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Cops 'n Kids:
Local library
program illustrates
the value of
reading

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Pocket News is published on the first and third Thursdays of the month in the area bounded by Interstate 5 on the east and the Sacramento River on the north, west, and south.

Publisher..... George Macko
General Manager..... Kathleen Macko
Editor..... Monica Stark
Art Director..... John Ochoa
Graphic Designer..... Annin Greenhalgh
Advertising Executives..... Linda Pohl, Melissa Andrews
Distribution/Subscriptions..... George Macko

Vol. XXIV • No. 14

2709 Riverside Blvd.
Sacramento,
CA 95818
t: (916) 429-9901
f: (916) 429-9906

Cover photos by:
Monica Stark

Other photos by:
Leigh Stephens
Courtesy

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Cops 'N Kids - local library program illustrates the value of reading

By LEIGH STEPHENS

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."
— Dr. Seuss, *I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!*

Why would police officers read to kids? Develops Trust, Instills Values, Cuts Crime... Sacramento Police Department (SPD) has partnered with local libraries to make this summer a reading success.

The first Cops 'N Kids program for the Robbie Waters Pocket Library began June 18, 2015, with Sgt. Pam Zamarripa reading to a handful of children and parents in the Reading Tower. The readings will continue throughout the summer with a different police officer reading on Thursdays at 2:30 p.m.



Photo by Leigh Stephens
Sacramento Police Officer Pam Zamarripa reading to kids at the Robbie Waters Pocket Greenhaven Library.

SPD Lt. Pam Seyffert says cop-kid reading programs are happening all over the country. "We know there is a direct connection between crime and lack of literacy, so it is a good fit to include our police officers in programs such as this. We are building trust in a positive way. I am

passionate about reading. As a kid my family did not have a lot, but one thing my mom guaranteed on the weekend was a trip to the library or bookstore."

On the website *DoSomething.org*, *11 Facts About Literacy in America* contains some shocking statistics: "2/3 of students who cannot read proficiently by the end of the 4th grade will end up in jail or on welfare. More than 70 percent of America's inmates cannot read above 4th grade level."

At the Pocket Library Officer Pam Zamarripa read pre-selected books about police officers and kids like *Traffic Cop*, *Bug Patrol*, and the

See Cops 'N Kids, page 8

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From your councilmember

A message by RICK JENNINGS

We are blessed in the Pocket/Greenhaven community with tremendous parks. From parks with athletic fields and tot lots to bike paths and our greenway, we truly have a wonderful community asset. These community assets are things that we all enjoy throughout the year, and we as a city need to continue to invest in them through ongoing maintenance and repair.

Since our parks have been built at various times and in conjunc-

tion with different developments, each park is in a different phase of its life cycle. Each phase requires different resources depending on where that particular park is in its life cycle. Recognizing that our parks are in these different phases, the city will be conducting a comprehensive inventory of all of our parks to determine the current condition of each park and what repairs are needed. This assessment will enable us to have a comprehensive understanding of

what we need to do as a city to maintain and repair our parks.

In conjunction with the comprehensive assessment, the city council has set aside \$3.5 million in the recently approved 2015/2016 budget for repairs to our parks. My council colleagues and I have required that the parks assessment be completed before we spend this repair money so that we can have a comprehensive

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Rick Jennings

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Jennings:

Continued from page 3

understanding of what repairs are needed and make efficient use of these funds. This effort is similar to the process the city uses to prioritize our transportation investments.

In addition to the repair money, I was fortunate to have the support of my council colleagues to secure funding to design and permit an extension of the Sacramento River Parkway bike trail from Garcia Bend Park to the canal. The extension will require work to design and secure the necessary permits to construct this extension. The city will be applying for funding to construct the extension and by having the extension designed and permitted; we will have a leg up on the competition for funding.

A number of our fellow residents have suggested additions to our parks, such as community gardens, dog parks and skate parks. In order to address these requests and others like them, I am hopeful that you will join me in a community conversation about our parks. We would begin this conversation in conjunction with the comprehensive assess-

ment. By having this foundational information available to us, we would have a common understanding upon which to have this conversation. Through community input, we can identify what amenities we have, what can be improved and what would be welcomed additions in our neighborhood parks.

Because our parks have already been developed, we cannot utilize funding set aside for new park development for these suggested additions. However, I view this as an opportunity, rather than a challenge for us. Our community has rallied together in the past to address funding issues, and I am confident that we will be able to do so again.

I look forward to working with you to explore what amenities we all would like to see in our parks. While the assessment is underway, I welcome your suggestions on new amenities that you would like to see in our parks. Working together, we can build upon what we all love about our community and make it even better.

If you have questions or suggestions on parks or any other city service, please let me know. You can reach me at 808-7007 or rjennings@cityofsacramento.org.

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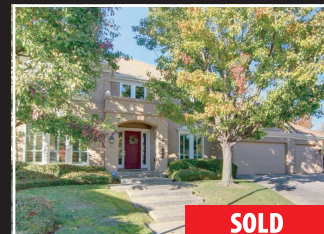


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The Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Soda bottle size
- 6 Yellowstone sight
- 9 Photo session
- 14 Love to pieces
- 15 Place to hole up
- 16 Metamorphic stage
- 17 Like some colonies
- 18 Darwinian process
- 20 Take a dip
- 21 Christmas warmer
- 23 Band's booking
- 24 If all ___ fails...
- 26 Crestless wave
- 27 Mythical queen of Carthage
- 28 Indian butter
- 30 Nail anagram
- 32 Jumble
- 37 Camel's kin
- 40 Decorate
- 41 Test for teens
- 42 Discourage
- 43 Mortise's mate
- 44 Witness account
- 46 Plane wing part
- 48 Academic period
- 49 Leave, slangily
- 51 Studio sign
- 54 Perched on
- 58 Coffee container
- 59 Drag out
- 61 St. crosser
- 62 Knockoff
- 64 Shoot down
- 66 Yoga position
- 67 H. Rider Haggard classic

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66							67			68			
69							70			71			

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- 68 Mosey along
- 69 Bottom of the barrel
- 70 Something to lend
- 71 Transaction party
- 8 Small hill
- 9 Garden pest
- 10 Magician's prop
- 11 Start
- 12 Egg-shaped
- 13 It takes two
- 19 Laze about
- 22 Software buyer
- 25 Asian appetizer
- 27 Predicament
- 29 Hair reddener
- 31 Birch relative
- 32 Alley prowler
- 33 Poetic tribute
- 34 Type of verb
- 35 Dig in
- 36 Paper supplier
- 38 Cruise's "A Few Good ___"
- 39 Seurat's forte
- 45 Shore bird
- 47 Sailor's stop
- 49 Musclemans' pride
- 50 Jousting gear
- 52 Serenity spoiler
- 53 Halawa hello
- 55 Certain housecat
- 56 Immature egg
- 57 Benchley of fiction
- 59 Football play
- 60 Take the wrong way?
- 63 Harbor helper
- 65 Aussie bird

See Solution, page 17

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Elks building in the Pocket dates back to the 1970s

By LANCE ARMSTRONG
Lance@valcomnews.com

The Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6 building at 6446 Riverside Blvd. is one of the grand landmarks of the Pocket area.

Many longtime Sacramentans recall that the local Elks previously maintained their headquarters in an even grander landmark – the 226-foot-tall, brick and steel building at the northeast corner of 11th and J streets. That structure was dedicated as the new home of Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6 on June 22, 1926.

The era of the Elks' existence at 11th and J streets ended in the 1970s, and plans were made for a new home for the local organization.

Having sold the 11th and J streets building, Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6 began that new chapter in its history at

its present Riverside Boulevard building.

Although that structure does not have the grandiose aesthetics of the old 11th and J streets temple, the structure, which encompasses about an acre of property, is nonetheless a high quality building with various amenities.

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

Available for rentals, the combined rooms also include a 50-foot by 50-foot hardwood dance floor and a 46-foot by 16-foot stage.

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

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



Photo courtesy of Elks Lodge No. 6

The Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6 building at 6446 Riverside Blvd. is shown following its completion in the late 1970s.

As for telling the story of the establishment of an Elks lodge in the Pocket, information was gathered for this article, the most important of which was a chronological summary of the building project written by Garry T. Vivaldi, then-Elks state trustee and exalted ruler of the lodge in 1956 and 1957.

The road to the Elks departure from its downtown skyscraper began on Jan. 17, 1967 when Otto Steinbrenner, Jr., city chief building inspector, via a letter, informed the Elks Lodge No. 6 Hall Association that its temple would need to be improved to meet the then-present building codes.

In recalling that time in the local Elks history, Vivaldi wrote, "For approximately three years, we procrastinated on what course to pursue in this matter. Would we attempt to raise money to make necessary improvements to meet the building code standards or should we continue in our efforts to purchase new land in a de-

sirable location and build a new home?"

On Aug. 25, 1970, the pros and cons of selling the long-time home of the Elks were discussed during a regular meeting.

During the following year, the local Elks' building committee met various times with the McKeon Construction Co. regarding a possible build-to-suit and lease back arrangement in the Stonelake area, near the site of a then-future portion of Interstate 5.

The lodge made major moves regarding its downtown temple in 1972, with the first of those moves coming on April 4, when

See Elks, page 7

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Elks:

Continued from page 6

membership approved a resolution to sell the building and its land.

Then on Nov. 1, 1972, a sale occurred, when A&A Key and Builders Supply and B and B Enterprises purchased the building and property for a net sum of \$250,000.

But in being that the lodge would have become homeless without its old building, an arrangement was made to lease back three floors of the structure for five years.

That arrangement called for the lease to begin on Dec. 1, 1972 and terminate on Dec. 1, 1977.

Considerations were given for various potential sites for a location of a new lodge building, among which were 10 acres in the Natomas area along Interstate 5 and property in the Campus Commons area near California State University, Sacramento.

On June 11, 1974, local Elks members voted, 112-8, to purchase about a 15-acre site at the lodge's present location.

An application was filed with the city Planning Commission on Aug.

14, 1974 for the purpose of acquiring a special permit to have a "private club" constructed in an agricultural zone at the northwest corner of Riverside Boulevard and Florin Road.

A kickoff rally for the new building fund was held in the lodge's Mirror Room on Feb. 13, 1975.

Highlights of that event included steaks that were grilled on a barbecue on the fire escape and the presentation of a wheelbarrow with 300 silver dollars that was wheeled into the room by Francis W. Silva, past exalted ruler, as a donation to the new building fund.

In reflecting on that time in the efforts to have a new Elks lodge constructed, Vivaldi wrote: "The year 1975 was a critical one of the building committee. Much had to be done by way of designing the building, inside and out, location of building on property, type of building, interior considerations of location of offices, athletic department, bar, banquet hall, lodge room, library, pool room, conference areas, kitchen and numerous other items, and most important

of all – the financing of the building program."

Members of the lodge approved a contractual agreement for building design services on Oct. 23, 1975, followed by the grand lodge's approval to proceed with the construction of a new building on Jan. 8, 1976.

On Dec. 14, 1976, membership approved the borrowing of \$600,000 for the financing of the new building.

Ten days later, a formal application to the grand lodge designated plans to expend \$1,055,000 for the new Elks structure and the execution of a \$600,000 mortgage at a 9 ¼ percent interest to be repaid in 25 years.

A groundbreaking ceremony for the building was held on Jan. 15, 1977. At the gathering, Exalted Ruler Richard Sanderson turned over the first shovel full of dirt with the same embossed, jewel encrusted shovel that was used for the groundbreaking of the 11th and J streets temple.

The construction of the building initially progressed rapidly, but progress would be temporarily delayed in August 1977, as it was determined

that the parapet walls surrounding the mechanical units on the roof were insufficient for their purposes and thus needed to be revised.

During the final meeting at the 11th and J streets temple on Nov. 8, 1977, a resolution was approved for the borrowing of an additional \$135,000 for the building project.

Furniture and fixtures that would not be used at the new building were sold at an auction held at the downtown temple on Nov. 12, 1977.

Two weeks later, many Elks members dedicated a day to moving the remaining Elks property from their former home to their new home on Riverside Boulevard.

The first lodge meeting in the new building was held in the conference room on Dec. 13, 1977, as the lodge room had not yet been completed.

Following its eventual completion, the present home of Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6 was dedicated on April 21, 1979. And the mortgage for the present building was burned in 1991 after the sale of the lodge's additional property created funds to pay the balance of that mortgage.



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Cops 'N Kids:

Continued from page 2

children brought other books to read such as *That is not a Good Idea*. All toll the officer read about a dozen books to the enthralled youngsters.

The kids attending the reading turned eager faces to the officer and stayed quiet longer than any parent could have expected.

Dressed in rainbow colors of summer dresses, shorts and tee shirts, the scene reminds you of hot weather, ice cream cones and swimming pools.

After reading a couple of books, the officer asked the children if they had questions. For the children ages three through 10, the questions showed a high level of understanding. Zamarripa handed out silver badge Junior Officer decals and a coloring book to each child.

The educational coloring/activity book emphasized warnings such as "Don't Talk to Strangers," "Don't Play with Guns," "Don't Play with Matches," "Don't Pet Stray Dogs & Cats,"

"Learn Your Address and Phone Number," "Best Always to Walk with a Friend," and "Report Crimes at 911."

The Pocket Library Reading Tower walls are filled with colorful murals from fairy tales and books such as *The Wizard of Oz*, *Jack and the Bean Stalk*, and *Snow White*. The round Tower has comfortable seating for parents and children and two baskets sit nearby filled with children's books.

Officer Zamarripa said about her own reading experiences, "When I grew up in Elk Grove my mom took me to the library often. Our library was close to my home so I loved going there."

She says when she attended CSUS she started out in nursing but went on a police ride-along and was hooked. She has been on the SPD force for about eight years. The favorite part of her job she says is getting to know the people in our community. She wants kids to come to the police without fear, and she says parents should never threaten their children with the police.

Parent Jamie Fanner brought 8-year-old daughter

ter Ji'Nya who raptly followed each story. Fanner said, "Reading sets the foundation for a child to develop excellent studying habits and obtain academic success. I take my daughter to the library often during the summer."

She says her mother fostered her love of books and always encouraged her siblings and her to read books and participate in cultural enrichment activities.

The Cops 'N Kids Reading program is active throughout the country. The goal is promoting youth development and creating trust among police officers and boys and girls.

Scranton, New Jersey Police Chief Carl Graziano says, "If we're in front of them and they get comfortable with us by reading books and by talking with them on a regular basis, they're more likely to come to us when they need us."

Indeed good books change lives and enrich living. Books can show you that others have the same emotions as you do and also the same problems and offer solutions. Reading books can help you travel to places you've never been and open your eyes to the world around you.

As American journalist Margaret Fuller said, "Today a reader, tomorrow a leader,"

Leigh Stephens is a retired CSUS professor of Journalism and Communications Studies. She has written more than 500 articles and several books.

If you go:

What: Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTEDi) Class, featuring Sacramento Police Department Lt. Oliveira

Where: Robbie Waters Pocket/Greenhaven Library, 7335 Gloria Drive, 95831

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First wheelchair accessible labyrinth in Sacramento

New Therapeutic and Healing Garden will cut water use by 50 percent

Eskaton Foundation broke ground on a wheelchair-accessible Therapeutic and Healing Garden for patients and residents at Eskaton Care Center Greenhaven on Thursday, June 4. Construction is expected to be completed in early August.

Sacramento City Councilmember Rick Jennings, II, Eskaton CEO Todd Murch, Eskaton Foundation President Kim Rhinehelder, staff and residents participated in the groundbreaking.

Ron Walker, president of the Resident Council, was one of the participating residents. A retired firefighter, Ron suffered a serious injury resulting in a leg amputation. He is looking forward to getting around in the new garden once it is completed.

The garden will feature the first wheelchair-accessible labyrinth in the Great-

er Sacramento area and a rehabilitation ambulation path to help stroke victims and other patients learn to balance and walk again.

Nearly all residents use wheelchairs, some use walkers, and most residents are low income.

Residents are excited about spending more time outdoors, more gardening opportunities, having more space for family visits, and having a beautiful view. Rehabilitation, recreation and spiritual care services will be incorporated into the garden.

The garden is part of Eskaton Care Center Greenhaven Executive Director Heather Craig's long-term vision to create a more home-like experience for residents.

"It's pretty powerful to work for an organization that believes in the impact of

philanthropy and community solidarity to benefit lives. This garden will serve seniors and their families for years to come," said Eskaton Foundation President Kim Rhinehelder.

The ongoing drought was an important consideration when developing plans for the garden. A great deal of grass has been removed. All new plants are low water use. The landscape architect estimates that the new garden will cut water use by 50 percent compared to the grassy lot that it is replacing.

Eskaton Foundation is raising \$330,000 to build the garden. Only \$25,000 more in new donations is needed to reach this goal. An anonymous donor is matching donations on a 1:1 basis. For more information, visit <http://www.eskaton.org/foundation/Therapeutic-Garden.html>.

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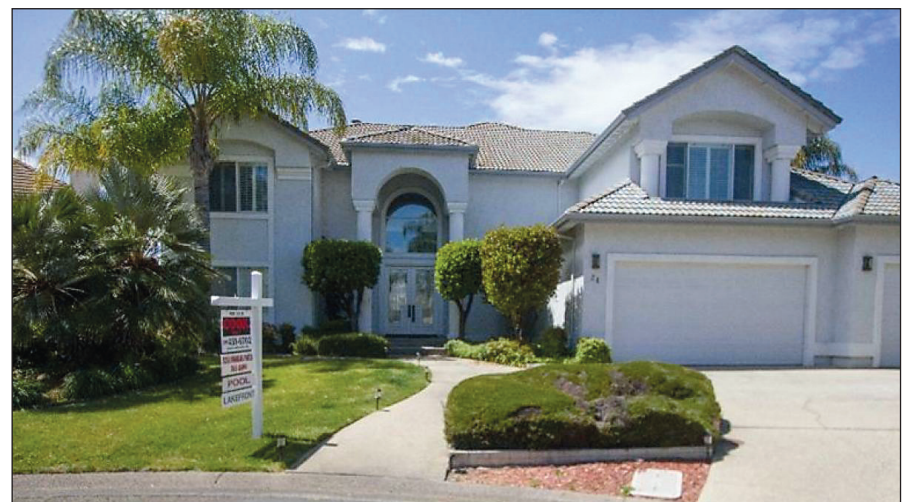
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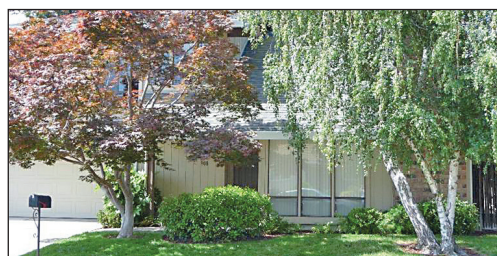
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Parade grand marshal thanks community members for parade experience

By Dolores Silva Greenslate/
parade grand marshal
Special to the Pocket News

This year's Spirit of the Pocket Parade was my first attendance to this yearly event. In the past, our family custom is a gathering in Santa Cruz on the 4th of July, but this year because of family illness, the trip necessitated postponement.

I was astounded when I was notified that I had been chosen to be grand marshal for this event. "For why?" I asked. Born to early-day Portuguese Pocket settlers, I coined the question when I was 5 years old and in the first grade. It was a time when I couldn't yet understand

the English language. I uttered the words spontaneously and am still confused about the choice, but very honored and happy that the request to be grand marshal was valid!

I hope I did not disappoint anyone. I had a great time!

A special thank you to artistically talented David Chin who decorated the vehicle, and was also my driver. His politeness and thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated, making me comfortable in his 1930s beautifully restored vintage coupe with rumble seat. Also a thank you to Monica Stark, Pocket News editor, for prompt arrangements and my transportation.

David's vehicle nostalgically reminded me of my late brother, Marvin Silva and myself, as young children, riding in the rumble seat of our young uncle's same vintage coupe. What fun that was!

I must state that I was very pleased to observe such an abundance of adults and children, families watching the parade along its route. Early Sacramento holidays (1930s-1940s) featured many outstanding downtown parades, which were very well attended by entire families. Entries typically included marching bands, Irish bagpipers elaborately dressed drill teams and Masonic members driving funny little cars – for all to enjoy.

I, as grand marshal, was pleased to observe the enthusiasm of families watching this parade had not diminished from past parades. Neighborhood events, such as this are still important to the congenial environment of families. We must not lose sight of this. All the effort and work is still valued when you observe their combined delighted faces.



Photo courtesy of David Chin

Shown here is Dolores Silva Greenslate, the grand marshal of this year's Spirit of the Pocket Parade with driver David Chin and his convertible. David, a master wood carver, designed the duck display as a tribute to Greenslate, who was known as the "Duck Lady" when she saved ducks during the construction of the Greenhaven 70 housing development.



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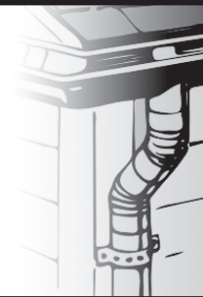


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CALENDAR

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

JULY

MLK Spelling Bee

July 15-16: Martin Luther King, Jr. Friends announce the 13th Annual MLK Spelling Bee to be held on Wednesday, July 15 and Thursday, July 16 from 1-5 p.m. The bee is open for first through 8th graders. There will be contests for grades 1,2,4, and 5 on Wednesday; contests for grades 3,6,7,8 will be held on Thursday. Pick up spelling lists at Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, 7340 24th St. Bypass, Sacramento 95822.

Fire Station 13 Open House

July 18: Fire Station 13, located at 1100 43rd Ave., will have an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Meet firefighters and possibly mascot Sparky.

Sacramento Guitar Society Orchestra meeting

July 19: The Sacramento Guitar Society Orchestra welcomes all players of nylon string guitars who read standard music notation in the first position. Come join the fun at rehearsals at 3823 V St. Sacramento Music Preparatory Theater at 1:30 p.m. on Sundays, July 19 and Sunday, Aug. 16. After rehearsal, join us for open stage. More rehearsals will be at CSUS, information to follow. For more information see www.sacramento-guitarsociety.org.

Fire Station 15 Open House

July 25: Fire Station 15, located at 1591 Newborough Dr., will have an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Meet firefighters and possibly mascot Sparky.

General medical and incontinence supplies

July 28: This workshop will cover the disposable medical supplies available for incontinence, ostomies, wound care, urological conditions and enteral nutrition or drug administration. In addition to discussing the various items available for incontinence, there will be a review of qualifying diagnoses, causes, and how to manage incontinence. Free of Charge. Pre-registration is required. Class will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For details, call (916) 393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.org.

Preventing sales calls

July 30: Are you bothered by numerous sales calls? Join us for a FREE workshop to learn about the National Do Not Call Registry and the rules that may reduce the number of sale calls you receive. Find out how to register and how to file a complaint. You will also learn why you may still get calls and what calls are not covered by the Registry. Free of Charge. Pre-registration is required. Class will be from 2:30-3:30 p.m. at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For details, call (916) 393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.org.

AUGUST

Fire Station 18 Open House

Aug. 1: Fire Station 18, located at 746 North Market Blvd., will have an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Meet firefighters and possibly mascot Sparky.

Free! Riverside Concert Series at Camp Pollock

Aug. 6: Come Relax at Camp Pollock! Concert will feature a relaxing musical experience on Sacramento's American River Parkway. Concerts start at 6 and continue until 8 p.m. Bring your own picnic basket and blanket. Bring your leashed dog. Enjoy S'mores compliments of Sierra Service Project! The events are hosted by the Sacramento Valley Conservancy. For more information, contact sacramentovalleyconservancy.org or call 731-8798. Camp Pollock is located at 1501 Northgate Blvd.

Fire Station 19 Open House

Aug. 8: Fire Station 19, located at 1700 Challenge Way, will have an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Meet firefighters and possibly mascot Sparky.

Tips to get house ready for sale

Aug. 11: Learn how to prepare your house for sale to get great results, including knowing when to remodel your home and how to stage your home to showcase for open house. Free of Charge. Pre-registration is required. Class will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For details, call 393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.org.

People with disabilities: How to protect yourself

Aug. 13: This workshop will cover what is a disability, vulnerability, and how to avoid falling prey to victimization. Free of Charge. Pre-registration is required. Class will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For details, call (916) 393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.org.

Fire Station 57 Open House

Aug. 15: Fire Station 57, located at 7927 East Parkway, will have an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Meet firefighters and possibly mascot Sparky.

Sacramento Guitar Society Orchestra meeting

Aug. 16: The Sacramento Guitar Society Orchestra welcomes all players of nylon string guitars who read standard music notation in the first position. Come join the fun at rehearsals at 3823 V St. Sacramento Music Preparatory Theater at 1:30 p.m. After rehearsal, join us for open stage.

Solution to Crossword:

L	I	T	E	R		E	L	K		S	H	O	O	T
A	D	O	R	E		D	E	N		L	A	R	V	A
P	E	N	A	L		E	V	O	L	U	T	I	O	N
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L	O	T	U	S		S	H	E		A	M	B	L	E
D	R	E	G	S		E	A	R		B	U	Y	E	R

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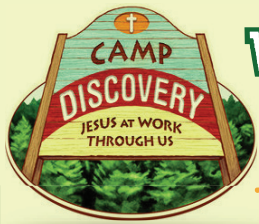
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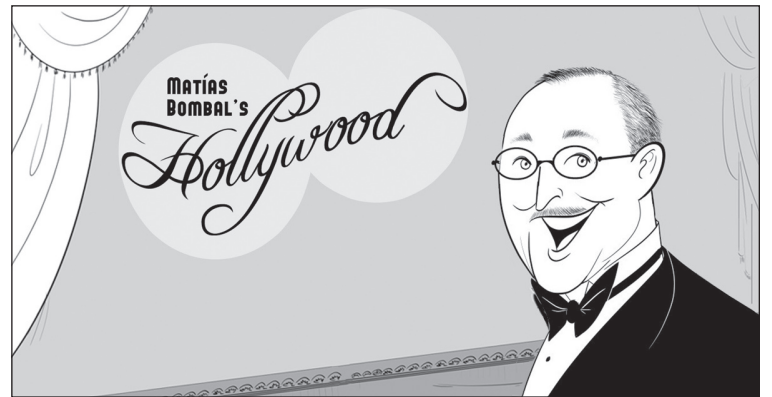
Matias Bombal's Hollywood

"Self/Less"

Gramercy Pictures (A Comcast Company) offers an action thriller with a touch of the bizarre, "Self/Less" starring Ben Kingsley, Ryan Reynolds and Victor Garber. In present-day New York City, Damian, a man who "built New York" though his financial prowess, is dying from cancer. Through the suggestion of his attorney and adviser Martin (Victor Garber), he investigates a new possibility that his enormous wealth may provide for him, a new kind of second chance made possible by the advance technology of a very secret organization headed by a mysterious and mannered Doctor Albright (Matthew Goode).

Albright offers a radical procedure that will "offer humanity's greatest minds more time to fulfill their potential," or transfer Damian's consciousness and memory to the body of a healthy young man (Ryan Reynolds) that has been supposedly "grown" in a lab synthetically. Thus, this would prolong Damian's life, yet with a totally new identity. He would be forced to give up his old identity completely to preserve the secrecy of the organization that provides the service.

The remarkable temptation to live again as a healthy young man, rather than with a body riddled with cancer with few months to live is sufficiently attractive to Damian to forfeit his past life, as he'd be able to literally take much of his fi-



nancial acumen with him. He makes the deal, and travels to New Orleans to "die" and assume the new body. There are adjustments getting used to his new vessel, as the essence of Damian's memory will take some time to connect to the nerves of the new body. With training supervised by Dr. Albright, he adapts and remarks "It has that new body smell."

As he begins to feel comfortable in his newborn world, he is plagued by occasional psychotic episodes, which are only diminished by regular doses of medication to keep visions from occurring. Visions, which strangely are entirely new to his mind, and not from his own memory. Where could they have come from? In nightmarish distorted arrays, he sees a young woman (Natalie Martinez), a young girl (Jayne-Lynne Kinchen). There are episodes of the point of view of a soldier in combat and weird and colorful objects. These visions begin to paint a picture that will lead him to a startling discovery, and eventually he will meet the women of his visions.

To reveal more would spoil the plot of this picture entirely, a movie which I thoroughly enjoyed. Director Tarsem Singh keeps things moving briskly, mounting tension and suspense most effectively. So much so, I had to avert my eyes from the screen out of fear of what might happen next on more than one occasion.

The movie's editor, Robert Duffy, has done some splendid cutting here, in particular, a sequence in New Orleans. Duffy intercuts a basketball game and the young Damian's exploration of his new body's youth with sports and lovemaking cut to a musical rhythm that was very well done. The performances are all very good, and Ryan Reynolds is very likeable. Kingsley delivers as he always does, and Victor Garber has been a favorite of mine since his turn in "Titanic" where he played the tragic ship's designer, Thomas Andrews.

All these good points make for a great night at the movies, and I really liked it, however, as

See *Self/Less*, page 19



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Self/Less:

Continued from page 18

neat and far-out as the concept sounds, it is not original. It is not possible that "Self/Less" writers David and Alex Pastor wrote this screenplay without having seen John Frankenheimer's "Seconds" (1966). That film was based on a novel by David Ely, in which the movie poster's tag line announced: A second chance to live. A second chance to die. The picture, which starred Rock Hudson against type in what was said to be his own favorite work on screen, has a creepiness that is just as chilling and disturbing today as when it first came out with its unusual and groundbreaking photography by the legendary James Wong Howe. In fact, it is much more scary and mysterious than this ramped up modern movie modification. If you have seen "Seconds" this will be self evident. If not, "Self-Less" will be a great time spent at the movies. If you like it as much as I did, I encourage you to seek out Frankenheimer's "Seconds" (Paramount) to see a similar story told by some of the last master craftsmen of cinema's golden age.

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 www.GreenhavenLutheran.org
 Angels Nest Pre School 2 yrs. - 5 yrs. (916) 428-4651

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5700 South Land Park Drive & 35th Avenue 421-0492

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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
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St. Anthony Catholic Church

660 Florin Road • 428-5678
 stanthony-sacramento.org

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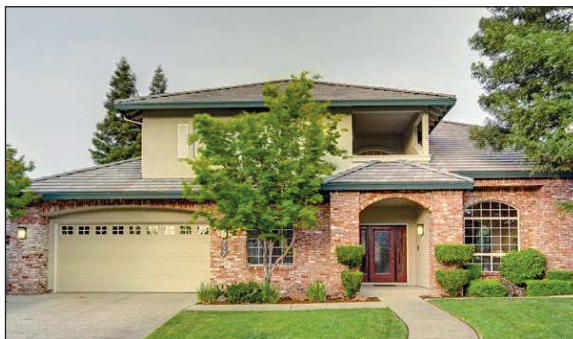
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