods were the orig-

inal proprietors of The Pocket Club at 5043 Freeport Blvd.

The more dominant structure shown on the right hand side of the aforementioned c. 1912 photograph is the building that would become The Trap, and was then known as Ingleside Inn.

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

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

In addition to the building's use as a bar, which was located on the larger, north side of the structure during its early years, groceries were displayed in the building's smaller, southern section.

There were two entrances to the building, so that women and children did not have to walk through the bar.

Originally, the bar and grocery store in the building was owned by a single, Italian man. Estimated by some people to have been built in the 1860s but at least before 1885, the building, like most other early historic sites of the area, was associated with the Portuguese.

The bar and grocery business became a Portuguese-owned place in 1912.

It was then that Tony's mother, Anna Leonora Garcia Pimentel, who was then

Brookfield:

Continued from page 6

a widow for the second time, bought the bar and liquor license, so Tony could have a business of his own.

Since Tony was 19 years old at that time, and thus too young to legally work in a bar, he established a partnership with his non-Portuguese brother-in-law, Ernest "Alvin" Savoie, who was married to Tony's half-sister, Ana "Annie" Garcia.

Tony supervised the grocery area in the building, while Alvin worked as the bartender.

Two years later, when he was of legal age to work in the bar, Tony became the business' bartender.

During that era, the bar had an area with tables and chairs for relaxing or playing cards.

Because of the high concentration of Portuguese who were residing in the area at that time, the bar was mainly a place of socialization for Portuguese men of the area.

When the old bar and grocery store building was relocated to its present location, it was placed in an easterly to westerly position, as opposed to its former northerly to southerly position.

It was also at that point in the structure's history that the smaller grocery area became the bar, and groceries were no longer sold in the building.

As for the greater sized area of the structure, it began to be used as an even larger sitting area, and occasionally on Saturday nights, it was used for dancing the Portuguese chamarrita with two musicians playing their string instruments.

Sometime after the bar building was moved, it was altered when a bedding space and kitchenette was added to the structure.

Eventually, Alvin became ill, at which time Tony purchased his interest in the bar. Alvin died at the age of 67 on Aug. 15, 1954.

Tony and Maggie later purchased an additional 15 acres adjacent to the bar and their home, and Tony began farming on that site.

As Tony's interest in farming increased, he hired two of the Barsanti brothers, who lived in the Riverside area, to run the bar. And in 1930, Tony sold the bar.

In speaking about the operation of the bar during the



years of Prohibition, Pocket historian Dolores (Silva) Greenslate said that Prohibition had little affect on the bar.

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

Since Tony's ownership of the bar, which was eventually known as the Ingleside Club, the business has changed proprietors several times.

One of those owners was Eileen Strange, who renamed the bar, The Trap.

As the story goes, in 1964, Strange decided to rename the bar after she had invited her friends to visit "the trap" that she acquired.

Strange, who was a former West Sacramento resident, lived at 4221 South Land Park Dr. during her proprietorship of The Trap.

The last owners of the bar, while it was operating under the name Ingleside Club, were Manuel and Ernie Simas, who were relatives from an old Pocket Portuguese family.

Manuel Simas, who resided at 7594 Pocket Road, and Ernie Simas, who lived at 7572 Pocket Road, purchased the bar in about 1959 from the bar's previous owner, Jerry Andrews, who made his home in the upper level of the bar building.

In about 1967, Martin L. and Iona Kroeker, who



Photos courtesy of PHCS
This house, above, shown in its original location on Riverside Boulevard in March 1998, was constructed for the Pimentel family in 1924.

(left) Tony and Maggie Pimentel are shown in their wedding photograph on Jan. 21, 1916.

Veronica Crudo expressed her concern regarding the future existence of The Trap in relation to its proximity to the soon-to-be-constructed school.

Although people directly associated with the bar and the school have stated that they intend for both places to coexist, of course, only time will tell if The Trap, which is one of the few pioneer structures in the area, will become a longtime neighbor of the school.

And whether future generations will have the opportunity to view the possibly 150-plus-year-old bar, one thing remains indisputable: it is obvious that the new Brookfield School site is a place of much history.

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See Brookfield, page 7

People helping people:

Rotary, Interact, Rotoact replaced smoke detector batteries for their neighbors

By MONCIA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

Students at John F. Kennedy High School and Sacramento Community College joined forces with the Pocket/Greenhaven Rotary and the Sacramento Fire Department Station 11 for a very special community service project on Saturday, April 5. They replaced smoke alarm batteries for about 20 of their neighbors.

"What an extraordinary day it was!" said Keiko Wong, Pocket/Greenhaven Rotary president. "It was such an honor to have the captain and firemen of Sacramento Fire Department's Station 11 meet us morning at JFK High School, rolling up in their beautiful bright red fire engine. Their admin office even requested that they come in full uni-

form just for this event. Can you believe that? Wow!"

The Kennedy students are members of a campus club, called JFK Interact, and the SCC students from a club called, SCC Rotoact. "We had a great time changing smoke detector batteries for residents of Greenhaven/Pocket, Freepoint Manor, Hollywood Park and Florin/Meadowview," continued Keiko.

"The residents were so surprised that this service was available to them, and on top of that, at no expense to them, thanks to the generosity of the fire department and Energizer. They were very appreciative. It was so gratifying, for as you know, a working smoke detector saves lives!"

"Our Rotoract and Interact volunteers happily stepped up and



Students at John F. Kennedy High School and Sacramento Community College joined forces with the Pocket/Greenhaven Rotary and the Sacramento Fire Department Station 11 for a very special community service project on Saturday, April 5. They replaced smoke alarm batteries for about 20 of their neighbors.

worked well as a team. It was especially rewarding working side by side with these bright young leaders of tomorrow. We are so very proud of them. Yes, this is what life is about!" Keiko said.

Sam Trumbly, JFK senior and vice president of Interact, said with his sub group, they were able to hit up 15 houses, noting the club publicized the event around campus and Rotary did

a lot of work to publicize and reach out to the community.

In explaining how he felt about his time volunteering, he said, "I liked helping people. Just going into their houses and knowing that you could be potentially saving someone here - that's what really mattered. He said Interact will be hosting a dodgeball

See Rotary, page 13

Darrell's Notes:

Continued from page 2

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 April 18!

Councilmember Bonnie Pannell announces retirement effective June 23

It is with mixed emotions that I share the news that Councilmember Bonnie Pannell announced her retirement from the Sacramento City Council effective June 23, 2014. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve with Bonnie.

Bonnie's tenacity and dedication to her constituency has resulted in a number of projects that have improved our city, including the Regional Transit Light Rail South Line, the Pannell/Meadowview Community Center and the Valley High Library. Creating and sustaining thriving neighborhoods has always been her priority. Whoever is elected to her seat will have big shoes to fill.

Please join me in wishing Councilmember Pannell the best in her retirement.

Help Front Street Animal Shelter win KCRA's A List for best local charity!

The City's Front Street Animal Shelter is in the running to be ranked as the best local charity/animal shelter in our region for KCRA's A-List contest. Your votes are needed to make this happen. We know we have the best Animal Shelter, let's make sure the rest of our community does as well! You can help by visiting the KCRA A-List website at <http://kcra.cityvoter.com/>

Rush River drive flashing beacons

Some of you may have noticed the new pedestrian crossings near the canal along Rush River Drive. The City's Traffic Engineering Division will soon install two flashing beacons (one for each direction) in advance of the canal to alert motorists of the crossings. Additionally, the signs will be switched to the multi-trail signs which show a pedestrian figure as well as the bike.

Our City like you've never seen it before

Sure, you've seen plenty of videos from within Sacramento.

Quality work is being produced in this city all the time, though every now and then a piece of work pops up that seems to renew the way we see the City of Trees. Recently featured by Visit California and chosen as a Vimeo Staff Pick, area local Justin Majeczky's video "Sacramento Timelapse" does exactly that. Exploding sunset colors, lush countrysides, thriving, pulsing nightlife and gorgeous cityscapes are all captured here.

"Over 20,000 individual photographs and 18 months of hard work went into creating this timelapse journey around the Sacramento area," he says on his page. "Two years ago my wife and I relocated to Sacramento, California so she could attend school. While here, I have learned to love the vast ethnic and scenic diversity of the area." <http://sacramentocityexpress.com/2014/04/01/our-city-like-youve-never-seen-it-before/>

Drought busters out in force

Following a week of spikes in water usage on Thursday and Friday (no watering days in the City of Sacramento) the Department of Utilities launched an increased enforcement of its watering rules.

These efforts, which shifted enforcement officer working hours to earlier start times or later end times, resulted in more than 350 first notices of violation and one second notice of violation.

The first notice of violation issued by the City is a written warning with an explanation of the City's watering rules and water conservation codes. The second notice of violation is a \$50 fine. Further viola-

tions result in fines for \$200 and \$1000 and \$1000 for each subsequent fine.

As a reminder, the City's watering rules are:

- Properties with addresses ending in ODD numbers (1,3,5,7,9) may water on Tuesdays and Saturdays.
- Properties with addresses ending in EVEN numbers (0,2,4,6,8) may water on Wednesdays and Sundays.
- Watering must take place before 10 a.m. or after 7 p.m. on scheduled watering days.
- No watering is allowed on Mondays, Thursdays or Fridays.
- No over-watering is permitted.

"We did not make this effort simply to boost our numbers of notices of violation," said Dave Brent, Director of the Department of Utilities. "We made this effort to help educate customers that because of the drought, their watering days have been reduced to two days per week and Thursdays and Fridays are no longer watering days. Our customers were notified of this change in their utility bills and in the media.

"While many people have gotten the drought conservation message, it's pretty obvious there are still many customers who are not aware of the new watering limitations that have been put in place to address the drought."

The Department plans to continue its increased enforcement efforts of Thursdays and Fridays, targeting the areas with the highest number of water misuse calls. These are calls reported to 3-11 by customers stating that they see watering on the wrong days and times or over-watering.

More information on the City's water conservation program can be found at www.SpareSacWater.org.

Water Conservation Meeting

Join the District 7 Team, the Department of Utilities, and Pocket Nextdoor.com for a meeting to discuss Water Conservation Tips, City Rules, and Water Meters

When: Wednesday, April 23, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Where: Robbie Waters Pocket Greenhaven Library, 7335 Gloria Dr.

Water Detection Leak Kits will be available for free to the first 50 meeting attendees.

District 7's "Hot Spot" returns

Starting next week, the "Hot Spot" opens at Jackman Middle School for youth between the ages of 13 and 19. The "Hot Spot" offers a safe, fun place on Friday nights.

Sacramento Named Nation's No. 2 City for Open Data

The City earned national recognition recently as one of nation's top cities for Open Data.

Sacramento is No. 2 in the U.S. City Open Data Census, a collaboration among Code for America, The Sunlight Foundation and The Open Knowledge Foundation that ranks the cities' openness according to the number of data sets they have made available online.

"We're committed to transparency. The open data portal ensures that public City data can be easily found and used by citizens," said Maria MacGuni-gal, chief information officer for the City of Sacramento. "It is important to support and encourage innovation in our City. Providing access to information in a reliable consistent format encourages residents and businesses to find new ways of using public data. We will continue to add useful data and are encouraging the community to work with us and tell us what they need."

Last year the city made the commitment to provide important public data online as part of an effort to increase openness,

See Open Data, page 16

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www.GreenhavenLutheran.org
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Bible Class: 9:00am
5700 South Land Park Drive & 35th Avenue 421-0492

Riverside Wesleyan Church

6449 Riverside Blvd. • 391-9845
Sunday School: 9:15am • Sunday Worship: 10:30am • AWANA (Children's Ministry)
• Youth - Jr. High - Sr. High - College - Young Adults • www.rwscac.org

Greenhaven Neighborhood Church

630 Ark Way • 422-8253
Sunday School Bible Study: 9:15am • Sunday Worship: 10:30am
Weekly Bible Studies - Jr/Sr High Events

Crosswalk Christian Ministries

Belle Cooledge Community Center, 5699 S. Land Park Drive
801-1588 • www.crosswalksacto.org
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St. Anthony Catholic Church

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stanthony-sacramento.org
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Daily Mass: 8:00am Monday-Saturday

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The Crossword by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

1 Drink like Lassie
6 Quick cut
10 Give and take?
14 Pointless
15 White House worker
16 Pirelli product
17 Like some substances
19 Charitable gift
20 Embed one plant into another
21 What's-his-name
23 Draw conclusions
25 Prefix with night or day
26 Carrying cargo
29 Go ashore
34 Genesis follower
36 Pub crawler
37 Money of China
38 Give a hand
39 Seagoing one
42 Casino cube
43 Sprawling story
45 "Goodfellas" fellas
46 Say the Pledge, say
48 Like some candidates
51 Nautical hazard
52 Vacation rental
53 Fill w ith joy
55 Free from slavery
59 Purported
63 Protection (var.)
64 Playground snitch
66 Adjust a Steinway

DOWN

1 Head parasites
2 Soon, poetically
3 Gut feeling?
4 Never tested
5 Every year
6 Word on a peanuts can
7 Zip
8 Time to bew are Walker's counter
10 Cheap way to fly

11 Jokers, sometimes
12 Prepares for war
13 Cozumel coin
18 Bug spray brand
22 Draw a bead on
24 Humorous
26 Car dealer's offering
27 Kind of symmetry
28 Legendary western city
30 Chip off the old block
31 Part of a TV signal
32 Indian yogurt dip
33 Prepare to be dubbed

35 Roadside helper in a parable
40 Scottish hero Roy
41 Antsy
44 Defendant, with the
47 Fastest feline
49 Tasseled hat
50 Happy as a clam
54 Tennis term
55 Illegal drug, briefly
56 Malarial fever
57 Low card in pinochle
58 Bit of folklore
60 Big blow
61 Ultimatum w ord
62 Letter starter
65 Little dipper?

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Photos by LINDA POHL and MONICA STARK

The Easter bunny also made an appearance at the Greenhaven Lutheran Church Easter egg hunt and carnival to a large crowd of children on Saturday, April 12. The event also featured a petting zoo.

Faces and Places

Happy Easter!

Photos by MONICA STARK

Children filled their Easter baskets with candy-filled eggs on Saturday, April 12 at the District 7 spring egg hunt held at Garcia Bend Park. The Easter bunny made an appearance and volunteers offered face painting for the children.

Bonsai Sekiyu Kai held its 37th annual Bonsai Show

Photo by MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

The Sacramento Bonsai Club, a non-profit organization with the mission of promoting and introducing the art of Bonsai and Suiseki to the Sacramento community, held its 37th Annual Bonsai Show on Saturday, April 5 and Sunday, April 6 at the Sacramento Betsuin Buddhist Church, 2401 Riverside Blvd. An array of bonsai varieties were shown as well as a transplanting demonstration. According to its website, the Sacramento Bonsai Club, established in 1946, is the oldest club in the United States and is an active club with active members. The club has special guest instructors and "hands-on" workshops led by instructors or members at our monthly "second Monday evening" meetings. There are also scheduled Saturday transplanting workshops held at Maruyama Nursery in Sacramento.



Rotary:

Continued from page 8

tournament at Kennedy to raise money for Polio Plus, a Rotary sponsored campaign that has helped save children around the world from the crippling effects of Polio. "I haven't played in a real long time and I'm hoping to get out there and bring home a win for Interact, but in the end, it isn't about who wins or loses, it's just to make money for polio research," Sam said.

Alex Chung, a senior at JFK, said it was nice to meet the people who wanted the smoke detectors because they were grateful for them.

"They clearly weren't people our age, they were the older generation. They were really happy to see people our age doing something for the world and the community. They thought we were just apathetic teens but they were actually interested in what Rotary and Interact was." He said his most rewarding experience yet with Interact has been his involvement with My Sister's House where we donated books. "It was nice to see people pick up books," Alex said.



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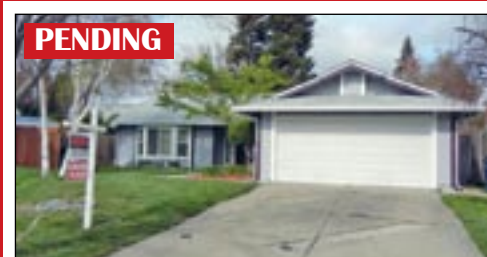
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Open Data:

Continued from page 9

transparency and accountability in government. Sacramento partnered with a Silicon-based company, Junar, to provide the data in a one-stop format that allows visitors to view data as charts, in dashboards or in sortable spreadsheets. Now available on the site are datasets for 311 service requests, finance and budget, police department statistics, citywide contracts, building permit numbers, census data, housing and education statistics and much more.

To view our Open Data Portal, visit: <http://portal.cityof-sacramento.org/opendata>

FREE Catalytic Converter Etching

Join the Sacramento Police Department for the "Etch & Catch" free catalytic converter etching event on Saturday, May 3 at A Auto in East Sacramento. Reservations are required. To RSVP, go to <http://>

spdcommunityevents.eventbrite.com

Your suggestions needed to improve our 311 app

In an effort to improve the usability and functionality of the Sac 311 App, the City of Sacramento is conducting a research study to help us identify services and information that residents of the City would like to have more readily available through their smartphones. Please take a moment to complete the survey at the link below. It should only take you two to three minutes to complete.

Take the survey now! Your input is very important to us!

Fix 50 - Upcoming Construction on Highway 50 ("WX Freeway") begins April 22

Caltrans announced that the Fix50 W/X Viaduct project on Highway 50 near downtown Sacramento will begin April 22—two weeks earlier than originally planned—and reduce congestion by keeping more lanes open during construction.

"We listened to hundreds of local community groups, public officials and law enforcement and incorporated the community's best recommendations into this new plan for the Fix50 project," said Caltrans District 3 Director Jody Jones. "Drivers should still expect significant congestion on Highway 50 near downtown from April 22 through June 25, but this new plan keeps more lanes open to traffic during construction."

Rather than closing one side of the freeway at a time to do the work, at least two lanes on the construction side will stay open. All lanes in the opposite direction of the construction will stay open as well. This new plan increases the total number of open lanes during construction on Highway 50 from 5 to 8 available lanes. Ramp closures will also be reduced.

Eastbound construction will take place April 22 through May 21, with no work during Memorial Day Weekend.

Westbound construction will be May 27 through June 25.

The Fix50 project website, www.fix50.com, will continue to provide daily updated information regarding construction and project status. Follow @Fix_50 on Twitter and on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Fix50WX>

Thanks to U

One year following the start of collection of Measure U, police and fire, park maintenance and other essential services that were cut between 2008 and 2013 are in place.

The City estimates about \$27 million in revenue per year is resulting from Measure U's passage. The sales tax took effect April 1, 2013 and will expire on March 31, 2019.

For a complete list of services restored, please visit <http://portal.cityofsacramento.org/City-Manager/Major-Projects/MeasureU>

Some highlights

- Parks and Recreation – \$4.7 million per year
- Edging, blowing, weeding and pruning – from once per month to twice per month
- Irrigation repair response time from five days to two days with the additional irrigation techs.
- High use periods of April thru October – restroom cleaning, park site inspections and litter removal from once per day, seven days a week to twice per day, seven days a week.
- Seven sports programs and activities for kids, teens and seniors at six community centers are filling. Since re-launching the classes in January, seven of 11 youth sports programs are at or near capacity. After school programs are greater than half filled.
- Opened 11 pools and five wading pools last summer.

Police – \$11.8 million

- From a low of 653 sworn officers in fiscal year 2012-13, the department now has 694.
- Retained 60 police officers whose positions were previously funded by federal grants, which are expiring.
- 10 police officer positions have been filled with full-time career officers in Field & Operations.
- Added a crime analyst and four forensic investigators and four dispatchers.

Fire – \$8.5 million per year

- Three of the four rotating fire company brownouts have been restored. The last fire company will return to service on or about May 15.
- Additionally, Fire was able to maintain 27 grant-funded positions with Measure U. The positions would have been eliminated in December of 2013 without it.
- Restored a Senior Fire Prevention Officer to provide more oversight and more business inspections with an associated higher level of revenue.

Animal Care \$85,000

- One Animal Control Officer was added.

Sacramento Public Library \$506,000

- Partially restored services

For a complete budget of Measure U budgeted expenditures, please visit page 15 in the budget overview of the FY2013/14 approved budget here. <http://portal.cityofsacramento.org/Finance/Budget/ApprovedBudget>

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Celebrate The Risen Lord

Faith Presbyterian Church

Maundy Thursday Service: April 17: 7pm

Good Friday Prayer Vigil: April 18: Anytime from 7am, Service of Healing & Wholeness 7pm

Easter Sunday: April 20: Sunrise service at 7am
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April 20, 10:00 am

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Greenhaven Lutheran Church

Holy Week Services

April 17: Maundy Thursday
The Road to Gethsemane
7:00pm - Worship with Holy Communion

April 18: Good Friday
The Road to Calvary
7:00pm - Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Sunday, April 20: Easter Sunday
8:00am - Sunrise Service with Holy Communion and Easter Brunch
10:30am - Easter Worship with Holy Communion

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Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6 annual Cinco de Mayo celebration set for Friday, May 2

Dance to the music of Latin Touch and Mariachi Los Gallos at the annual Cinco de Mayo celebration at the Elks Lodge, No. 6, which is set for

Friday, May 2 from 5 to 11 p.m. Latin Touch performs from 8 to 11 p.m. and Mariachi Los Gallos from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m. and includes: carnitas, rice, beans, salsa, chips, guacamole, sour cream, pico de gallo, with Mexican ice cream bars for dessert (paletas). There will be a money raffle through out the evening, as well as jello and tequila shots. Dinner, music, and fun for everyone! The cost is \$22 per ticket. Tickets are available in the

Elk's office. The Elks is located at 6446 Riverside Blvd. Call 422-6666 for more information, or visit: <http://www.elks6.com/images/ep.pdf>

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Meet the candidates Political forum at John F. Kennedy High School set for Monday, April 28

Candidates for Sacramento City Council District 7 and California Assembly District 9 have confirmed their presence at the political forum at John F. Kennedy High School, which is set for Monday, April 28 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the large, 465-seat, state-of-the-art theater. Moderated by Sacramento City College communications instructor Jared Anderson, and hosted by the *Pocket News*, Nextdoor Greenhaven, JFK High School, and Access Sacramento, the event is an informational, community building political forum. It is not a debate.

Students at Kennedy and City College have been invited to attend and ask questions – some instructors are offering students extra credit for attending, and volunteers from the League of Women Voters will have a table for voter registration. Candidates will be given two minutes to provide a biography before questions are asked. City council candidates will go first at 6:30 p.m. and assembly candidates will go second. We will also do a plug for Measure B.

If you have any questions you'd like me to save for the forum, email them to me at editor@valcomnews.com. What follows is some information on Measure B and biographies along with top issues our candidates will be addressing at the forum.

MEET THE CANDIDATES



For City Council, District 7, and CA Assembly, District 9

Art by Ryan Wunn

Vote YES on Measure B – For the Libraries

The following measure is approved for the June 3, 2014 ballot. *Measure B—Pertaining to a Parcel Tax for Core Library Services:*

"Should library services for all City residents including children, teens, adults and seniors, be preserved, including after-school reading programs, homework assistance, library operating hours, 24/7 online access, programs for seniors, and other services, by enacting a new \$12 per year single-family residential parcel tax for 12 years, and specified amounts for other uses, adjusted for inflation, that the State cannot take, with independent financial audits to ensure funds are spent only on City of Sacramento libraries?" No argument against was submitted.

The following is taken from www.bethereforlibraries.org: Measure B augments the existing city parcel tax by just one dollar per month and requires independent yearly audits to protect tax payers. Measure B requires that all funds be spent exclusively for local library services within the City of Sacramento.

Measure B is needed to:

Keep three new libraries operating, provide for the increased demand for online services, ensure that all libraries stay open evenings and weekends so people can actually use our libraries, maintain the library's after-school homework and reading programs for our school children and story time for preschoolers, provide quality books, library materials, and free children's programs, protect library operating hours and 24/7 online access to library resources, preserve library services for seniors and families who are trying to improve their lives, allow people who don't have computers at home access to the internet, continue to make quality library materials, programs, and services available at all libraries.

City Council District 7 candidates JULIUS CHERRY

Julius Cherry retired from the Sacramento Fire Department at the rank of Fire Chief in 2007 after more than 30 years of service. Prior to becoming Chief, he held the ranks of firefighter, captain, battalion chief, assistant chief, and Deputy Chief of Support Services. Julius has also been a practicing attorney for 22 years, handling a variety of civil matters. He is the CEO of The Cherry Consulting Group, which provides advisory services to fire protection organizations.

Julius chairs the Community Advisory Board for Dignity Health (formerly Catholic Healthcare West). He is past chair and current board member of Goodwill Industries of Sacramento Valley and Northern California. In 2011, he chaired the Sacramento Redistricting Citizens Advisory Committee, charged with advising the city government on reshaping the eight council districts after the 2010 census. From 1994 to 2001, Julius served and chaired the Sacramento County Project Planning Commission, assisting the commission in making entitlement decisions. He is a past board member of the Sacramento County Fair Board as a governor appointee.

A veteran of the United States Air Force, Julius attended night school to earn a Juris Doctorate from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law and a bachelor of science in public administration from California State University, Sacramento. Julius is married with three daughters, one son, and four grandchildren.

RICK JENNINGS

Why I'm running for City Council? I love this district and this city, where I've lived and raised my

family since 1986. I believe I have the skills, experience and drive to make this district and city the best they can be.

Running for this office is a natural progression of what I've done over the last 28 years in this community. In 1996, I was recruited by then-Mayor Joe Serna to run for the Sacramento Unified School Board and to restore the community's trust in the school district. I was proud to serve our kids for 12 years, focusing on rebuilding our neighborhood schools and improving student achievement.

I have also been the Executive Director of the Center for Fathers and Families, a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening families and building communities in Sacramento, for nearly 20 years. The Center currently serves over 1,700 young people daily in before and after school programs and 400 adults with parenting classes and other comprehensive services.

Through the years I have volunteered as a coach for youth sports, served on various boards and commissions and been involved with many neighborhood groups. From the relationships I've developed, I am proud to be endorsed by neighborhood leaders like Supervisor Jimmie Yee, May O. Lee, Kathi Windheim, Shane Singh, Lee Dumas, Willie Caston, Didion Elementary School Principal Norm Policar, and the Sacramento Police Officers Association.

It is my commitment to this community and its continued prosperity that has always been my impetus to be involved and I can think of no better manifestation of my experience than to serve on the City Council.

My Priorities in Office: A Strong Economy & Strong Neighborhoods

The City needs to improve its service delivery. From 2007 to 2012, the City cut staff, reduced services, and

See Meet the candidates, page 20

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Meet the candidates:

Continued from page 19

laid off Police Officers to deal with continued budget deficits. This has hurt our neighborhoods.

As our economy recovers and more resources are available, we must restore city services to their pre-2007 levels and ensure that revenues generated from Downtown revitalization are returned for neighborhood services.

Specifically I will:

Promote public safety by fully staffing police, increasing neighborhood patrols, and supporting and re-establishing initiatives like Cops and Clergy and the Gang Task Force;

Expand neighborhood watch programs and make sure every neighborhood has the support it needs to keep our streets safe;

Encourage small business expansion and job creation by creating local business incubators and ensuring that Delta Shores is built responsibly with jobs for our community and opportunities for small businesses;

Partner with schools and libraries to expand community programs through grants, partnerships and private sector fundraising to provide new opportunities for youth and seniors.

ABE SNOBAR

I have been a longtime resident of Sacramento and spent all of my formative years being raised in, and by, District 7. As a youth I attended Sam Brannan Middle School in the Pocket Area and later graduated from Valley High School in the Valley Hi area. From Valley High, I went on to earn my bachelor's degree in kinesiology from California State University, Sacramento. In short, I truly am a "Sacramentan."

I spent my early professional career as a Special Education teacher and a high school and college football coach. As an employee of the Elk Grove Unified School District for 14 years, I was involved with the district's success in raising the API scores from the mid-500s to 744, where they sit currently. My passion for teaching is paralleled with my passion for leading. Today, I am part of the Delta Ducks Minor League football team as an assistant coach, a voice in the Entertainment Sports Complex, and I am a member of the Sacramento Metro Chamber as a small business entrepreneur.

My passion for leading, listening, and learning comes second only to raising my two lovely daughters, Sophie and Ella. Vote for Abe.

CA Assembly District 9 candidates

JIM COOPER

Jim Cooper has served his community for more than 29 years – as a highly decorated law enforcement officer, a mayor, a city councilmember, and volunteer working with at-risk youth.

Cooper is currently a captain in the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department, where he commands

the Court Security Division. As a former commander of the Sacramento Valley High Tech Crimes Task Force, focusing on apprehension of child predators and identity thieves, he oversaw dramatic increases in prosecution and arrests of child predators.

His law enforcement career includes nine years working undercover to fight gang violence and drug trafficking. He has earned numerous awards, including the Bronze Star Bravery for heroic actions during the 1991 "Good Guys" hostage crisis. He also served two years as the Sheriff's Department's spokesperson.

Cooper is a lifetime member of the California Narcotics Officers Association and is well-regarded for his youth drug prevention teaching curriculum, to teach students about the dangers of narcotics and educate parents about the warning signs of drug use. He has also taught Criminal Justice at local community colleges and universities.

Cooper has spent the past 13 years serving the people of Elk Grove, as the city's first mayor, with a total of two terms as mayor and four terms on the city council.

As the city's first mayor, Cooper helped establish the governing values of fiscal responsibility, transparency, accessibility and regional partnership that the city still tries to live by. The fiscal foundation laid by his administration as mayor was critical to achieving 10 consecutive balanced budgets, building a healthy reserve, and avoiding the police layoffs that have plagued neighboring communities.

Cooper also worked to make Elk Grove one of the region's greenest cities, and has prioritized balancing growth and preserving the community's quality of life by tackling issues like traffic, housing, and job creation.

At the same time, he was critical in setting up the city's first gang/narcotics unit and a local 9-11 Communications Center, and put more police officers on the street.

Cooper has had a lifelong passion for community service and young people, and has served on the boards of the Boys & Girls Club, Big Brothers & Big Sisters, WIND Youth Services, and the Sacramento Children's Receiving Home.

Cooper grew up in Sacramento, is a graduate of the West Point Leadership Academy and FBI National Academy and earned a Master's degree in Organizational Leadership from St. Mary's College.

DARRELL FONG

Darrell Fong was born and raised in Sacramento, California and has lived in the Pocket Greenhaven area for nearly 30 years. Darrell attended C.K. McClatchy High School, Sacramento City College, and Sacramento State University.

Darrell was elected to the Sacramento City Council, representing the 7th District, in 2010. Darrell has been a vocal advocate on finding a comprehensive statewide water policy and opposing the delta tunnels, creating jobs through economic development, and keeping neighborhoods safe in the City of Sacramento. Darrell started a community discussion to begin connecting the Sacramento River Parkway to the 119-mile American River Parkway. A strong supporter of working families, Darrell has provided representation to previously underserved

communities in the district, providing after-school sports programs for kids.

Darrell, retired in 2009 from the Sacramento Police Department. Where he worked his way up the ranks, retiring as a captain. Darrell held various positions in the police department including, gang detective, patrol sergeant, narcotics and vice sergeant, Internal Affairs sergeant, lieutenant, Watch Commander, Metro Executive Lieutenant, Special Ops lieutenant (K-9, SWAT, EOD). As captain, Darrell served as Captain of the Special Investigations Detail, which includes the gang and narcotics units.

Darrell's focus on alternative policing methods with kids began while he was supervising the School Resources Officers that provide security for the Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD) and Natomas School District. He noticed that if kids were given alternatives options and positive direction, they performed better in school and stayed out of trouble. Darrell was the first officer from the Sacramento Police Department to attend and graduate from the Los Angeles Police Department West Point Leadership Program. Darrell has been recognized with resolutions from the California State Senate and Assembly for his work on investigating and suppressing Asian gangs in Sacramento.

A firm believer in community engagement leading to positive outcomes, Darrell has worked to organize monthly community food truck events, which have engaged thousands of constituents. An advocate for Sacramento's food culture, he worked with members of the Sacramento food community to proclaim Sacramento America's Farm to Fork Capital.

In addition to his distinguished service to the community as a Council Member and police captain, Darrell has spent innumerable personal hours supporting organizations including the Council of Asian Pacific Islanders Together for Advocacy and Leadership (CAPITAL), My Sister's House Domestic Violence Shelter, Sacramento District Attorney Citizen Academy, and the Organization of Chinese Americans.

Darrell is married to his wife Joy, who works for the State of California, and has three children that have attended local schools. Darrell's twin brother, Derrick, is a prominent local restaurateur.

As a candidate for Assembly, I committed myself to expand college opportunity by stopping tuition increases. I committed myself to protecting the Delta and the water supplies farmers in our region need. I remain clear on my commitment to closing tax loopholes that result in misery for those who rely on public services and harsh cuts to the public servants who provide those services.

TIM GORSULOWSKY

Tim Gorsulowsky was raised in Shreveport, Louisiana where he learned, and continues to live with, the highest level of moral character. While in Louisiana, Tim graduated with a bachelor's degree in Business from East Texas Baptist University with continuing education in the MBA program.

In 1987, after graduating from college, Tim moved to California to assist his brother with

See District 9, page 21

District 9:

Continued from page 20

organizing a new dermatology surgical practice. While in California, the opportunity arose to open a security services company in San Jose. This company started in 1994 ultimately expanded into a 165-employee operation with more than \$4 million in annual revenue.

Tim's philosophy offered in the business sector was to always treat the employees with high regard, while continually giving the client personal attention to detail. It was unusual to maintain an employee and contract base for an extended five to 10 years, but Tim's philosophy and business technique proved this longevity could actually be accomplished.

Tim moved to the City of Saratoga, California in 1997 until transitioning to the beautiful City of Elk Grove in 2012.

If entrusted with your vote, Tim will provide a sincere effort to address all issues and concerns, regardless of political party, within the district.

He said, "political party agendas are not my concerns, but the issues and needs of the people I represent are my number one priority. It is my duty to handle these matters with a fair and honest approach, and work diligently for the betterment of all citizens within California."

Tim's primary goal is to exceed your expectations during the term by increasing the current socioeconomic status in California. This will be accomplished by offering a five- and 10-year tax incentive plans to major companies that will successfully promote new business in California. The reduced business tax revenue will be offset by the revenue received from employment taxes.

Education is a major concern in District 9 that must be addressed by the Legislature. Promoting the longevity of our educators will be accomplished with improving the level of compensation. The plan will require a third party auditing of California school district budgets that will focus on reducing unnecessary expenses, then apportion the funds as a designated increase to our educators.

Many Californians have noticed the increase in DMV fee structure over the last few years. The programs offered by DMV should continue to be automated. This process will be promoted under Tim's plan for the purpose of reducing the fees charged to residents.

MANUEL MARTIN

My name is Manuel Martin and I am running for the 9th State Assembly district because I want Californians to prosper. For too long we have been voting for the same politicians to go to Sacramento. Year after year the people of California feel as though nothing changes. The truth is the difference between California's 8 percent unemployment rate and North Dakota's 2.6 percent unemployment rate is not Washington DC, it's Sacramento.

I decided to run for office because I'm tired of the same old politicians who get elected just to make friends and cozy up to the lobbyists. While the politicians are in Sacramento networking and dining

with special interest lobbyists, it's the people who suffer. The people of the 9th district deserve a hard working representative.

That's why I pledge to my constituents, when elected I will have monthly town hall meetings to meet as many people as possible. It's time we elect representatives who actually want to meet the people and find out what the people need. Your representative should be meeting you, not the lobbyists.

Each Assembly representative receives an annual allowance worth about \$30,000 on top of their annual salary. Since I live locally, I don't need the allowance. I am going to use it to help students achieve a quality education by using my allowance for college scholarships. Education is very sacred to me, and I want to help as many kids prosper as possible. Education is the cornerstone of the American way of life; I will fight to preserve equal opportunity to a quality education for all students. That's why I am offended by SCA-5, a bill presented by the Democrats in the State Senate which would have allowed California universities to deny students admittance based of the color of their skin. My friends, we should never judge someone according to the color of their skin, yet Democrat Senators wanted to legalize discrimination. It's horrendous to think we have elected representatives who are living in the Jim Crow era and legislating racial discrimination.

I decided to run for office to preserve the American dream that my family immigrated to the United States for. I am a first generation American whose family came here from the Azores Islands. Like many first generation Americans, English was not my first language I was raised speaking Portuguese. I grew up on my grandfather's dairy farm and started working at the age of 12. I started a jelly company when I was 19 and was in about 15 stores with my product. I shut down the company to go back to school. I earned an A.S. degree in Business Management from Delta College. I was going to further my education with a degree in economics when I got hired by Hewlett Packard.

"Let us not seek the Republican answer or the Democratic answer, but the right answer," as John F. Kennedy once said. I'm here to be your representative not your politician. Feel free to call me 572-9241, or email manuelmartin2014@gmail.com. www.manuelforassembly.com

DIANA RODRIGUEZ-SURUKI

Diana Rodriguez-Suruki has a long record of proven leadership at all levels of government. She has served as a manager for both county and state government. In 2008 she was overwhelmingly elected to serve as a Trustee for the Sacramento City Unified School District with over 66% of the vote.

Diana has been a leading advocate against harmful school closures. She has fought for transparency, accountability and proper spending of the school district's \$480 million budget. While serving as president of the school board, she uncovered wasteful spending and worked to redirect those funds into the classroom. She has advo-

cated for the best teachers in our classrooms and closing the achievement gap.

Diana also has a long record of community service including serving in the following capacities:

- Distinguished member of State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson's Transition Advisory Team
- Past Board Member and Secretary for the nationwide Parent/Teacher Home Visit Program
- Chair, Sacramento 2010 US Census Latino Complete Count Committee
- Delegate Assembly Member, California School Boards Association (CSBA)

Diana has also participated in the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics, President Obama's White House Hispanic Policy Summit, and as a guest commentator on National Public Radio. She is a long-time public servant with a combined 15 years of work experience in the public sector. She has worked in all branches of local government – school, city, county and state.

In her experience, Diana has adopted spending priorities and managed county budgets. She has provided oversight and direction for various projects including multi-million dollar health care service contracts and computerized system upgrades. She has analyzed and built state department budgets and has experience identifying potential budget misappropriations. She has also analyzed and researched collective bargaining agreements that ensure public workers are fairly compensated and taxpayers' money is spent responsibly.

Diana completed the National Economic Policy Institute from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University and has a degree in finance from DeVry University. She lives in Sacramento and has three daughters – Ezra, Taja, and Alana. She enjoys cheering for her two youngest daughters at their weekend swim meets where they compete for the Parkway Dolphins swim team.

Three main issues she'll be focusing on:

- 1) Strengthening Public Education
- 2) Improving government efficiency and accountability
- 3) Cracking down on the influence of big money and special interest groups in politics

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CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

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 NoCalTaxAide@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.

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+

Cook Realty to host free shred day on Saturday

Protect yourself from identity theft. Destroy these items: bank statements, billing and credit information, tax returns, any confidential material. No appointment necessary at this free shred event on Saturday, April 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cook Realty is located at 4305 Freeport Blvd., Sacramento. Optional check or cash contribution can be sent to Cook Realty Charitable Foundation, Inc. For details call, Ed Daniels, 204-6702.

donation per person that will go directly to the non-profit presenting that month. Revolution Wines is located at 2831 S St. Visit www.womenwithgoodsprits.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.

Gentle Qi Gong

Learn powerful relaxation techniques reduce stress, reduce physical pain and emotional suffering, lower blood pressure, increase immune response and improve balance. Inviting all seniors to Eskaton Monroe Lodge, 3225 Freeport Boulevard, 3 to 4 p.m., Wednesdays. \$7 per class. Call 441-1015 for more information.

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.

Kiwanis Club of East Sacramento-Midtown

Visitors Welcome, weekly breakfast meeting on Fridays at 7 a.m. 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!

Solution to Crossword:

L	A	P	U	P	S	N	I	P	S	W	A	P	
I	N	A	N	E	A	I	D	E	T	I	R	E	
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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

and more. Call 485-5322 or visit www.carmichaelpark.com

Spring Eggstravaganza at Fairytale Town

April 19, 20: Egg hunts, prizes, spring-themed arts and crafts, and Peter Cottontrail. Egg Hunts at noon, 1 p.m., and 2 p.m., separated by age groups from 0 to 12 years. The Puppet Art Theater will perform Bunny Boot Camp.

Doggie egg hunt

April 20: Egg hunt, agility fun, games and prizes abound for dogs at Carmichael Park Vets Hall Lawn from noon to 1 p.m. Call 485-5322 or visit www.carmichaelpark.com. Fee is \$7 per dog. Pay at the event. Sponsored by Happy Dogs Training and Agility.

Eastbound Hwy 50 lane closure begin

April 22: Expect heavy traffic delays throughout region as part of Fix 50 Project.

Race for the STARS

April 27: For details, visit www.raceforthestars.com, is a fun family event that raises money for SJUSD schools. This year, the 5K run/walk and kids race event will take place on Sunday, April 27th at Rio Americano High School. The kids races take place at 8 a.m. and the 5K run/walk will take place at 8:30 a.m. The family festival with food and drink, music and activities for the entire family will follow the race. Adults are \$30, Students are \$15, and kids under 12 are \$10.

Garage Sale benefiting nonprofit daycare, Forever Young

April 26: Large multi-family sale featuring items from pre-school closure. From 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., small furniture, clothes, sporting goods, books, toys, office equipment, tools, camping gear, seasonal and holiday decorations will all be out in the play yard, 1209 P St., Sacramento.

Sacramento Community Concert Association performance

April 27: SCCA presents talented, young, local classical chamber musicians and The Mondavi Center/SF JAZZ High School All Stars at 3 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian, 1300 N St. Coordinated by Susan Lamb

May Festival & Open House Saturday, May 3rd

9:30-10:30am	Early Childhood Open House
10:00am	Preschool Puppet Show
11:00am	Maypole Presentations
12:00pm	Picnic (food for sale)
12:30-1:30pm	Grades 1 to 8 Open House

Bring a blanket to sit on, sunhat and sunscreen.



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Cook, these seven gifted students will play great works from the chamber music repertoire. Directed by Mike McMullen, the Mondavi Center/SFJAZZ High School All Stars are an elite high-school-age jazz performance ensemble selected by audition. As the premier jazz group for Mondavi Arts educational outreach, they perform an eclectic repertoire drawn from the giants of the jazz legacy, and original material composed and arranged by group members. In addition to the core ensemble, this concert will feature other notable young talent from the area. Regular subscription: \$90, Group discount (8 or more people): \$75, Students subscription: \$45, Single Ticket: \$25. For more information, contact Sacramento Community Concert Association www.sccaconcerts.org; info@sccaconcerts.org; 400-4634

Pocket News, Nextdoor Greenhaven, JFK HS to host political forum

April 28: Meet the candidates for city council district 7 and assembly district 9 at this community event, moderated by Sacramento City College instructor Jared Anderson. Candidates will have the opportunity to provide their bios and you, dear reader, are welcome to ask questions afterward. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the large theater at John F. Kennedy High School, 6715 Gloria Dr, Sacramento. For more information, call Monica 429-9901.

SCUSD workshops help parents understand new online tests

April 29: Students across California are getting ready to participate in a trial run of the state's new online assessment program which will eventually replace paper-and-pencil testing. The new Smarter Balanced Assessments will be field tested in SCUSD schools beginning April 7. To help parents learn about the new tests, SCUSD is sponsoring a series of parent workshops that focus on the assessments and the learning standards to which they are tied. Workshops are scheduled for 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 29 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Nicholas Elementary, Will C. Wood Middle School, Hiram Johnson Middle School, Matsuyama Elementary, California Middle School and Luther Burbank High School.

The Four Points by Sheraton, 4900 Duckhorn Dr.
Sacramento Valley Coin Club Spring Coin Show
Public Invited
Friday May 2, 10am-6pm - Saturday May 3, 10am-4pm
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Maquette Kuper, flute
Robin Houston, clarinet
Robert Samson Bloch, violin
Mary Blanchette, violin
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Arbëresh of Sacramento to present Arbëresh genealogy luncheon

The Arbëresh of Sacramento was formed in the 1990 to promote, study and preserve the Arbëresh culture and heritage. The purpose of the organization is to provide a social organization for the Arbëresh-American immigrants and their descendants from the provinces of the region of Sicily and Italy, who reside in United States.

The club will hold a genealogy luncheon on Saturday, May 3 at the Dante Club, 2330 Fair Oaks Blvd. The cost is \$25 per person. Registration starts at 11:30 a.m. and will be followed by a buffet lunch at noon and a workshop after the meal.

The workshop will emphasize Arbëresh genealogy and culture, including general genealogy. It will ask the questions: Who were my ancestors?

Who am I related to? So, come and finding your family roots, as Arbëresh genealogy experts Josie Plescia Vaughn, Leita Spoto, and Joni Saunders will be there to help you explore Arbëresh genealogy and more. It should be a fun and interesting time for all – the public is welcome! The cut-off RSVP date is April 24. Mail-in payments must be received by April 24.

To attend the Arbëresh genealogy luncheon, pay with your credit card via PayPal at arbereshofsacramento.org or mail in your checks payable to Arbëresh of Sacramento: Arbëresh of Sacramento, P.O. Box 161858, Sacramento, 95816. Include the names of the people attending. Questions? Email info@arbereshofsacramento.org or call club president Jim Relles at 441-1478.

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



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PENDING

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JAMIE RICH 612-4000



PENDING

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LISA MCCAULEY 601-5474



EXCEPTIONAL PROPERTY

The "Didion House" in Poverty Ridge! 4 bedrooms 2 full baths and 2 half baths with 3rd floor media room that features state-of-the-art equipment. Turn of the century woodwork and detailing; new kitchen and full basement. Beautifully updated while preserving the home's original quality and style! \$1,495,000

SHEILA VAN NOY 505-5395



PENDING

WONDERFUL HALF PLEX

Original owner has kept this home immaculate, 3 bedrooms 2½ baths, its amazing! New flooring in kitchen and 1/2 bath, new Rheem energy efficient A/C, new light fixtures, new ceiling fans, 2 inch blinds. Professionally landscaped yard with auto sprinklers. Quiet cul-de-sac! \$236,000

MONA GERGEN 247-9555



BRIDGEWAY SOUTHPORT

Beautiful lake front single story home situated in West Sacramento. 4 bedrooms 3 baths, ultra high ceilings and open floor plan beaming with natural sunlight. Large dining room, arched doorways, expansive kitchen, cherry cabinetry, and custom tile floors. \$449,000

JESSICA BILLER 761-6035



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



SOLD

WALK TO DIDION SCHOOL

A rare opportunity to live close to Didion School. Spacious 4 bedrooms 2½ baths, 2264 square feet, with new interior paint, flooring, light fixtures, granite counter tops in kitchen and all 3 baths, new dishwasher, and new gas range. Huge family room is just waiting for fun and games! \$349,000

PAULA SWAYNE 425-9715

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