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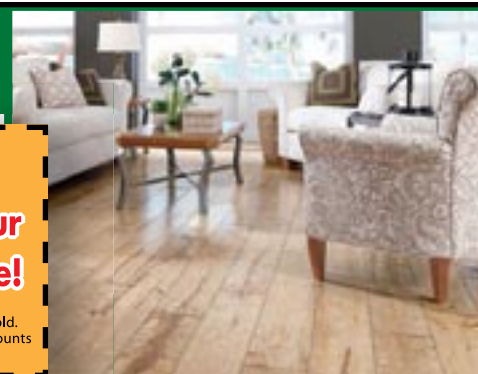
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Neighborhood worries about bacteria in drinking water, city not too concerned, lifts water boil advisory

By **MONICA STARK**
editor@valcomnews.com

As Pocket residents heard about bacterial contamination in their water, many took to the grocery stores loading up on bottled water. Parents brought cases of water to their children's schools and the Sacramento City Unified School District told staff in Pocket area schools to not use any water in their cooking. City of Sacramento Department of Utilities staff turned off drinking faucets at the schools before students and even staff arrived and principals made announcements that the bathroom faucets were for washing hands only.

A script that was sent to residents was posted on the doors of schools and messages went out to parents about what, to the school's knowledge, was going on.

Genevieve Didion K-8 Principal Norm Policar said there was enough bottled water to drink. "I felt like a salesman (passing out the water)," Policar said there were no unusual illnesses or any spikes in gastrointestinal diseases.

Policar said the school provided baked food items, previously frozen egg rolls, chicken tenders. "We gave out bottled water, but most drink milk anyway" for lunch, he said.

Cafeteria workers Michelle Lucas and Shirley Caesar have been working at Didion for 15 years and have never experienced anything like this. "We were told (by the district) we couldn't use any water. Period... I don't drink water from a tap. I've been using a lot of sanitizer. My hands smell like a drug store."

Caesar said the school often cooks with water to make rice, steamed vegetables, chow mein, and other noodles, but fortunately they had enough food stocked for the situation on Monday, Jan. 11. "We're a week ahead on groceries. We won't have to throw any food away."

A Pocket resident, Lucas received the automated call at 11 p.m. the night before from the city regarding the warning. She said her cat is used to drinking straight out of the tap, but after hearing the warning, she boiled the water and let it cool

Information about coliforms, the bacteria that was found in our water

Source: California State Water Resources Control Report, dated Aug. 21, 2008

Coliforms, a group of common bacteria, are generally harmless to humans. However, some coliforms may cause illness in humans, and the presence of coliforms at any concentration is an indication that other harmful micro-organisms may be present. Ingestion of water containing coliform bacteria increases the risk of contracting a water-borne illness. The TCR established a maximum contaminant level (MCL) based on the presence or absence of total coliforms in public water systems, and required public water systems conduct sanitary surveys. The U.S. EPA published the Ground Water Rule (GWR) in 2006, which required groundwater systems that are at risk of fecal contamination to take corrective action to reduce cases of illness and deaths due to microbial pathogens exposure. This rule does not address private (domestic) wells since they are not subject to US EPA regulation. Domestic well owners are individually responsible for testing and maintaining their water supply.

off for her kittie and daughter. "The cat meowed for an hour and a half."

Brandon Wierzbick, son of the family owned and operated Grocery Outlet, said the store on Riverside Boulevard and Florin Road sold "a lot, a lot (of bottled water). We ordered 10 pallets. That's about 10 times the normal amount. (The announcement) came out of nowhere, right? It came out on Facebook. That's how I know about it."

The Pocket News was curious whether city parks turned off drinking water faucets in the public parks. Zacharias Park, which is located on Riverside Boulevard near The Trap bar, had a puddle of water under the dog water spout.

Asked about this situation, Rhea Serran, public information officer for the City of Sacramento Utilities Department, said the parks department did not turn that water off because it's completely

See Water, page 3



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Water:

continued from page 2

voluntary per the state's regulated safety standards. "If you drink the water, it doesn't mean you will become completely ill. If e. Coli were present that would be different, but it's coming up as coliform and just showing as an abnormality (in the water). We've been testing for a few days."

Pravani Vandeyar, water quality superintendent for the city of Sacramento, said she would call the parks department and suggest they turn off the water. "I don't know why that didn't happen. We had crews going out last night (Sunday, Jan. 10) at critical care facilities, daycare and elder care centers... The initial attempt is to reach as many people as we can as quickly as we can. It's something we can bring up with parks."

Serran said out of the city's 60 sampling sites only the Pocket area was found to have contaminated water. "We haven't pinpointed the exact expense, but

it was found in the Pocket and not in other areas of the city. We will work with the state regulator who will let us know (when to lift the volunteer water boil advisory)." Serran said, "People will say they weren't feeling well and that could come up like a flu-like symptom. We recommend they call their doctor."

Vandeyar said typically, as was in this situation, there is chlorine residual that leaves the plant to eliminate bacteria. All the samples had enough chlorine in the water, but because there was a presence of bacteria, scientists are searching for reasons as to why the water tested positive. There are a number of reasons she said could account for the bacteria. "Over time in pipes, a shear dislodges and gets into the water." That could happen but she doesn't have data to prove or disprove that theory. "We want to ensure we've examined all possibilities of what caused it."

Vandeyar said all samples on Sunday came back negative for the bacteria. "(Those results)

gave us cautious optimism that it has remedied itself." She during the whole process, water quality staff has been working with the department within the state resources board that have not exceeded any regulatory requirements. We want people to be aware of what is going on," Vandeyar said.

A day later, on Tuesday, Jan. 12, the voluntary water boil advisory had been lifted.

"I am pleased that the test came back negative and the State authorized the lifting of the boil water advisory. The Division of Drinking Water Safety agrees with the City that our water supply is safe. I want to encourage my fellow Pocket/Greenhaven neighbors to enjoy a cold glass of water!" council member Rick Jennings II said in a news release.

According to the department of health, total coliform bacteria

are commonly found in the environment (e.g., soil or vegetation) and are generally harmless. If only total coliform bacteria are detected in drinking water, the source is probably environmental. Fecal contamination is not likely. However, if environmental contamination can enter the system, there may also be a way for pathogens to enter the system. Therefore, it is important to find the source and resolve the problem.



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Where are they now: Former Pocket youth now making films in NYC



Filmmakers Willam Krieg and former Pocket youth, Lisa A. Markuson.

Darkness. Paranoia. Exotic animals. Gunshots. Hospitality. Ladysleuths.

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It's hard to make it in the big city, when you're far from home, but we've all got to try. William A Krieg grew up in Petaluma, a lovely town just north of San Francisco. Lisa A Markuson grew up just over 100 miles away, in the Pocket neighborhood. Call it kismet, or call it doom, but the two met when they worked at the probably haunted and definitely gorgeous Hostelling International Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco. Markuson worked evenings and Mr. Krieg worked the night shift, and the two would discuss travels, film, literature, and exchange gossip about the guests on a nightly basis swapping shifts.

Fast forward eight years: Mr. Krieg is now a student at NYU's renowned film school, Tisch School of the Arts. Markuson is co-owner of a company of performance poets, The Haiku Guys. Both seeking to challenge the status quo and follow their callings in New York City. Now that Will is writing and directing a short film for the festival circuit, the two old friends are teaming up to see if two beatniks from Northern California can bootstrap their way to creating an unforgettable noir comedy in NYC.

"Hotel Renoir" brings to life a hyperstylized and thrilling world of the mysteries and absurd adventures that can unfold in the dead

of night, in an old hotel. De-veloped and refined with a feminist eye, and the help of the two women of IDS Productions, the short now passes the Bechdel Test with flying colors, featuring two women detectives originally written as men.

The crew of "Hotel Renoir" is all talented and hardworking students and alumni from Tisch, one of the top film schools and universities in the world where notable alumni such as Martin Scorsese, Woody Allen, and Joel Coen began honing their craft. The film will be submitted for a wide festival run, including Berlin, Venice, Cannes, Toronto, and Sundance.

In an interview with the Pocket News, Markuson, a C.K. McClatchy alum, class of 2005, said she has always been interested in film, but usually has been conceptualizing little things, like a movie called Faux Mot that she wrote, directed and starred in. "I came in to help produce this because the script Will shared with me is amazing and I can't wait to see it come to life, and now that I am running a successful creative business I want to test my ability to help grow another creative project too," she said.

Growing up attending public schools in the Land Park and Pocket neighborhoods, she said, she's had some wonderful teachers, including: Mrs. Foote (at Genevieve Didion Elementary); Mrs. Olson and Mrs. Melvin (they co-taught 5th/6th grade at Pony Express in GATE); Mr. Keck (Western Civiliza-

See Hotel, page 6

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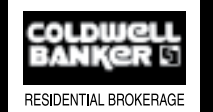
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The Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Worst fabric
- 6 Out, in a way
- 10 Insult, slangily
- 14 Codeine source
- 15 Capitol feature
- 16 Furniture wood
- 17 Like a novel character
- 19 Broadcast
- 20 Air hero
- 21 Icky stuff
- 22 Cut with a scalpel
- 24 Examine closely
- 26 Overshoe
- 27 Bordeaux product
- 29 Time being
- 31 Bound along
- 32 The Joker, to Batman
- 36 Maria
- 37 Grocery carrier
- 39 "___ we there yet?"
- 40 Giant syllable
- 41 Place for an axon
- 44 Time out?
- 45 Duck
- 46 Certain shark
- 48 One way to run
- 51 Declare with confidence
- 53 Stagger a bit
- 54 Bassoon, e.g.
- 55 Babysitter's handful
- 58 Be sore
- 59 Butcher block preserver
- 62 Phobos, to Mars
- 63 Coffee choice

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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53							54				55	56	57
58						59	60				61		
62						63					64		
65						66					67		

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- 64 Body
- 65 Normal beginning?
- 66 Ethereal
- 67 Take up space

DOWN

- 1 Chesterfield, for one
- 2 "Beowulf," e.g.
- 3 Calligrapher's supply
- 4 Kind of feeling
- 5 Asylum seeker
- 6 Fernando's farewell
- 7 Library item
- 8 Big bird
- 9 Fashion bigwig
- 10 Biological classification
- 11 Calculus calculation
- 12 Biscotto flavoring
- 13 Taxi feature
- 18 Plug
- 23 Bead material
- 25 It comes before long
- 27 Tartan sporters
- 28 Tennis term
- 30 Like an oxeye window
- 32 Got gray
- 33 More convincingly, in legalese
- 34 Winter coating
- 35 Calendar span
- 37 Cut at an angle
- 38 Ivory tower milieu
- 42 Plant that has a "lemon" variety
- 43 Trainee
- 44 Surly sort
- 46 Computerophile
- 47 Calm
- 48 Alligator abode
- 49 Winter warmer
- 50 Dislike, and then some
- 52 Down-and-dirty
- 56 Hit alternative
- 57 Connive
- 60 Diamonds, to hoods
- 61 Bagel add-on

See answers, page 7

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Rotarians present dictionaries to Yav Pem Suab students

Members of the Rotary Club of Pocket/Greenhaven presented dictionaries to the third grade students at Yay Pem Suab Academy. The hardbound dictionaries with 35,000 words, pictures and definitions are designed to be valuable to students throughout their educational career.

Dictionaries were personalized and each student was announced and called to the podium to receive the dictionary from a Rotarian. The excitement continued as students began exploring the volume from cover to cover. The Academy is a charter school of the Sacramento City Unified School District and is located in the former Lisbon Elementary School. A standard curriculum is taught and the academy is open to all students. Electives are available in art, music, Hmong language development, and sports.

While the presentation of dictionaries is one of the highlights of the Rotary year, the

Pocket/Greenhaven Club service projects began with an entry and information booth at the Spirit of the Pocket 4th of July Parade, sponsoring an Interact Club at John F. Kennedy High School and co-sponsoring a Rotaract Club at Sacramento City College, Garcia Bend levee cleanup with Councilman Rick Jennings, teaming with the Red Cross to install smoke detectors, providing handwritten cards for Christmas boxes to soldiers, donations to the Rotary Foundation and worldwide polio eradication program, and bell-ringing with the Salvation Army.

The Rotary Club of Pocket/Greenhaven is one of 41 clubs in District 5180 and has been honored as one the district's four outstanding clubs each of the past four years.

The club meets Thursday, 7:30 a.m., at Aviator's Restaurant (Executive Airport) and information is available at pocketgreenhavenrotary.org.

Hotel:

Continued from page 4

tion in HISP at McClatchy) and Mr. Zazzi (AP chemistry, also at CKM). "I actually loved a lot of my teachers at CKM, but now I've forgotten

the names of the Spanish and art teachers I loved."

Markuson dabbled in many things before leaving Sacramento. "I had no idea what I wanted to focus on, and I had a lot of freedom. One thing I thing that was huge for me in developing a work ethic was that my parents encouraged me to work from a young age - first random chores and projects, then babysitting, then tutoring, then working at Rick's Dessert Diner (very briefly) and doing admin in an office. And I was always very into art and performing."

Where Markuson is at in her career, things are still very new and flexible, and this is a bit of a test or experiment to see if she can use her experience in business development, entrepreneurship, fundraising, and DIY art projects, to help produce something outside of her realm of expertise. "Once I accomplish this, the question is, how can we make it a model we can apply to other worthy projects to get them off the ground? And, running a

performance poetry company, learning more about media production and the film industry will be very beneficial," she said.

Markuson now sports a head of blue. "I used to have a day job, and was standing at my desk and suddenly had a vision that I had to have blue hair. It's amazing how people respond to it. It's helped me be more memorable and honed my personal brand more. Nobody gets me confused with any other blue haired haiku poets with clear glasses."

Filming will take place at the end of February. The premiere is slated for late June. It is being shot and there will be a private screening in NYC, funded and distributed nationwide after its festival premiere.

About William Krieg: Visit his YouTube Channel: wak films

About IDS Productions: Visit the IDS Productions website at idsproductions.com

About the Haiku Guys: Visit The Haiku Guys here: thehaikuguys.com

The late fall Chinooks of the capital city

By DAN BACHER
Special to the Pocket News

The fresh-run salmon ripped the line off the reel as I grabbed the long rod and struggled to keep up with the fish on the icy late November morning.

James Netzel of Tight Lines Guide Service reeled in the line on the other rod so it wouldn't tangle with the hooked fish. The fish kept running and running and I did my best to keep the line tight so the fish wouldn't get off.

Finally, I started to gain line on the salmon as I worked it closer to the boat.

"Don't tighten the drag," Netzel cautioned. "I've set the drag light because a light drag works best with the Cut Plug set-up we're using."

When I got the silvery fish next to the boat, it went berserk, making several fast, short runs before I was able to lift the fish's head up and Netzel was able to net it.

It was a very chunky and ocean-bright late fall-run Chinook weighing 17 pounds, our first of the day. "The meat inside this buck will be a bright orange," Netzel noted.

We were trolling on the Sacramento River in the Garcia Bend area of Sacramento, only several miles from the political bedlam of the State Capitol. In spite all of the problems that our salmon fisheries encounter because of the mismanagement by the state and federal governments, I was reminded that we are truly lucky to still be fishing for salmon in the heart of a major metropolitan area.

If it weren't for tireless folks like the late Zeke Grader, Executive Director of the Pacific Coast of Fisherman's Associations (PCFFA) and the late Troy Fletcher, Executive Director of the Yurok Tribe, there wouldn't probably be any salmon left to catch in California's river and ocean waters.

About half an hour later, Netzel's friend, Troy Nimmo of Galt, hooked another fish. This salmon fought fiercely all of the way to the boat like my salmon did. It was another bright king, this one a solid female weighing 14 pounds.

The late fall-run Chinook is one of four runs of salmon that ascend the Sacramento and its tributaries every year.

The late fall run arrives after the fall run, the driver of West Coast fisheries, in late October and November. Unlike the winter and spring runs, both listed under the state and federal Endangered Species Acts, the late fall salmon population is considered to be stable by the CDFW.

We fished for another 30 minutes, didn't have any more hook-ups, and called it a day early.

Netzel reported a trio of 4 salmon days recently. The latest was on November 30, the day after our trip, when two anglers bagged four salmon, topped by two fish weighing 20 and 28 pounds, while trolling with Netzel.

A fish per rod is more typical of a good day of late fall run fishing. However, these late fall kings are highly prized, since they are some of the biggest, brightest and tastiest of the salmon caught on the Sacramento River.

Plus, when the late fall kings arrive, most anglers are generally concentrating on other fisheries, such as Delta striped bass and sturgeon or crab/rockfish combos on the ocean, so fishing pressure is relatively light.

We were employing an effective technique, used for years on the Columbia River - trolling a cut plug behind a big dodger. Netzel discovered the technique after hearing about it from his friend Scott Barrett, who was experiencing top-notch action on Sacramento River salmon while using the method.

Over the period of three days, Netzel experimented and fine honed the technique. He uses a Brad's Super Bait Cut Plug lure filled with canned tuna fish in oil and a scent pad inside the lure. The lure is attached via a snap swivel to an approximately 3 foot 40 lb. P-Line CXX leader.

The leader is attached to a 11 inch Pro Troll Pro Chip flasher, which is in turn connected to another 3 feet leader connected to the spreader. A 10 ounce lead cannon ball weight is then attached to a 1 to 3 foot monofilament 12 lb test leader that is connected to the spreader.

The gear he uses is a 10 ' 8" Lamiglas XCC 1088G14 Certified Pro Kwik Series rod,

teamed up with a Shimano Tekota line counter reel, filled with P-Line 50 lb. test braided line.

When fishing this rig, Netzel is careful to lay the rig out on the gunnel of the boat before letting it out into the water. He drops the lure into the water first, followed by the flasher and then the weight so they don't tangle up in a frustrating mess.

"Since we started using this technique a couple of weeks ago, we have landed around 35 fish, the biggest 28 pounds," said Netzel. "Most of the fish we've hooked have been in the 10 to 15 lb. range."

Rather than dredging the bottom, Netzel is careful to keep the rig a couple of inches off the bottom so it doesn't snag up.

He has also found that it is best NOT to set the hook. It is better to just pick up the rod, let the fish run and then start reeling in the fish.

"Since we started using a light drag and not setting the hook, we haven't lost a fish yet to date on this rig, although we have lost fish on our traditional Kwikfish set-ups," he advised.

If you want to catch a hard-fighting fall run Chinook on the Sacramento River, you don't have much time left,



Photo of Dan Bacher with a salmon.

Photo by James Netzel

since the salmon season closes today.

Netzel is now booking trips for Delta stripers, Oroville kings and Folsom trout and salmon.

For more information, contact James Netzel of Tight Lines Guide Service, 888-975-0990, fishtightlines.com.

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Firefighters and civilians recognized for extreme heroism

Story by MONICA STARK
 editor@valcomnews.com
 Photo by STEPHEN CROWLEY
 stephen@valcomnews.com

Recognizing acts of extreme heroism, the Sacramento Fire Department held a special awards ceremony on Dec. 11, 2015 at the Elks Lodge, No. 6. Emceed by KCRA's Kellie DeMarco and awards given to firefighters and civilians by Chief Walt White, the day's event recognized those who continue to make a difference in this great city. Local 522 Honor Guard and Sacramento Fire Pipes and Drums presented the colors and Pioneer Mutual Hook and Ladder displayed their historic fire engines and other equipment. Rachel Sprague sang the National Anthem and Chaplain Kevin Snider provided the invocation.

In leading up to the presentation of the awards, DeMarco stated in her opening remarks that the fire department was established in 1850, and since then, "the brave men and women of the Sacramento Fire Department, some of whom have made the ultimate sacrifice in fulfillment of their oath, have stood vigil over the citizens

of Sacramento, protecting them from the ravages of fire.

"In addition to the brave men and women of the department, the great citizens of Sacramento display their commitment to the city by assisting their fellow community members during their time of need. Most of these acts go unnoticed by the public at large, but from time to time, these citizens' actions go above or exceed what the average citizen may do in a time of crisis."

Recognizing some of the citizens that have acted bravely in the face of danger or who have given back to their community, the fire department recognized the following members of the **Community Emergency Response Team: Judy Johnson, Betty Omotunde, Linda Panattoni and Robert Ross.** CERT, first developed in 1985, is a team of volunteers sponsored by the SFD in fulfilling its mission.

The **Commendation for Outstanding effort was awarded to Rick Flint and Will Johnson** for the performance of an act under emergency conditions wherein a service is rendered that directly results in saving someone. It is the department's third highest civilian award. On June 8,

2015, Flint and Johnson were part of a Teichert Construction crew working in North Sacramento. Suddenly, they both noticed smoke coming from a nearby home and drove by to investigate. The men found heavy fire, which had started in a garbage can adjacent to the house with the fire spreading inside the home. Without hesitation and without regard for their own safety, pulled their construction water truck into the driveway, and stretched a hose line from it and extinguished the fire. Acting quickly and decisively, they reduced the potential damage and property loss to this home.

On Feb. 21, 2014, **Stephen Saldana**, while performing his duties as a maintenance worker at California Fitness in North Natomas, found one of the patrons submerged at the bottom of the swimming pool. Without thought to his personal safety and at great risk to his own well-being, he jumped into the pool and pulled the victim to the surface. After performing a quick check of the victim, he discovered the victim was not breathing and had no pulse. He immediately began CPR and summoned for help from his co-workers. The drowning victim is alive

and well today. The chief of the fire department presented the **Commendation of Outstanding Effort.**

On June 26, 2013, in a completely unrelated incident as the previous recipients, the staff of the North Natomas branch of California Family Fitness worked together and removed a drowning victim from the swimming pool, performed CPR, delivered defibrillation with an AED unit and guided emergency crews to the patient's side. By all accounts, the crew's calmness, competency, attention to detail and preparedness resulted in a positive outcome. Due in large part to the staff's quick thinking and decisive action, the staff's heroic actions that day reflect great credit upon the organization and the department presented to the North Natomas California Family Fitness the Commendation of Outstanding Effort.

The **Commendation of Merit** is awarded to a civilian for an act of heroism or service performed at personal risk to save human life or property. Each citizen will receive a citation describing the actions that warrants the award. On Sept. 12, 2015, **Greg-**

See Heroes, page 9

Heroes:

Continued from page 8

ory Anderson and Christian Castaneda, while traveling down San Juan Road, witnessed a vehicular accident. The driver of a small pickup had lost control of his truck and drove down an embankment and into the middle of a drainage canal that was full of water. Anderson and Castaneda stopped their vehicles and ran to the edge of the canal where they could see the pickup quickly sinking in the canal. Realizing the driver was trapped and could not escape, Anderson and Castaneda stripped off their clothes and swam to the sinking truck. Once at the truck, they were able to open the door and remove the driver from the sinking truck and lift him onto the roof of the truck and await help from the fire department. Acting at great personal risk and without thought to their own safety, their actions resulted in saving the life of the driver. The chief presented to Anderson and Castaneda the Commendation of Outstanding Merit.

The Sacramento Fire Department was the first paid professional fire department west of the Mississippi River and has been serving Sacramento since 1859. Today, it has nearly 600 sworn personnel and responds to more than 80,000 calls for service per year. It consists of 23 engine companies, nine truck companies, one heavy rescue and 13 ambulances, serving more than 450,000 citizens. Some of those individuals were recognized for their bravery. Firefighters by their nature are humble in their efforts and accolades often make them uncomfortable. Almost each of the stories, the firefighter would say, "I was just doing my job" or "it's no big deal." That may be so for them, but the citizens and families whose lives they impacted would tell a different story.

The **Certificate of Appreciation** was awarded to **Engineer Aaron Dean.** Every spring, high schools across the region, in an attempt to educate and reduce teen driving fatalities, put on a driver awareness program called "Every 15 Minutes" in collaboration with state and local officials. For many years, Dean has been instrumental in and has taken the lead role of en-

suring the fire department's participation in the program. The fire department awarded him for his years of hard work and dedication.

Firefighter **Sharon McIntyre** was awarded the **certificate of appreciation** for her years of hard work and dedication to serving as medical director of the Kops-n-Kids" program, which reaches students age 8 to 12.

Firefighter **Monica Wilouza** was awarded the **armed service award** as a veteran of overseas service who continues to serve in transporting wounded veterans from overseas to stateside hospitals.

On Sept. 1, 2014, the Sacramento Urban Search & Rescue Team, California Task Force-7, was deployed to Oso, Washington in response to mudslides and was tasked with providing emergency search and rescue operations for those souls presumed lost in the slide. Despite harsh working conditions and long hours, the team performed to the highest professional standards. The Chief presented to each team member of the Urban Search and Rescue Team the **Oso Washington Deployment Ribbon** and a citation reflecting their actions for that two-week period.

While vacationing with his family in Hawaii, firefighter **David Carlson** found an unconscious 4 year old that had been pulled from the bottom of the pool by his father. Carlson began CPR and monitored the child until the fire department arrived. For saving a life under special and unique circumstances while off duty, the chief presented Carlson with the **Outstanding Service Award** for his actions.

On July 19, 2013, Engine Company 20 and Medic 20, under the command of Captain Irvine, were dispatched to a vehicle versus pedestrian who was found unconscious with multiple injuries, including major head trauma. Their efforts included maintaining an open airway and prepared the patient for transport to the UC Davis Trauma Center. Their advanced life support care continued until arrival at the hospital. The Chief presented to Captain John Irvine, engineer Billy Schneider, firefighters Zack Heyde, Ferguson Johnson, Shayne Marshall and Aaron Peterson of Engine Company 20 and Medic

20 the **Outstanding Service Award** for their actions.

On Sept. 19, 2013, then-Captain Chad Augustin (current battalion chief) and firefighter Paul Januario entered a burning apartment to search for reported victims trapped inside. They located a live victim and removed him to safety. Once outside, they began advanced life support before loading him onto an ambulance. For their heroism, **Augustin and Januario** received the **Outstanding Service Award.**

Captain Jason Hemler of Engine Company 12 and Firefighter Ryan Gardner of Truck Company 6 received the **Outstanding Service Award** after responding to a structure fire that had a victim unconscious in the bathroom and a second victim in the rear of the house.

On April 4, 2015, while on duty **fire investigators David Fowler and Zack Nokes** had their fire department radio on when they heard a call for a violent crime with a child burned. Knowing that their

knowledge might be of service to the police department, both headed toward the location of the call, contacted the patrol sergeant and advised of their availability and offered their help. They began processing evidence of a child being intentionally burned with gasoline by her mother. The fire investigators played a key role in the police department's and district attorney's ability to prosecute the mother for attempted murder.

For service above and beyond the call of duty Fowler and Nokes received the **Outstanding Service Award.**

On Sept. 9, 2015, firefighters **Nick Pershing and Eric Pohl** were returning to the fire station when they saw a man choking and striking his girlfriend, without hesitation they pulled their ambulance close to the incident. They then jumped out and diverted the attacker's attention long enough for an arriving police officer to take the assailant down. For their self-

less actions, they received the **Outstanding Service Award.**

On the morning of Aug. 13, 2013, the crew of Engine Company 13 under the command of Captain Wardell Kirkland and Medic 12 responded to a first aid call at a window business. An employee had complained of feeling ill before being lowered to the floor where he then suffered a heart attack and became unconscious and unresponsive. His coworkers called 9-11. Arriving on scene in four minutes, acting quickly and decisively, the crews of Engine Company 13 and Medic 12 initiated advanced life support measures. Bystanders on scene described the actions as "fast and efficient." After dropping the patient off the emergency room and not sure of the outcome of the patient, the crews returned to their stations and continued with their shift. Although two weeks later, Mr. Arthur Warren and his family walked into the fire station 13

See Ceremony, page 16



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Cosumnes River Boulevard Extension celebrates grand opening with car parade and confetti brigade

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

A car parade and speeches kicked off the completion of the Cosumnes River Boulevard Extension, the highly-anticipated \$95 million project that will undoubtedly improve the east-west connectivity within the growing South Sacramento area, and will provide access to the planned Delta Shores community.

As part of the celebration, held on Tuesday, Dec. 15, at the first traffic signal of the new extension between I-5 and Franklin Boulevard, a car parade included city officials, California Automobile Museum cars, Sacramento Police "Car 1" and a fire engine. The vehicles displayed by the auto museum and Sacramento Emergency Services all represented the different decades the project has been in place – from inception to completion, covering 50 years.

In his opening remarks, Master of Ceremonies and Director of Public Works Jerry Way detailed a brief history of the extension stating that planning efforts began in the 1960s when the roadway was Caltrans State Route 148. In 1984, an environmental impact report was approved and the road name was changed. "It's hard to believe that Caltrans had mapped the Cosumnes River Boulevard extension as an expressway back in the early '60s, and here we are approaching 2016. Who says government works slowly?"

The final piece of this project not only provides residents and commuters a straight shot from 99 to I-5 and vice versa, but access to new developments, retail shops, and public transportation, he said.

The new planned development is an 800-acre mixed-use development that will feature 1.3 million square feet of commercial development and more than 4,900 residential units.

The city, Way said, essentially took control of its own destiny and extended Cosumnes River Boulevard from Bruceville to Center Parkway in 1992, then from Center Parkway to Franklin Boulevard in 1994.

"Look at us now. We've come so far. This once 800-acre field now includes an expansive corridor that will help drive economic development in the south Sacramento region," Way said.

Other speakers included City of Sacramento Councilmen Rick Jennings II and Larry Carr, Scott McPherson from Delta Shores developer Merlone Geier and Amarjeet Benipal, director of Caltrans District 3.

Adding to the celebratory tone, Jennings said that while the capital region deserves to celebrate its growth, regional leaders know that more residents and more commuters mean more congestion. Fortunately, he said, the extension relieves the congestion on Highway 99 and I-5 and accommodates the increasing numbers of commuters to the area. The new corridor also provides residents easier access to public transportation, including Regional Transit's Blue Line to CRB Extension – another mode dedicated to improving traffic circulation and air quality.

"Along the lengthy journey of getting to this day, this became far more than a vital transportation project, but more so as a driver for economic development," Jennings said.

Adding to that sentiment, Carr said, "This is a big deal for the region. It's projects like these that con-



Shown here are members of the "confetti brigade" — members from the community who have been instrumental in the completion of the Cosumnes River Boulevard Expansion.



Jerry Way, director of public works for the city of Sacramento, was the master of ceremonies at the grand opening celebration of the Cosumnes River Boulevard Expansion on Tuesday, Dec. 15.

Project cost funding: \$95,582,789
Developer (50 percent): \$47,957,614
Federal (19 percent): \$18,210,376
State (13 percent): \$12,861,500
New Measure A Project, including half-cent sales tax (11 percent): \$10,204,000
Measure A Construction (4 percent): \$4,101,573

tinue to make Sacramento a destination for residents to live, work and play."

After the speeches and before the car parade, Way announced members of the "confetti brigade" who were instrumental in completing the Cosumnes River Boulevard Extension: Bonnie Pannell, former district 8 councilman Darrel Fong, Carr, Jennings, city manager John Shirey, representatives from Merlone Geier – McPherson and Barron Caronite, Benipal, Nicholas Theocharides and Nader Kamal.

After the confetti cannons fired, the car parade began and attendees were encouraged to take a walk along the road and interchange. The road officially opened to the public early afternoon.



Shown here are parade attendees with their friends who participated in the parade.

One of the parade participants, Dutch DeVeries, the driver of Car 1, is a reserve member of the police department. He said he enjoys community events and parades such as this one because he gets to represent the police department and the city of Sacramento. Living out by Florin Road and Freepoint Boulevard, he said he has enjoyed watching the progression of the development of Delta Shores. "I've been biking out here, watching this progress. I guess I won't be able to do that anymore," he joked.

But, in actuality, bike lanes have been added to the roadway and cyclists and drivers are welcome to hit the pavement.

Meet Pocket author: Dorothy Rice

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

Through images and text, *The Reluctant Artist* by Pocket author Dorothy Rice tells the story of her father, Joe, a high school art teacher, inventive artist, father of four children, and self-proclaimed "overeducated pauper." Joe lived his life in and around San Francisco, raising his children during the '60s and '70s, "a magical place at a magical time" -with LSD, the music of Janis Joplin, and a VW Microbus on every corner, explains Dorothy whose book recounts tales of her father's lifelong commitment to art, his disquieting tendency toward solitude, his unease with useless conversation, and his self-effacing manner and adherence to humility as the highest virtue.

Though he made art all through his life, Joe Rice never sought recognition or financial profit for any of it. Near the end of his life, his children became increasingly fascinated by and attached to his work, chronicling, photographing the art on his walls,



and discovering a cache of paintings that had been stored in the garage rafters for more than 20 years. Through his art they attempted to better understand their father's hidden truth: though he never sought to make a living from his art, art gave him his life. And having left so many tangible remnants he will live on in more than memory.

The public is invited on Sunday, Jan. 31 to "drop by the house" 7747 Dutra Bend Drive to see some of Joe's amazing paintings and ceramics and to celebrate publication of Dorothy's first book, "The Reluctant Artist: Joe Rice 1918-2011." About her dad, a lifetime artist and art teacher, who has been the inspiration for her own creative journey. Friends and family welcome. All author's proceeds benefit 916 Ink, a local organization which promotes youth literacy in Sacramento by empowering youth voice.

Born in Manila, Philippines in 1918, Joe came to this country with his mother and older sister on a military transport ship when he was a young teen and attended junior high and high school in San Francisco. His mother was from Tientsin, China and his Dad from Hungary. Joe taught art in the San Francisco public schools, specifically Roosevelt and Everett Junior High Schools. He obtained his BFA in art from UC Berkeley and his MFA in art from the CA College of the Arts in Oakland. He and his

wife met at Berkeley where she was studying anthropology.

Because he painted over a 40-50 year period, there is quite a bit of variation in his art. The period of artwork Dorothy enjoys most is from the 1960s and 70s, when he was painting what she would call geometric abstraction – large shaped canvasses he built himself with geometric blocks of bold color, some of which create optical illusions. During this same timeframe

some of his subjects are somewhat surrealistic as well. "The combination of large canvasses, bold and unusual colors, surrealistic imagery and geometric abstraction are some of the hallmarks of his most memorable work," she says.

The 1960s were an amazing time to be in San Francisco. "Dad was in the thick of it taking classes at the SF Art Institute. I was younger but my

See Rice, page 12

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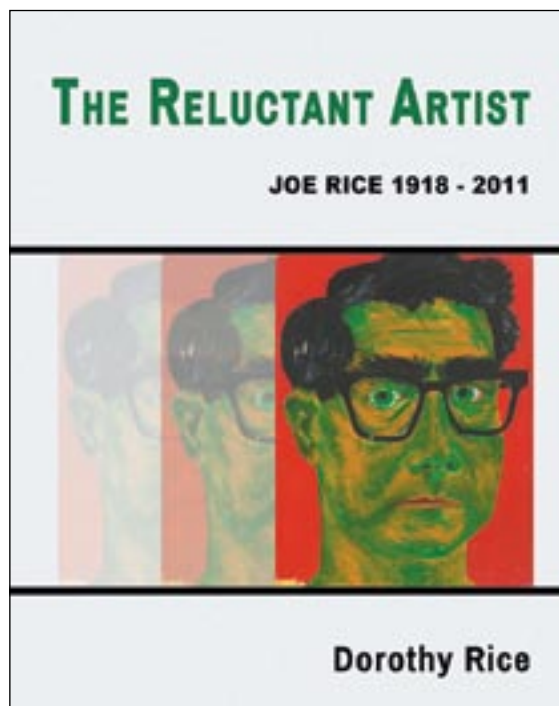
Continued from page 11

older sister went to see all the bands that have since become iconic of that era (Janis Joplin, Jim Morrison, Jefferson Airplane, Grateful Dead, etc.). In junior high school I had a good friend who lived on Ashbury Street (kids from the Haight-Ashbury were bused to my school in the Sunset District) and we often sat on her stoop just watching all the hippies walk by."

Asked in an interview with this publication what she remembers most of her father, she noted the strongest memories of him are of the many things he made, paintings, ceramics, jewelry. "He was often in the basement fixing things or working on our old Studebaker. He was very adept mechanically and could fix or make most anything. As a child, that made him a kind of superhero to me," Dorothy said.

Joe was also very literate and education was important to him. "He helped us all with our homework and tutored us with any subjects we were weak in. I have many memories of him reading to us, and also taking us to museums and art galleries. In San Francisco we lived two blocks from the zoo and he often took us to the zoo to play in the playground and see the animals. One very memorable year was a year spent in Mexico. He went on sabbatical to study Mexican art and my sisters and I attended school in Guadalajara, Mexico. This was sixth grade for me."

Dorothy said she has always been inspired by her father and wanted to write about him and his art. "The paintings are some of my strongest childhood memories as they always hung in our homes and some of the imagery is quite distinct and even unsettling (a life size painting of a purple man in a warrior's helmet hung outside my bedroom, for example) but I always loved and admired the work. Our father wasn't like anyone else's growing up and I liked that."



Dorothy Rice



Ever since she was a young girl, Dorothy has wanted to write, but having kids, raising kids as a single mother for many years, and growing a career to support her family, meant she had to put writing on the back burner until quite recently. With most of the kids (4 out of 5) through college, Dorothy retired five years ago to return to her dream of writing. She began taking classes at the community college and through UC Extension. She also began attending conferences and workshops. When she exhausted the local classes, she enrolled in a creative writing MFA program and earned her MFA from UC Riverside two years ago. "Being able to write now is the realization of a childhood dream and one of the reasons I am so honored to donate the proceeds of my book to 916 Ink, a Sacramento nonprofit that enables young writers

to write and publish their own work. I often wonder how my life might have been different if I had kept writing in my 20s; as a result I have encouraged my own children and all young people not to give up on their dreams. My father's life and the fact that he kept producing art into his 80s was a huge, ongoing inspiration for me, in terms of the importance of art and creative expression regardless whether the work is shown or known publicly."

Meet the author

When: Sunday, Jan. 31 from 2 to 5 p.m.
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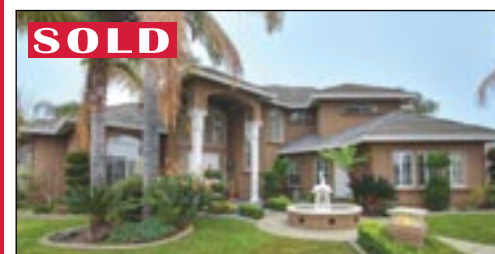


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Matsuyama's robotics team takes on 'Trash Trek' challenge

Editor's note: The following article was submitted to the Sacramento City Unified School District's newsletter editor by the Matsuyama Elementary School robotics team.

By Jake C.

We are the robotics team at Matsuyama Elementary School. We are fourth through sixth graders who recently competed at the First LEGO League competition in Folsom on November 14.

The name of the challenge this year was Trash Trek. For the challenge we had to: Identify a problem with the way we make or handle trash; design an innovative solution to the problem selected; share our problem and solution with others; and participate in a robot competition.

In researching information about recycling, we discovered that most plastics in the United States are not recycled. According to banthebottle.net, almost 50 billion plastic water bottles were created in

the United States, and only around 38 million were recycled.

The average time taken by plastic bottles to decompose in a landfill is close to 700 years.

We went through one bag of trash at school. We found a lot of plastic items that could have been recycled. We guessed that about 25 percent of that 40-gallon trash bag should have been recycled. Matsuyama averages four of those bags of trash per day, according to our custodian.

When you multiply that by 76 schools in SCUSD, that's a lot of trash (four bags of trash times 76 schools that is at least 304 bags of trash per day). Imagine 76 bags of trash being recycled everyday instead of going to the landfill. Over the school year, that would save so much space in the landfill.

We contacted the Sacramento County Recycling Facility and discovered that all types of plastic can be recycled in Sacramento County. We are lucky in Sacramento County that the county Recycling

Facility accepts all types of plastics. But we had to contact them to find that info. We need to get the word out that people should be recycling any plastics that have a recycling symbol with the numbers 1 to 7 in the center.

On competition day our robot performed very well. Our first run we earned 271 points, then 221, then 331 – the highest point total ever by a Matsuyama Robotics Team! Way to go!

Our team members are:

- Kianna Nakaoka – fourth grade
- Sora Ezzell – fifth grade
- Togo Kurosaki – fifth grade
- Andrew Seaver – sixth grade
- Chase Sudmann – sixth grade
- Eugene Kim – sixth grade
- Jake Crawford – sixth grade
- Michelle Wee – sixth grade



Photo by Kathi Windheim

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KI-YA!
Members of the Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library Teen Advisory Board and librarians celebrated National Ninja Day with a special dress up story time on Saturday, Dec. 5.

SCUSD to help former students receive retroactive diplomas

Former SCUSD students who completed all graduation requirements except passage of the California High School Exit Exam may be eligible to receive a diploma retroactively. In October, Governor Jerry Brown signed SB 172 allowing K-12 districts to award diplomas to eligible students who did not pass CAHSEE, which became a graduation requirement starting with the class of 2006. The new law took effect Jan. 1. Former students who believe they qualify for a diploma are asked to complete an online request form on the district's website (www.scusd.edu/cahseediploma). Once a request is received, staff will begin researching student transcripts and graduation requirements in place when the student attended high school.

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Ceremony:

Continued from 9

to personally thank the crews for their efforts, a different crew was staffing the station that day. At the awards ceremony, Warren met the men who saved his life for the first time. The chief presented **Captain Wardell Kirkland, engineer Ken Rose, firefighters David Demetre, Frederick Goerend, Sean Hill and Xavier Sales the Company Citation.**

Additionally, the chief of the department presented the **Company Citation to the crews of Engines 316, 318, 368 whom under the command of Battalion Chief Craig Wiedenhoef** fought the major forest fires in Butte County and the Rim Fire outside of Yosemite National Park. From the time the strike team left Chico to the time they arrived at the Rim Fire, the fire had exploded from a couple hundred acres to more than 10,000 acres.

On Jan. 29, 2014, Engine Company 20, under the command of then-Captain Augustin, was dispatched to an apartment fire in North Sacramento where heavy smoke and flames were showing from a second story apartment and multiple tenants, who already escaped, reported that an elderly man was still trapped inside. He was found and removed to safety. **The Company Citation Award was presented to Battalion Chief Chad Augustin, engineer Andrew Ramos, and firefighters Richard Fulfer and Danson Drummer of Engine Company 20.**

On Feb. 21, 2014, the crew of Engine Company 15 under the command of Captain Blackmun and Medic 43 responded to a call at a local gym where an unconscious drowning victim had been pulled from the pool by staff and basic life support had been given, but further action was needed. They saved the patient's life and **firefighters Eric Green, Luis Bisbiglia, Michelle Brown and**

Freddie Goerend received the Company Citation Award.

On Feb. 18, 2015, Engine Company 60, under the command of Captain Dave Charron, was dispatched to a house on fire. The tactic of placing the hose between the fire and the trapped occupant allowed them to search for the missing resident who they found and rescued.

The department presented the Company Citation Award to Charron, engineer Brian Franks, firefighters Nick Sower, Elliot Reyes, and the company members of Engine 60.

On Oct. 24, 2015, firefighter Brandon Lynch, while assigned to Engine Company 2 and under the command of Captain Ferguson, had just completed a routine boat training exercise on the American River, when he saw an unconscious female floating in the river, so he dove into the water and swam toward the victim, fighting the current the entire way. He was able to grab her and once at shore, they were met by the

rest of Engine Company 2 where they quickly transported her to UC Davis Medical Center. For his gallantry and courage, the Chief awarded the Medal of **Superior Effort to Lynch.** This was his second medal for heroism in the last three years. For the assistance in the rescue, the chief presented to **Ferguson the Outstanding Service Award.**

On May 26, 2013, engineer **Ricardo Panameno**, assigned to Engine Company 13, responded to a report of a small backyard fire. Suddenly an armed man pointed a shotgun at him. Panameno called for the police department and repeatedly told the suspect to lay the gun down. As the man put the gun down, the reached into his waistband for a handgun, at which time Panameno tackled and subdued the attacker until the rest of the engine crew came back to help. The chief of the department awarded Panameno the **Medal of Merit** for his act of heroism.

Newspapers are in his blood

Meet the new publisher of Valley Community Newspapers

By **MONICA STARK**
editor@valcomnews.com

Growing up attending "every event under the sun" while his father Roy carried a camera around his neck and his mom Mary spent days writing about local news, the last thing David Herburger thought he'd pursue was working in the newspaper business. Roy first put David to work at age 7 delivering newspapers and now the son brings Dad into the office.

Every morning after Roy Herburger is dressed to the nines, David drives him over to where Herburger Publications began half of its newspaper operations – The Galt Herald, the small town's official newspaper since 1901. There, Roy, now age 85, despite suffering from Parkinson's and losing his eyesight, continues writing Roy's Comments, a weekly local happenings column in print since 1959. "As long as his fingers are in the right place, he'll be typing out the column," David said. Mary, 83, continues to add to the Herald's sister publication, th Elk Grove Citizen with announcements of life's three big events: "hatchings, matchings, and dispatchings," though she said these days it's mostly been the latter that she writes about.

Roy and Mary divorced in 1980 but have continued coming to work every day. The Elk Grove Unified School District named a school after the older Herburger: Roy Herburger Elementary. There's also a park named after him and one named after Mom, called Mary Hull Lewis Park. Roy, Mary and David have all sat on numerous boards, and on Friday, Jan. 8, the Elk Grove Chamber of Commerce named David chair of the board of directors at its annual gala.

Publishers of the Elk Grove Citizen, Laguna Citizen, The Galt Herald, and The River Valley Times, and the printers of various publications through its commercial department which prints newspapers and other publications for schools, community groups and local businesses, Herburger acquired Valley Community Newspapers as of the first of the year.

Purchased from the Mackos, George and Kathleen, Valley Community Newspapers continues its family-owned, community-based coverage with a publishing company whose CEO, Roy, and its General Manager, David, has been involved with VCN for many years as its printer. Ready to retire, George ensured VCN staff a place of continuous employment by selling to the Herburger family. In 2015 after the surprising death of the West Sacramento News-Ledger's publisher and editor Steve Marschke at age 51, the Mackos purchased that publication, keeping it alive. Kathleen continues her work

there as that weekly publication's general manager.

In an interview about Herburger's acquisition, David, excited about the purchase, said when opportunity knocks, he always opens the door; and quoting the great Milton Berle, he added, "If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door ... The Mackos have been very gracious and they gave us the opportunity. We've been doing the commercial work (for VCN) and it seemed like a natural fit to ensure the longevity of all the newspapers involved. It's the new normal. We have to be smarter about how we put things together and it's a good fit with our organization. We're all local, all the time. Our goal is to maintain local, community journalism. Someone needs to be out there covering the news, a professional staff that's out there that's ready to intercede when things come up. It's a calling more than anything else."

David started his college education at the University of the Pacific but Stockton was too far from his one and only love, Debra Davidson, a special education teacher for the EGUSD. Rather than getting on the typical newspaper track, he moved back home and majored instead in business from Sacramento State University during which time he "was doing the books for Dad and Mom was still writing." David and Debra have three adult children, none of whom have pursued journalism, but who each have careers that take a certain calling. One son's a lawyer; the other, a student at the maritime academy; and the daughter studies nursing.

While he now sees the experience from a parents' perspective, as a kid, David didn't necessarily enjoy attending every event under the sun. "I felt like I was being taken to places when I wanted to play baseball. On a weekend, Dad would say, 'David: Quit drawing. We are going to the Western Festival.' ... When we got to the events, Dad would hand me a dollar. I would throw the dime into the jar and get a plastic monkey. At the time, I didn't realize how important it all was."

Realizing the connections he's made throughout his life because of the newspaper business, David says often people ask for the newspapers' support of an event and soon after he becomes a part of it. "I think the key to it all — and I am discovering it — being in the newspaper business opens a lot of doors. People reach out to you for a fundraiser and soon you are involved in that very event."

Around since 1959, Roy and Mary created Herburger Publications when they bought the Citizen and the Galt Herald, starting the company with themselves and six others. "Dad was publisher, editor, writer, photographer,



Shown sitting, Roy Herburger, with his son, David Herburger inside Roy's office at the Galt Herald. As of Jan. 4, Herburger Publications owns Valley Community Newspapers.

A brief history of Valley Community Newspapers

By **LANCE ARMSTRONG**

According to unpublished material by Lance Armstrong, VCN's former history writer (who works for Herburger at the Elk Grove Citizen covering local politics), the history of what became VCN began in 1992 with the creation of the Pocket News, which was established by Ken Mandler, who is best known as the founder and former, longtime proprietor of the Capitol Weekly newspaper, and his then-wife, Pat Clark. The Pocket News was first published in February 1992 under the direction of Clark, who served as the paper's original editor. Pocket News was followed by the creation of the Land Park News, then, in order of their founding, the East Sacramento News, the Laguna Times, the Arden News and the Carmichael News. There is no longer a Laguna Times and the Arden News and the Carmichael News combined to become known as the Arden-Carmichael News. The business underwent an ownership change in mid-1995. It was then that George Macko and Steve Chanecka purchased the business, which at the time was located in the South Hills Shopping Center at 5962 South Land Park Drive. Macko, who is a native of Scranton, Pennsylvania and a 1963 graduate of the University of Scranton, bought out Chanecka's interest in the business, which was relocated to 312 Florin Road in 2001 and has been located at its current address of 2709 Riverside Blvd. since February 2006. Macko owned VCN with his wife, Kathleen Egan, until the end of last year.

pressman. Mom was writer, bookkeeper and she was in the community and a mom at the same time," David said.

Currently there are 49 on staff, which includes the recent acquisition. At its height, the company had 74 on staff. "We haven't rehired anyone unless there was an opening," David said. One such writer, who has graced the pages at Valley Community Newspapers as its historian, Lance Armstrong, made headlines for his return to the Elk Grove Citizen last fall. Lance previously worked there as the Lifestyle Editor and today he covers local politics. Since he worked there the first time, the Lifestyle Editor's hours have been reduced and other staffing changes have been made.

"The Great Recession has been the perfect storm between the financial collapse and we were at a tipping point with the changes in media because of the Internet and the digital age. Bringing those together was a dramatic blow," David said. "But in the last year, we've seen greater interest. People are discovering that the new and shiny stuff isn't so shiny and we are starting to see things coming back."

Over at the Citizen Mary has also continued her About Town section about local happenings and she does a lot of publicity for organizations she belongs to, including the Strauss Festival, the Elk Grove Historical Society and the Soroptimists in Elk Grove. She also writes a column called Glimpse Back that draws upon files from years past. Asked if she is happy having Herburger take on VCN, Mary said, "As long as David is, that's just fine. Of course, I think he will make a wonderful boss." She said as long as she maintains good health and David

See Herburger, page 23

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Sacramento Youth Symphony seeks alumni to mark 60th anniversary

The Sacramento Youth Symphony is conducting a nationwide search for alumni, to help them celebrate the symphony's 60th anniversary in April. Forever young, the Sacramento Youth Symphony possesses a proud, six-decade heritage. Musicians from Sacramento, Amador, El Dorado Placer, San Joaquin, Solano, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba counties continue to perform with this symphony.

Since its founding in 1956, thousands of young musicians performed technically challenging works of music for audiences in Sacramento and around the world. The symphony began as a 55-member youth orchestra under the direction of Fritz Berens. Today, the symphony has a membership of over 400 talented young people. Maestro Michael Neumann is now in his 37th year as artistic director and conductor. His contribution to the musical arts in Northern California is substantial.

Many alumni went on to become significant contributors in the world of music. A few of these are:

• **Allison Buck**, bassoonist with the International Lyric Academy in Rome

and Viterbo, Italy. In the U.S., she regularly performs with many California symphonies.

• **Adam Flatt**, whose musical career touches three regions of the United States. He is music director of the Colorado Ballet, the Newport Symphony, and the Tuscaloosa Symphony Orchestra.

• **Eric Gorfain**, founder and leader of The Section Quartet, the premier rock string quartet in Hollywood.

• **Susan Lamb Cook**, artist affiliate in cello and chamber music at UC Davis. She is a member of the Gold Coast Trio, and has performed extensively throughout Europe and the United States. A published author, she is heavily involved in youth music education.

• **Matthew Muckey**, associate principal trumpet with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra.

• **Jerome Simas**, clarinet/bass clarinet with the San Francisco Symphony. He is a professor at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

and author. She is widely known for her work in network news for CBS and ABC. Her book, "I Am a Mother," discusses her decision to leave the media world to become a full-time parent.

Gathering alumni stories
Today, alumni range in age from their late teens to their mid-70s. They are scattered, like the downy seeds of a beautiful flower, to the seven winds. Where most took root is a mystery.

"We would like to hear their stories," said Robert Vann, general manager of the symphony. "How did being a member of the Sacramento Youth Symphony influence your life? What advice would you share with young musicians today?"

Upcoming winter concert
Sacramento Youth Symphony presents 60th Anniversary Season Premier Winter Concerto Concert with 80 young musicians performing classical favorites under the direction of Michael Neumann, Artistic Director and Premier Orchestra Conductor on **Sunday, Jan. 31.** The premier orchestra performs at 7 p.m. at Sacramento City College, Performing Arts Cen-

ter, 3835 Freeport Blvd. Tickets are \$20 for general admission, \$15 for students and seniors. Box office opens one hour before concert. Tickets available online at www.sacramentoyouthsymphony.org. Works presented include two violin concertos by young soloists. Brandon Luong (9th grade, Christian Brothers High School) will perform Ziguenerweisen (Gypsy Airs) by Pablo de Sarasate and Ayana Jaycox (6th grade, Sacramento Waldorf School) will perform Allegro from Violin Concerto in G, K. 216 by Mozart. Other works on the concert include Danse Macabre by Saint Saens, Symphony #8 (Unfinished) by Schubert, and Toccata and Fugue by J. S. Bach arranged by Stokowski. Sacramento Youth Symphony is proud to celebrate Sixty Years of musical excellence by young musicians from the Sacramento Region.

Save the Date
The Sacramento Youth Symphony will host a special 60th anniversary Gala at the Crocker Art Museum on Friday, April 29, 2016. Tickets will be available at sacramentoouthsymphony.org.

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CALENDAR

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

The Sacramento Traditional Jazz Society (STJS) monthly music event

Every second Sunday of the month, STJS has music at the Elks Lodge No. 6, 6446 Riverside Blvd., from noon to 5 p.m. Each month STJS has a different band, there is three different rooms to listen to music. Nominal fee for members is \$8; non-member price is \$10.

Rotary Club South meeting

The Rotary Club of South Sacramento meets at noon for lunch every Thursday at Iron Grill, located at 2422 13th St. (Broadway and 13th Street). Rotary is one of the largest service organizations in the world dedicated to community service both locally, and internationally. Please call JR Springer at 425-9195 for additional information.

Beginning tai chi gong

These exercises use the principle of chi flowing properly throughout the body to maintain the equilibrium of yin and yang. Regular practice of these forms will develop better balance and flexibility, gain strength, promote deep relaxation, and improve

health. This beginning class will also learn the 24 Yang Style Tai Chi and Yi Jing, a traditional Health Qi Gong. Pre-registration and prepayment required or \$7 drop-in fee at the door. Class will be held on Tuesdays from 4:00-5:00 pm at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more details, call (916)393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.org.

Soroptimist International Sacramento South

Meets the second and fourth Tuesday at Executive Airport, Aviators Restaurant at 12:15 p.m.

JANUARY

Time Banking! Community Skill Exchange

Jan. 23: Join a community system where people share their skills and talents with time banking, where 1 hour = 1 time credit. Make new friends and learn about Time Banking at Belle Cooledge Library, 5600 South Land Park Drive. There will be a potluck dinner from 6 to 7:30 p.m. There will be a question and answer period. Visit communityskillexchange.timebanks.org or email info@csetimebank for more information.

Sacramento Traditional Jazz Society 10th annual crab and pasta feed

Jan. 23: While eating delicious crab, enjoy music by Peter Petty and Black Tuesday. For ticket information, buy online at sacjazz.org. Tickets are \$50 per person or \$450 for a table of 10 (includes one bottle of wine). At the door, tickets are \$55 per person. Call Kathy Becker at 635-7224 for more information.

Spring clean more than just your closet

Jan. 25: As you empty the gutters, clean your windows, and change winter linens, don't forget to dust off your finances. There is a lot that can be done to organize paperwork for retirement plans and review statements to confirm that you are receiving the proper payments on time. Pre-registration is required. Free of charge. Class will be held on Jan. 25 from 10 to 11 a.m. at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more details, call 393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.org

One man's trash is another man's treasure

Jan. 26: This presentation covers the mental health diagnosis of Hoarding disorder, including the psychological theories of its origin, current treatment options, the risks faced by those with the disorder, the value of community-based Hoarding task forces, and suggestions for intervention. Pre-registration is required. Free of charge. Class will be held on Jan. 26 from 1 to 2 p.m. at ACC

See Calendar, page 21

Calendar:

Continued from page 20

Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more details, call 393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.org

Music at noon

Jan. 27: Free music programs, offered at Westminster Presbyterian Church on noon on Wednesdays. This week enjoy music by Voices 3 Plus 2 (three light-opera singers, a pianist & narrator).

SacTown VegFest

Jan. 30: The Sacramento Vegetarian Society (SVS) is excited to launch SacTown VegFest, Sacramento's first 100% plant-based vegetarian festival. SacTown VegFest will be held on Saturday, January 30, 2016, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Sacramento City Unified School District's Serna Center, 5737 47th Ave. (one block west of Stockton Blvd.) in Sacramento. This event is FREE and open to the public. There will be fresh prepared food and plant-based merchandise for sale as well as free samples. There will be information on the many benefits of plant-based eating—from delicious health-promoting recipes to how diet can reduce both water-use and your carbon footprint. SacTown VegFest will be a family-friendly event with fun activities for children.

Nominations for Breathe California's 40th Annual Clean Air Awards deadline

Jan. 31: Breathe California of Sacramento-Emigrant Trails wants to recognize the green efforts of the individuals igniting our region's creative movement at the 40th Anniversary Clean Air Awards Luncheon. Winners in the categories of Sustainability, Leadership and Innovative Strategy will be honored at the annual luncheon on May 11. Information and nomination forms for the 40th Annual Clean Air Awards can be found online at www.sacbreathes.org/cleanairawards. For more information about the nomination process, contact Stacy Springer at 444-5900 ext. 209 or sspringer@sacbreathes.org.

Jan. 30: Travel on vintage bikes and see the best tweed show and picnic in the winter on maple syrup and snow from noon to 5 p.m. The Coffee Garden, 2904 Franklin Blvd. From there, revelers will ride to a pretty picnic spot and finish with victory ale. Bring: ID, bike lock. Win: Best bike, bike accessory, hat, shoes, picnic. City Bicycle Works & Beers Books provided prize donations. Thank you also to: Bike Dog, Camp Pollock, Back Door Lounge, Ella K. McClatchy Friends Library, & the Leland Stanford Mansion State Historic Park for hosting the group during its 2014 and 2015 rides. Stay tuned for more on Facebook: Sacramento Tweed Ride 2.0 or twitter: @SacTweed.

Winter Crab Fest 2016

Feb. 6: Saint Mary's at Giovanni Hall, 58th and M streets. Doors open 6 p.m., dinner is at 7 p.m. It's all you can eat crab and there will be a silent and live auction and dessert auction for \$50. Advanced ticket sales only, call 427-6751. Email sacsacmentosouth@soroptimist.net... Presented by Soroptimist International Sacramento South. Funds raised at this event are directed to individuals and projects making a difference for women and children in Sacramento County.

FEBRUARY

Music at noon

Feb. 3: Free music programs, offered at Westminster Presbyterian Church on noon on Wednesdays. This week enjoy music by pianist-composer Chris Goslow and Friends (Classics & Pops).

Scams and schemes

Feb. 3: A presentation of the various common scams that are being perpetrated by criminals throughout Sacramento and ways you can protect yourself from identify theft, phone scams, internet scams, and specif-

ic scams perpetrated on the elderly. Pre-registration is required. Free of charge. Class will be held on Feb. 3 from noon to 2 p.m. at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more details, call 393-9026 ext. 330, www.accsv.org

SCNA's 2nd Annual Sing N' Serve Crab Feed

Feb. 5: Organized by the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association, SCNA's Sing N' Serve Crab Feed is designed to create a new and exciting way to experience a crab feed, all while raising funds that proliferate the arts in the community. Crab will be sourced from more northern waters to ensure an experience that is safe and to the standards of the California Department of Health and the California Department of Fish and Game. Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus will be joining us again this year and provide entertainment and host our popular Desert Dash. Beer, wine and soft drinks will be available for purchase. This event sold out last year; make reservations early. The dinner goes from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Sierra 2 Center, 2791 24th St. Contact Faith Johnstone at 452-3005.

18th Annual "Sacramento Museum Day"

Feb. 6: Twenty six participating local museums will offer free or half-priced admission from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Most of the more than 25 museums will offer free admission whereas two destinations located in residential areas – the Sacramento Zoo and Fairytale Town – will offer half-priced admission to offset parking and traffic control costs. In addition to offering free or reduced cost admission, many of the destinations are offering special activities during Sacramento Museum Day.

SES Robotics third annual crab feed

Feb. 6: Enjoy all you can eat crab, shrimp, pasta, antipasto, salad, bread, dessert, coffee. All catered by Fins Market & Grill. Tickets on sale now. Checks payable to SES Robotics INC. No refunds. Non profit, tax-deductable. Donation letters available at the event. Tickets are also available online at sesrobotics.us under events tab.

Tickets are also available in the school office, limited quantity. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., dinner and raffle from 6 to 8 p.m., and dancing from 8 to 11 p.m. Non-alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase. This is an on-site school event, no alcohol is allowed. Tickets are \$50 per person. Table of 6 are \$288. Tickets are on sale now. There will be music by DJ Pete who will spin tunes from all genres. SES is located at 7345 Gloria Drive. SES Robotics Inc. office is 258-2107 and the school office is 433-2960.

Traditional Jazz Youth Band Festival

Feb. 6: Sacramento State hosts the annual Traditional Jazz Youth Band Festival, an all-day event dedicated to performance and teaching of traditional jazz for school, club and independent bands. The combo performances run 8 a.m.-6 p.m. in Capistrano Hall on campus, 6000 J St. At 7 p.m., renowned trombone and trumpet player Wycliffe Gordon headlines a closing concert. The public is invited all day. Tickets are \$12 at the door, free for students with ID. Contact: 278-5191.

Sojourner Truth African American Museum will host a Crocker Art Museum "Block By Block" talent search

Feb. 6: Twenty six participating local museums will offer free or half-priced admission from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Most of the more than 25 museums will offer free admission whereas two destinations located in residential areas – the Sacramento Zoo and Fairytale Town – will offer half-priced admission to offset parking and traffic control costs. In addition to offering free or reduced cost admission, many of the destinations are offering special activities during Sacramento Museum Day.

Music at noon

Feb. 10: Free music programs, offered at Westminster Presbyterian Church at noon on Wednesdays. This week enjoy Ash Wednesday Music & Poetry with cellist James Chen and Friends.

– EVENT LISTING SECTION –

Advertise your craft fairs, holiday bazaars, school fundraises, church events, etc. in your Community Newspapers. Call (916) 429-9901 for rates.

2016 annual Japanese American Citizens League (JAACL), Sacramento Chapter, Crab and Spaghetti Feed; January 30, 2016, 6 p.m., Sacramento Buddhist Church, 2401 Riverside Boulevard, Sacramento, 95818. Doors open at 5 p.m. \$50, general ticket; \$10, ages 6 to 10; free, 5 and under. Please join us for all-you-can-eat food and fun with raffle prizes, games, and a performance by UC Davis's Bakuhatsu Taiko Dan group. Contact Janice Luszcak (916) 903-6645 or janice.luszcak@gmail.com for tickets or information.

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Faces and Places: Camellia Waldorf Winter Faire

Photos by STEPHEN CROWLEY
stephen@valcomnews.com

The Pocket neighborhood got a taste of the magic of winter at Camellia Waldorf's new Pocket location. Children's puppet shows, craft activities, live music and entertainment, hearty fare including soups from the Golden Ladle Soup Competition, gourmet coffee and baked goods, gingerbread houses, holiday shopping with local artisans, a children's store stocked with treasures for young shoppers all graced the grounds with the presence of the annual winter faire on Saturday, Dec. 12.



Pocket Library events

The hours for the Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library, located at 7335 Gloria Drive, are as follows: Sunday and Monday: Closed; Tuesday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Wednesday: Noon to 8 p.m.; Thursday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday: 1 to 6 p.m.; and Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 21 at 10:15 a.m.
Baby/Toddler Stay & Play at Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library (Early Childhood (0-5))

"Stay and Play" is an unstructured social time for babies and toddlers (ages 0 and up!—older siblings are welcome as long as everyone can play nicely together) and their caretakers. Developmental toys and board books will be available. These informal play sessions will be immediately followed by a storytime for babies and toddlers (ages 0-3 years) and their caretakers/families except on the last Tuesday of each month when we have a special performance by Mister Cooper instead. This program is supported by the Pocket-Greenhaven Friends of the Library.

Thursday, Jan. 21 at 11 a.m.
Baby/Toddler Storytime for ages 0-3 at Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library (Early Childhood)

A combined toddler and baby storytime in which babies and toddlers (ages 0 to 3 years) and their caretakers are invited to join us for songs and rhymes in this language enrichment program designed to boost brain development. Please also note that on the last Tuesday of each month we'll have a special musical performance by Mr. Cooper instead of storytime.

Friday, Jan. 22 at 10 a.m.

In Creative Company: Acrylics @ Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven (Adult)

The joy of painting with Acrylics will come to life in this fun-filled class. Learn painting and blending techniques, color theory and how to incorporate it all to create vibrant paintings. All supplies will be provided. This program is funded through a bequest from Robbie Waters. Registration is Required

Herburger:

Continued from page 17

has a place for her to work, she said anything she could do to help him out, she will. She said the Elk Grove Citizen has changed quite a lot from Herburger Publications' acquisition in 1959. "We would put in everything ... So and so celebrated his fifth birthday and we'd list all the guests. You don't find anything like that in the paper. We've grown and changed with the times, especially since Elk Grove incorporated as a city. (Editor) Cameron Macdonald runs the cop logs. Lance does city hall, city beat."

David brings with him Jim O'Donnell as the advertising director overseeing VCN accounts. Excited to be a part of VCN, Jim said, "I'm super excited to have Valley Community Newspapers as part of our newspaper group. Local community news and local advertising is what we do, and VCN is a nice fit. It's (go-

ing to be) great to be able to offer our advertisers (both current and new) increased exposure and increased value. Coming from the corporate newspaper world, I thought I would stay (at Herburger Publications) for a year or two, and now I've been here 15 years! It's a true testament to a nicely run family business and how well the Herburgers treat their employees. We have a slogan we use - 'Locally Owned, Locally Concerned and Locally Involved.' It's more than a slogan; it's how we live."

David may be a business major but he is competent with the English language and even sits on the board of directors for the California Newspapers Publishers Association.

As for his backup plan, David said, "I can't see much of anything else at this point. I've been doing this for 50 years now. I've done a short stint cleaning carpets at the Elk Grove Convalescent Hospital ... I can clean carpets," he said, looking down at the floor.

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Parkside Community Church
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Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 am
Bible Class: 9:00am
5700 South Land Park Drive & 35th Avenue 421-0492

Riverside Wesleyan Church
6449 Riverside Blvd. • 391-9845
Sunday Worship: 9:00am & 10:45am
www.rwcsac.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

St. Anthony Catholic Church
660 Florin Road • 428-5678
stanthony-sacramento.org
Sunday Masses: 8:00am, 9:30am & 11:15am (Saturday vigil, 5:00pm)
Daily Mass: 8:00am Monday-Saturday

PENDING



QUALITY BUILT ELK GROVE

Amazing 3 bedroom 2 bath single story home. Amazing remodeled kitchen and baths. Open floor plan, hand scraped exotic acacia hardwood floors, custom cabinets, and much more. Nearly 2 acres, open space, equestrian trails, Pleasant Grove Elem and HS, Albani Middle School.
\$479,000

MONA GERGEN 247-9555



SOUTH LAND PARK TERRACE

Conveniently located on a corner lot in a wonderful South Land Park neighborhood. 3 bedrooms 2 baths, 1453 square feet with open floor plan, living room fireplace and dual pane windows. 2-car garage, bonus room and RV access.
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RETREAT AT VALLEY HI

On the 15th fairway with spectacular views, this single story 2 or 3 bedroom 2½ bath home is your own private resort! High ceilings, big windows and light-filled spaces. Outside access from every room to courtyard or pool. Gourmet kitchen, gas range, 2 dining bars, and pantry cabinet. 3-car garage.
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JAY FEAGLES 204-7756



DUTRA BEND

Ready for you to enjoy! This 4 bedroom 3 bath two-story home features newer paint, carpet and refinished hardwood floors. The great open floor plan is just what you are looking for! Open and spacious, there is plenty of room for everyone
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PAULA SWAYNE 925-9715



SOLD

AMAZING ACRE GREENHAVEN LOT

Custom home on one of the biggest lots (.33 acre). Rare 3-car garage! Spectacular lot with built-in pool, spa, gazebo. Gorgeous private yard. 3 bedrooms down and 1 bedroom upstairs. Fantastic remodeled kitchen, high-end appliances, low-e windows, new hardwood floors. Wow!
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MONA GERGEN 247-9555

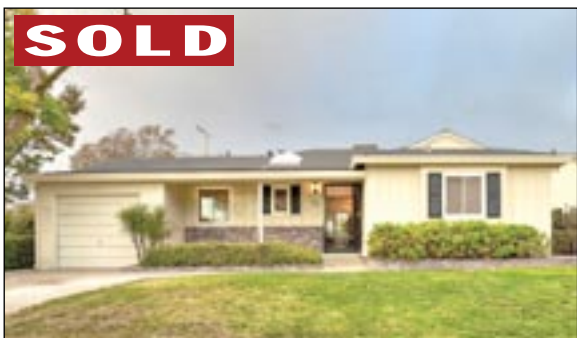


PENDING

SOUTH LAND PARK HILLS

Cute 3 bedroom 2 bath home that is move-in-ready! Wonderful South Land Park neighborhood. The work is done, refinished hardwood floors, new tile, new paint and carpet. Sweet, spacious and private backyard, central heat and air, 2-car garage. A delightful home!
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JAMIE RICH 612-4000



SOLD

BRENTWOOD VILLAGE

Convenient Brentwood Village 3 bedroom home. Cute as a button and ready for you to start making memories. Beautiful hardwood floors, a cozy fireplace and a skylight in kitchen to brighten your day! Inside laundry room and spacious backyard. Attached garage.
\$229,500

SHEILA VAN NOY 505-5395



SOLD

PARK PLACE SOUTH

Desirable Park Place South 2 bedroom 2 bath, single story halfplex. New carpet and vinyl flooring. Fresh interior paint. New window coverings. HOA dues include roof, exterior paint, front yard lawn and shrub maintenance, and tennis courts. Seller will provide a one year home warranty
\$254,000

CONNIE LANDSBERG 761-0411



SOLD

LIKE NEW LINDA ISLE

Prestigious Riverlake community with lake access. Wonderful floor plan, 3 bedroom 2 bath with beautiful shutters, fireplace, and more. Home and yard easy to maintain. Close to boat ramp and walking and biking trails, easy car ride to downtown. Immaculate home with private yard!
\$345,000

MONA GERGEN 247-9555

for current home listings, please visit:

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