

POCKET NEWS

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OPERATION Easter egg drop



Riverside Wesleyan Church dropped eggs from a helicopter for unique hunt

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Kennedy basketball player commits to UC Merced

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25% of Pocket residents belong to NextDoor

See page 6

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Didion students raise \$8,580 to help fight leukemia

(Editor's note: The following article was written by Nicole Staggs, a fifth grader at Genevieve Didion K-8 School.)

Genevieve Didion just finished a three-week fundraiser called Pennies for Patients. The fundraiser started on Jan. 25 and went until Feb. 12. They raised \$8,580.37 for kids who have cancer called leukemia.

The fifth-grade students from Didion did small fundraisers. They did cool activities like have a toilet paper day where you wrap someone with toilet paper for only a dollar. They also had an electronics day, sports day, stuffed animal day and pajama and slippers day. The school also sold "I Saved Lives" wristbands.

Fifth grade teacher, Mrs. Laura Nann, was responsible for making this fundraiser a success by coordinating all the activities, including a Family Zumba Night held in the school gym.

Mrs. Nann's class made cute posters and hung them on the classroom doors. Each class decorated an ox that held the money they raised. The



event was kicked off when all the grades selected a box they liked and put money into it. The money got the classes started off with the fundraising campaign. Genevieve Didion's goal this year was \$4,000. Didion just hit it out of the park with almost two times their goal! This school has gone over their goal two times in the past two years.

Mrs. Nann is so proud of the school for raising that much money for kids with cancer. Next year she said she would start off with a big bang and just make the goal to \$7,000 right off the bat! Mrs. Nann thanks everyone for contributing to the campaign and hopefully have a great success again next year too!

Source: SCUSD

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Signal jammers installed in JFK classrooms

By CHRISTOPHER WONG
 Editor-in-chief of The Clarion

Don't count on getting any bars in your classrooms anymore. Previously implemented as a test in the second floor of the C building and the B wing, cell phone signal jammers will be installed in every classroom across JFK.

If you have been wondering why there is no reception on the second floor and in the B wing, these devices are why. The school determined it was these classrooms that had the most problems with cell phone use.

"I'm just doin' my job, and I walk in and see literally all the kids using their phones against the rules," said hall monitor Parker Blacc, who is currently on extended vacation. "It's as if the teacher told 'em to use their phones. We really needed to take measures into our own hands."

The move also comes to deter cheating on exams. "The amount of cheating that occurs on exams is out of this world!" said district representative Ollie Geezer. He claims that the new signal jammers will be able to stop cellphone use in the classroom, thus preventing cheating.

It is not a surprise that the signal jammers are not met with complete praise. One PACER, Noe Peking, was shocked, "I really don't think these should be implemented. If they have to be installed,

just leave PACE classrooms out. No PACER would ever cheat!"

Other students even had theories regarding why such drastic measures were being taken. "If we can't use our data, the school is going to force us to use the school wi-fi so they can track our online usage! It's a conspiracy!" claimed Ella Natie, who also played triangle in her middle school band at Sutter. She also added that signal jammers has thirteen letters, thirteen minus one is twelve, and that twelve divided by four is three. "It's confirmed."

When we asked the head of data at the Serena Center, Dave Minor, about the possibility of district datamining and monitoring on phones, he said, "No, the SCUSD would definitely not install these devices for the purpose of monitoring students. We only need to be able to see everything they say inside and outside of class to curb the cyber bullying problem that runs rampant in our classrooms. Displays of affection such as kissing emojis will also be discouraged with the implementation of these devices." He also expressed hope for the future of the school. "Kennedy is really fortunate to be the first school to have these installed."

No new developments have occurred regarding this controversial issue. For more up-

dates, always check theclarion.com and check out our mobile site whenever you are bored in class.

This April Fool's special was reprinted with permission from The Clarion, John F. Kennedy's student newspaper. For more information on the Clarion, visit: jfkclarion.com.



Photo by Chris Wong
 John F. Kennedy students Timothy Trumbly, Alex Chan, and Alison Newens disapprove of the measures and are enjoying their last days of cell signal in school.

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Kennedy basketball player to play big at UC Merced in the fall

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

On Wednesday, April 13, John F. Kennedy senior Cole Taira will sign a letter of intent to play basketball at UC Merced.

Asked about his choice school, Cole said he looks forward to playing for Coach Kevin. "He's just always been passionate and outgoing and he seems like the type of coach that would continue my career. I know there's nothing else really out there. I just want to play basketball somewhere and I felt loved over there."

Having played basketball since he was "really little," Cole said he didn't take the sport seriously until after freshman year. "From there, I found some insight. I thought maybe I could be pretty good at this."

And, UC Merced obviously thought the same thing.

A hard worker, Cole says he's got to stay competitive because playing college ball is every player's dream.

Cole's basketball season this year started with him dislocating his left elbow the first quarter of the first game in a pre-season tournament at Sacramento High School. Ever since then, he knew he wanted to get back in the game. "I didn't want to let my team down," he said.

But they didn't rely on him that much and rehab was crazy, he says. "Every practice was crazy. Icing, stretching, running on the side lines."

But Cole got to be back before the second game of the regular season and came back full-force. With all the highlights of the season, he said the no. 1 still has to be the game against McClatchy. "I will always remember the big crowds. The student sections and playing in that lively atmosphere: I will miss that."

Being of Asian descent, Cole said he's had to work more on the fundamentals com-

pared to others. "I have to keep up with bigger guys ... I have to keep my weight up to just compete and stay strong." To do so, he's been lifting weights five times a week, and taking in as much protein and carbs as possible. Also a member of JFK's track team, the 5'9" point guard has incredible speed. "For my fundamentals, I work on a lot of shooting. I work with girls' assistant coach who helps me concentrate, score and keep my abilities up to par. My dad has always been there to help me if I need another buddy to shoot with."

As far as his coursework is concerned, Cole has maintained a high 3.85 grade point average and at UC Merced, he'll study liberal studies with plans on becoming an elementary school teacher. "I do (like kids) ... I will be working over the summer at a daycare preschool and all my life I have liked playing with them and being crazy with them, too."

His coaches at Kennedy, Robert Fong and assistant JT Roberts, Cole says, have made him not just a better player but a better person. Coming into the season, they knew Cole had UC Merced looking at him, so their focus was simply on improving his game and the players around him. "They didn't put a lot of pressure on me; they knew I was up to the challenge. (It was about) just growing up and being the best you can. One thing I could take back from them is that they inspired me to be a better person."

Also giving credit to his parents, Jason and Lisa, for their support, Cole says they've always been there during tough or stressful times.

As the date for the signing ceremony approaches, Cole's excitement for the day grows. "It's always something I see all these people doing. I am going to do it, too. I am pretty excited and ready to take my game to the next level."

Angelique Ashby meets with Sacramentans



City Councilmember Angelique Ashby studied a heat map. Red sections indicated high crime, and on this particular Natomas map, several giant 400 unit, low-rent apartment buildings glowed red. This is where the poor lived, and the poor are prey. Theft, addiction, assault, isolation—these are the symptoms that lure predators to converge on the vulnerable. Ashby didn't want to use an amped-up police presence to merely treat symptoms; she wanted to tackle the causes. "I wanted to help," she says, and adds, "I like to see issues all the way through."

She reached into the Natomas community and forged partnerships between apartment residents and kids clubs, the local library, reading groups, rehab groups, parenting classes and police—she found people willing to work with the beleaguered tenants. "This was key," she said. Nothing's ever easy but bringing the right people together with well-conceived plan works. Much later she looked at another heat map. The colors around the megapartment buildings? Green.

Ashby is pleased with another overarching fact. On her watch as councilwoman crime in Natomas plunged by 48 percent. She also worked successfully to get flood protection and levee repairs, improved first responder emergency response times, protected library and youth program funds, improved basic city services.

She is running for Mayor of Sacramento. Her opponent is Darrell Steinberg. On February 14th a group of Sacramentans gathered in Janet Maira's house on H. Street in East Sacramento to meet Ashby and hear her make her case. "I was very favorably impressed," Land Park resident Ray Brankline said. "She's a self-made person. And she makes things hap-

pen." He was forcibly struck by Ashby's biography. A Sacramento High School graduate and single mother, she was on food stamps for a while, worked full time, put herself through UCD and then McGeorge School of Law. Smiling, she described this trajectory as "a tough go." Brankline said, "That kind of grit and energy will show up whatever she does. Plus she's smart."

Ashby first got involved in local politics in Natomas. "It started with a stop sign," she said. She became a community organizer, battled drugs, traffic, crime, blight, and neglect. "It was a 'take back our neighborhood' movement," she said. Urged to run for City Council, she faced a three-term incumbent. She won, in part, she said, because her reach extended to all avenues of the community; she'd formed those working partnerships with schools, police, unions, churches, clubs and businesses—anybody and everybody who wanted to solve problems.

"When I got on the Council it was filled with people who'd been there for years," she said. She had kind words for former councilmember Steve Cohn from East Sacramento to who she said was generous with his time and helped her navigate the municipal bureaucracy. But she didn't socialize with her Council colleagues after work. "I went home to my new husband and family," she said. "I didn't go golfing with the boys."

Nevertheless she maintained collegial relationships and got things done for her district. She became Vice Mayor of the Council and in that position stepped in for other members when they needed her. She got to know their districts, learned about differing needs and potentially increased when she served a second Vice Mayor term. Her family increased as well.



Ashby with Boxer at the DC signing of the Water Resources Reform Development Act (WRDA) 2014, the bill unfroze the Natomas building moratorium.

"I ran a meeting on Tuesday, she said, "and had a baby on Thursday." Next she was chosen Mayor Pro Tem, the first such position on the Council, and one where she could define the role. This further deepened her breadth of city experience, her personal reach into all districts.

Proud of the things she was able to accomplish for her own district, she said in addition to significantly reducing crime, she was able to "make major improvements in every park, and kept jobs in the black." Also, she said, because she was "good at finding money" she found 1.7 million dollars in an already paid apartment tax. So she was able to mail a one hundred dollar check to every Natomas resident.

The assembled voters listened closely. Could she achieve for them the many successes she'd had for Natomas? Most thought so, especially since as Mayor Pro Tem she had familiarized herself with every district. To be sure, most people in this room had opposed the Kings arena development that both Ashby and Steinberg supported. But the East Sacramentans present strongly agreed with Ashby on another issue. A woman asked, "What inspired you

See Ashby, page 9

Pat Lynch is a Sacramento writer with astute social consciousness and a reporter's sharp eye. She tunes us in: to language with its revelations and betrayals, to subtexts, to nuance, to irony. Her characters engage us emotionally; her stories peel away the layers with humor and great humanity.

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25% of Pocket residents belong to NextDoor

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

About a quarter of the entire Pocket neighborhood belongs to NextDoor, according to one of the lead organizers and cheerleaders

of the local chapter, Kathi Windheim.

It took about three years to get to the point where out of 11,934 families in the Pocket 3,477 are socially connected to their neighbors. Meanwhile the Greenhaven NextDoor has about 1,000 members.

"When we were at 1,500 we said we need to stop," Kathi said. "Then we were supposed to be 3,000, but we're at 3,500." Organizers realized that NextDoor is a better resource with more people united, working together. Five thousand is the most members NextDoor will allow the Pocket site to have.

For every 500 local members, organizers add a "lead," which is akin to a monitor and facilitator who makes sure posts stay relevant and respectful. With now 10 leads, including: Michael Myers, Will Cannady, Mark Hanzlik, Joseph Pickar, Richard Markuson, Devin

Lavelle, Crystal Harrison, Angela Wood and Kathi.

"How we grew to being the largest neighborhood (active) is by adding leads," Kathi said.

Since she's a board member of the Robbie Waters of the Library, Kathi originally thought she'd stick to posting about library events and didn't think NextDoor would be so much work. Taking a lot of the late night shifts monitoring the site, she's been quite involved as a lead and getting more neighbors logged on. As an aside, Kathi says she's been recognized in public more because of NextDoor than because of the library, which she has been a part of for 10 years.

Founded by Richard Markuson in 2013, the local chapter began with smaller groups that picked which streets they would include in their neighbor-

hood watch. Richard chose a swath of the Pocket, and all of the houses in that area were invited by postcard or email. Police Lt. Oliviera made signs and put them in the grocery stores.

Meanwhile, Kathi and Angela worked with six lieutenants, further facilitating community policing and growing the NextDoor website. "It changed from having neighborhood watch once a month to getting information by the minute. When Air One is over-head, we know how to get instant information (about why). If a car is stolen, you can call it in, but you can also post about it to your neighbors."

In addition to police presence on the social networking site, members of the city council, like D-7's Rick Jennings, have been instrumental in growing it. Any way he can get out information, he does. About important matters of the day, Kathi said, he'll often say, "We got to get this on NextDoor."

A favorite to many neighbors in the last year have been all the free items posted to the site, be it extra fruit on your tree, an unwanted trampoline or a Polish chicken. People did a whole post on their favorite donut shop. A group of neighbors who met through the site now gather at Caffe Latte every Wednesday. "There was a lady dividing her irises. It's such a neighborly thing. Even though you're online, you find people and become friends," Kathi said.

Sometimes guidelines need to be reposted in order to keep the peace. "Our job (as leads) is to make the site go smooth and not have angry neighbors. We don't really give our opinion."

With mail theft on the rise during Christmas time, education regarding crime prevention through environmental design had been shared. Tips like cutting down bushes and putting up video surveillance helped in one particular instance and had been shared on Pocket NextDoor. "It is useful. We got the picture. Everybody started looking out and we sent it to Capt. Paletta. He called the school resource officer at the local school. It turned out it was a wrist watch. The items went back. Everyone, aware of their surroundings and video surveillance, has helped. There's just so much more talking going on and whenever we solve a crime, we get more people coming onto the site," Kathi said.

With community prevention through environmental design in the community consciousness, neighbors also know the importance of being able to see through your front window, explains Kathi. "There's really things that can change your whole life: Never answer the door, but make noise ... put a padlock on your back gate."

Tips as these and many more can be found by joining your local NextDoor. To do so, visit nextdoor.com.

Pocket Library events

The hours for the Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library, 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.; Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For details, telephone the Sacramento Public Library at (916) 264-2920 or visit www.saclibrary.org.

PROM DRIVE Donations Accepted (Teen)

Thursday, April 7: Sacramento Public Library will once again help local students sashay their way across the dance floor this spring. Help us provide gently-used formal wear (dresses, tuxedos, suits, shoes, accessories) to local teens in need.

No Stay & Play OR Baby/Toddler Storytime this month (Early Childhood (0-5))

Thursday, April 7 at 11 a.m.: We are taking a storytime break this month, but will be back to our usual Tuesday & Thursday schedule on May 3 and 5th. Note that Mr. Cooper (and the preceding stay & play session) is still on for the last Tuesday of the month (April 26), so we hope to see you then!

AARP Tax Aide Assistance (Adult)

Thursday, April 7 at noon: AARP tax aides offer assistance to seniors and low- to moderate-income taxpayers at three library locations. Each year, the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide program offers free tax help to seniors and low- to moderate-income people of all ages at multiple locations around the city. Sacramento Public Library is proud to offer this service at three of our library locations in 2015. The program is coordinated by the City of Sacramento. Appointments are required, and can be made by calling 211. Operators can also schedule appointments for free tax help at the Hart Senior Center and several other locations around Sacramento. Arden-Dimick Library Wednesdays, 1 to 5 p.m. Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursdays, noon to 4 p.m. Valley Hi-North Laguna Library Tuesdays, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fridays, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Watercolors (Adult)

Friday, April 8 at 9:30 a.m.: A 6 week introductory course on watercolor painting taught by local artist Kathy Waste. No experience is necessary, just enthusiasm and interest. Please note that registration is required for this program as space is limited. Attendees should plan on attending all 6 sessions. This program is funded by a donation from Robbie Waters. Registration is required.

Knit Together (Adult)

Friday, April 8 at 1 p.m.: Love to knit? Want to learn to knit? Got a knitting problem you need advice or help to solve? The Library knitting group can help! Join them every Friday at 1pm for expert advice, great conversation and more. All crafters are welcome--not just knitters!

PROM DRIVE Donations Accepted (Teen)

Saturday, April 9 (all day): Sacramento Public Library will once again help local students sashay their way across the dance floor this spring.

Travel Photography: Tips & Tricks (Adult)

Saturday, April 9 at 1 p.m.: Learn how to prepare for photographing your travels and discover how to tell a story with your images. We'll review gear [camera, lenses, bags and accessories]; discuss best camera settings for different shooting conditions. We'll discuss photographing travel subjects such as architecture, water features, night scenes, cafes, food, people and other travel subjects. We'll review camera and equipment safety and insurance needs. Make your next travel adven-

ture a successful photography experience, take this class and be prepared! Please note that registration is required for this class as space is limited. William Miller is a bird photographer who has traveled extensively in the western United States. He teaches a wide range of photography topics, conducts local custom photo tours and conducts private one-on-one photography tutoring. Registration is required.

Read to a Dog (School Age (6-12))

Saturday, April 9 at 1 p.m.: Looking for a way to boost school-age reading skills? Join us in the library's Reading Tower area and practice reading out loud to a registered therapy dog (Marvin, the Wonder Corgi). Kids are invited to bring their own books or borrow one from our fabulous collection.

PROM DRIVE Donations Accepted (Teen)

Tuesday, April 12 (All Day): Sacramento Public Library will once again help local students sashay their way across the dance floor this spring. Help us provide gently-used formal wear (dresses, tuxedos, suits, shoes, accessories) to local teens in need.

No Stay & Play OR Baby/Toddler Storytime this month (Early Childhood (0-5))

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Books at Lunch for Middle Schoolers (Teen)

Tuesday, April 12 at 11:25 a.m.: SES 7th and 8th grades are invited to join a book discussion in the Teen Room at the library during lunch period (11:25-11:55). (Homeschoolers are welcome too!)

Introduction to Computers: Windows 7

Tuesday, April 12 at noon: Ready to take that first step and learn about computers? This three-session course will introduce the new user to computers, beginning with the components that make up a computer system and how to use a mouse and keyboard. This course also covers basic Windows 7 skills including starting programs and working with the desktop and windows. This is a three-part course that meets on Tuesday; the class will take place on March 22nd, March 29th, and April 12th. This program will use notebooks provided by the branch - attendees are encouraged to bring their own laptops, if available. Advance Registration is required. -registering for this course will register the attendee for all three sessions. This class is for adults. No prior experience with computers is required for this class. Register online or at the desk.

Job Coach (Adult)

Wednesday, April 13 at 1 p.m.: Get 1-1 help with your job search! Make an appoint-

ment to meet one on one with a volunteer job coach and get help with online job searching, using library databases, interviewing tips, resume writing and more. For questions or to schedule an appointment, please ask at the library service desk or call 916-264-2920.

Four Years to Go: Looking ahead to High School & College (Family/All Ages)

Wednesday, April 13 at 6:30 p.m.: It's never too early to prepare for life after high school. Learn what your options are and how best to prepare for them in this presentation by certified college counselor Marilyn van Löbensels for both parents and students. Find out what courses to take in high school, the standardized tests to take and what is required by different colleges. Participants will also learn how to maximize their summer vacation time and why community service hours can benefit more than just your grades. Parents will have the opportunity to learn how they can best support their children through the high school years and what they need to do to prepare for the college years. Registration for this program is encouraged at www.saclibrary.org, by calling 264-2920 or by visiting your local library. This program is sponsored by the Pocket-Greenhaven Friends of the Library. Registration is required.

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POLICE LOG

The information provided allows for a snapshot of significant events in our community. The crimes reported here are preliminary investigations, taken in the field by patrol officers, and may or may not be assigned to a detective for further investigation. The information provided may be found after further investigation to be incorrect or false. Certain details of these incidents have been removed due to potential follow up investigation into the incident and/or for privacy rights.

Reporting date: Thursday, March 17
(Burglary): 8200 block of Pocket Road at 8:31 a.m.

Unknown suspect(s) forced entry into the above business location, stole miscellaneous

items and fled. Officers arrived on scene and canvassed the area for evidence. A report was generated.

(Theft): 2300 block of Florin Road at 10:38 a.m.

The victim was walking in the above area when he was approached by a male suspect. The male suspect stole the victim's wallet from the victim's hand and fled on foot. No injuries were reported. Officers arrived on scene and canvassed the area for evidence. The investigation remains active.

Reporting date: Saturday, March 19

(Shooting): 6200 block of Fennwood Court at 8:36 p.m.

Officers responded on reports of multiple shots

heard in the area. Officers arrived on scene and located two adult victims who were not injured. Physical evidence of the shooting was located in the area and a canvass was conducted. A report was generated and follow up will be conducted.

Reporting date: Sunday, March 20

(Assault): 1500 block of Mcallister Avenue at 9:23 p.m.

Officers responded to reports of a shooting that occurred at the location. The adult victim reported being confronted by the unknown occupant of a vehicle who displayed a firearm and fired multiple rounds at the victim. The suspect vehicle then fled the area. The victim was not injured. Officers conducted a neighborhood canvass and documented the incident in a report.

Reporting date: Monday, March 21
(Traffic Stop): Florin Road and South Land Park Drive at 4:52 a.m.

Officers were patrolling the area when they conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle. A search revealed a firearm and narcotics. The adult suspect was arrested for felon in possession of a firearm and possession of a dangerous drug.

Reporting date: Tuesday, March 22

(Attempted Robbery): 4400 block of Del Rio Road at 7:21 p.m.

The victim was walking home from shopping and an older vehicle pulled up next to the victim. The passenger got out of the car and demanded his money and wallet. The victim refused and the suspect hit in the head with an unknown blunt object. A struggle ensued and the suspect got

back in the car and fled. A report was generated and the investigation remains active.

Reporting date: Monday, March 28

(Missing Person): 1000 block of E Landing Way at 4:36 p.m.

Officers responded to the report of an elderly adult male who had wandered away from his house. Ground units coordinated their response with AIR1. As officers were actively checking the area a separate call was received from the 7700 block of Silva Ranch Way where an elderly subject with minor injuries had been located near a residence in the area. It was determined that the injured male was the missing person from earlier. The male was transported to a nearby hospital as a precaution and reunited with his family.

Ashby:

Continued

to vote against the McKinley Village project?"

Ashby answered that many East Sacramento residents had approached her to explain the harmful aspects of the development. "A guy named Rob Finley, in particular, made a good case that the local school, Theodore Judah, would be badly impacted," she said. Also, the entrance and exit plans didn't look to her to be workable. She said she knew the city would never allocate money to build a tunnel to divert the development's heavy traffic from East Sacramento, and knew the developer was unwilling to pay to ameliorate traffic problems caused by his project. Finally, "all the neighborhood groups opposed it," she said. She listened to the neighborhood. She knew it would hurt her relationship with the developer, Phil Angelides, but she voted no. "He hasn't spoken to me since," she said.

Declaring that she wanted to replicate and expand her success in Natomas to the whole city, she prioritized her goals for Sacramento. "First, public safety." She explained that this included issues like monitoring drinking water (no Flint should happen here), and improve police and fire protection. "Employment and education" come next. She said we have to ask ourselves, "Do our young stay?" Are we creating and preserving a city

where they can build a future? Finally, "Quality of life." This is all encompassing issue, she asserted, and should inform all the land use decisions the city makes.

She told a story that showed attendee Barbara Ruona how Ashby might resolve disputes and solve problems citywide. Ashby said that at a meeting a young woman, a spokesperson from Black Lives Matter, screamed at her in rage. One of the issues being discussed was police behavior. After the meeting Ashby sought out the young woman; conversations began. She also talked with police. One officer, disturbed by accusations of bias, told her, "I don't have a racist bone in my body." Ashby put both sides together. "Her pain was real," Ashby said. "His feeling of being misjudged was real." Ruona said, "I liked the way she put that. She knows what's real and what's rhetoric. She puts the right people together." The outcome of the story also pleased the audience. Ashby has been invited and will attend the Black Lives Matter advocate's baby shower; her candidacy has been endorsed by the Sacramento Police Officers Association.

Listeners also liked her insights into homelessness (wrap around model housing paid with redevelopment funds and stepped up County efforts with mental health and child protective services). "The problem will be solved when the only people left on

the streets are the "chronic homeless"—people who simply can't live inside," she said. That population is estimated to be very small.

For all her persuasive skill, Ashby seemed at heart a policy wonk who went to the root causes of tangled issues and worked her way up and out. She listed achievements (after extensive study she wrote a "best practices" Police Oversight Review as part of an ethics reform process) without grandstanding, and educated without lecturing. One audience member said she was surprised to learn that sexual trafficking of young females occurred here, but felt confidence Ashby would find the best way to halt it. Janet Maira, who hosted the event, said through Ashby she learned more about the way the city worked, and learned that with the right leadership it could work better, and for everyone.

When the question period ended Ashby thanked people for attending. "This is a beautiful home," she said. "Yesterday I walked over needles and litter to another home in Del Paso Heights." Some issues differed, she said, but the goals were the same: safety, opportunity and quality of life.

After Ashby left her associate, Lynn Lenzi, gathered up flyers. Someone said Ashby had made a great impression. Lenzi looked up. "I'm not political," she said. "And I know when I'm getting a political answer. I've never gotten a political answer from her."

Belle Cooledge ice cream social set for May 20

By DENISE HOLMES

As always, the Friends of the Belle Cooledge Library will be treating everyone to yummy Vic's ice cream, including "muddy mocha" and "cookies and cream". Yum! Nate, the Children's Librarian, has lined up some special entertainment, including music from the Chicken Lips, magic by Trevor Wyatt and fun crafts with the ArtBeast. Fire Engine #13 will also be making an appearance. Belle Cooledge Park is right next to the library and the event is scheduled from 6-8 p.m. on May 20.

A major feature of our annual Ice Cream Social is the biggest and best book sale of the year. We have been receiving donated materials for months and we have sorted and selected the very best adult and children's books, CDs and DVDs just for you. Join bargain hunters and book lovers from all over town at the Belle Cooledge book sale. Beat the crowds and the book dealers and arrive early. There is a 10 percent discount on all purchases for Friends of the Library. Memberships start at \$10 for young people and \$15 for adults.

Special thanks to Councilmember Jay Schenirer and his assistant, Keilani Paneda. They helped us with permits and necessary equipment. Also, we would like to celebrate all the volunteers who have offered to set up, sell books, scoop ice cream and clean the park when it is over. Please consider becoming a member of the Friends of the Library. This is one of so many events we support every day.





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- Common Changes of Condition in the Elderly** – Wednesday, April 13, 11:00am-12:00pm; Free
- Overview and Management of Diabetes** – Friday, April 22, 10:00-11:30am; Free
- Understanding the Real Estate Process** – Tuesday, April 26, 10:00am-12:00pm; Free
- Lighting and Your Vision** – Friday, May 6, 10:00-11:00am; Free

For more information or to register, contact Anna Su at (916) 393-9026 or classes@accsv.org.

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Older Adult Choral Group to Sing their Hearts Out during April 10th "Sing for Joy: A Spring Choral Concert"

The spring concert is a part of the City of Sacramento's Older Adult Services and Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission's Creative Aging Choral Initiative

The Ethel MacLeod Hart Senior Center and the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission (SMAC) will be presenting "Sing for Joy: A Spring Choral Concert" showcasing the singing talents of *Singers with Hart*, a choral group comprised of forty singers age 50 plus, on Sunday, April 10, 2 to 4 p.m. at the 24th Street Theatre in the Sierra 2 Center for the Arts and Community, 2791 24th Street, in the beautiful Curtis Park neighborhood of Sacramento. The two-hour spring concert, which is free and open to the public, will feature traditional American and world folk music, classical and popular songs, along with contemporary choral favorites. This is a ticketed event. Pick up your free concert ticket by visiting the Hart Senior Center reception desk,

915 27th Street, in midtown Sacramento.

Singers with Hart is led by professional music director, Christiana Quick-Cleveland. Aside from being a fun activity, singing in a group can help older adults maintain an active mind by focusing on the music and learning new songs. Overall, the sense of belonging, camaraderie, and the thrill of performing contributes to a happier and more joyful outlook in life. According to Christiana, "When we sing together we synchronize our breathing and, in doing so, synchronize our hearts." The "Sing for Joy: A Spring Choral Concert" is the culmination of the choral group's 14-week session held at the Hart Senior Center.

For more information about "Sing for Joy: A Spring Choral Concert" or upcoming *Singers with Hart* sessions, visit the Hart Senior Center reception desk, call (916) 808-5462, or visit www.cityofsacramento.org/hartcenter.

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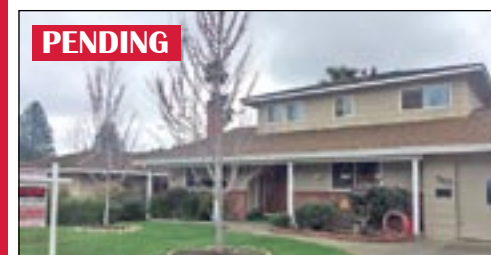
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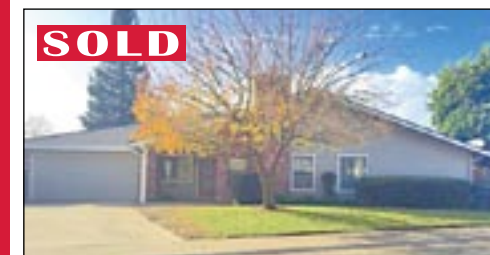
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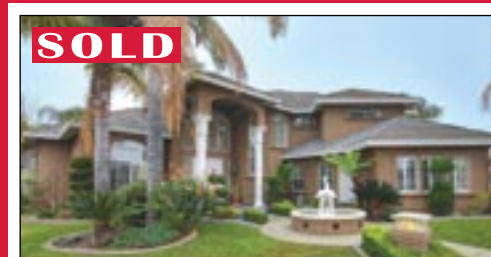
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Mining your gold: Write your family story

Calling all writers and aspiring writers! The Ninth Annual "Our Life Stories" Writers' Conference will be held Saturday, April 23, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at Cosumnes River College. Sponsored by the Hart Senior Center and CRC, the all-day conference will focus on memoir writing (particularly family stories) through genealogy. Topics of workshops and presentations at the one-day conference include doing basic genealogical research, writing creative non-fiction, using poetry to recreate memories, telling your family story through a blog, and using interviewing techniques to unlock the stories of someone's life.



Ginger Rutland

Ginger Rutland, journalist, commentator, and playwright, will serve as the keynote speaker.

The conference also includes presentations and workshops by celebrated authors, including Jacqueline Doyle, Dale Flynn, Jeff Knorr, and Ginny McReynolds and a genealogy presenta-

tion by the Sacramento Public Library's Beth Daugherty.

The conference fee of \$35 (\$40 after April 8th registration deadline) covers the morning refreshments, workshops, materials, and lunch. Space is limited! For registration information and additional details about the conference, call the Hart Senior Center at (916) 808-5462, e-mail hartcrewritersconference@yahoo.com.

See Rutland, page 14



Matias Bombal's Hollywood

By MATÍAS BOMAL

I Saw the Light

The MPAA has rated this R

Sony Pictures Classics offers "I Saw the Light" a screen visualization of the life of singer-songwriter Hank Williams, who in his tragically short career, made an indelible mark in country music in the USA with 33 hit song singles, 30 of which were in the Top Ten, including eight number one hits. This is the first of three movies to come out this month about music personalities of the past which coincidentally had substance abuse problems. The other two movies are about jazz legends Chet Baker and Miles Davis. Based on the book "Hank Williams: The Biography" by Colin Escott with George Merritt and William MacEwen, this movie's screen play was adapted and written by the director, Marc Abraham.

Tom Hiddleston stars as Williams, bringing the clearly defined music personality back to life for this movie. His somewhat domineering mother, Jessie Lillybelle Skipper Williams Stone, who was also his early manager, is played by Cherry Jones, who you may remember from the "Horse Whisperer" or "Erin Brockovich". The movie begins with a faux documentary approach, with men integral to Williams' career being interviewed about the singer in black and white and in a nice touch, the classic academy ratio of 1.37:1, a rather square screen shape. The production returns to this shape later in the feature for the clever recreations of Ko-

dachrome home movies of Williams' family, a nice element in a movie in which Tom Hiddleston is completely believable in the part he is playing.

Williams' life of wandering, drug and alcohol abuse destroyed much around him but he had moments of joy with one of his wives, Audrey, who was the mother of Hank Williams, Jr. Audrey fancied herself a singer and wanted much to be teamed with her husband in records and radio, but lacked the ability to hold a tune. She's played in the movie by Elizabeth Olsen.

During Williams' marriage to Audrey, what started as a little pain in his back would eventually be Hank's undoing. Suffering with Spina bifida occulta, Hank began to self-medicate, combining alcohol, morphine and chloral hydrate, eventually leading to a heart attack which took him at just 29 years of age in 1953, when en route to a performance.

We see the years 1944 to 1953 covered during the course of this movie, and it well establishes the feel of the period, recreating the mood and times from which Williams' singular voice became an indelible part of the passing parade. Hiddleston's own voice is used in the picture, rather than the actual Hank Williams recordings, and he does quite well, making you believe he is the genuine article.

Though there are uncomfortable moments to watch, Hiddleston really gives a great performance here and proves yet again what a great talent he is in the worlds of cinema. I hope you see this picture and enjoy his performance as much as I did.



Tom Hiddleston as Hank Williams with the Drifting Cowboys - Photo: Sam Emerson/Sony Pictures Classics

In Sacramento at the Tower Theatre.

Other theaters in Northern California: San Francisco: Landmark Clay, Century 9, AMC Van Ness, Stonetown Twin, Berkeley: Rialto Cinemas Elmwood, Pleasant Hill: Century 16, Menlo Park: Landmark Guild, San Jose: CineArts at Santana Row, San Rafael: Regency Cinemas 6, Monterey: Monterey Cinemas 16 and Santa Cruz: Nickelodeon.

For more information about "Matias Bombal's Hollywood", please visit: www.mabhollywood.com for exclusive content. #MABHollywood.

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MONTHLY EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR
Tuesday, April 19th At 2pm
"Caregiver Concerns: How Much Longer Can I Do This?"
Presented by: Stefani Wilson
Whether you are just beginning this chapter in your life or have been caring for a family member for years, this presentation will speak to that nagging question that oftentimes takes the backseat in our minds and hearts. Caring for a family member has many benefits yet we may wonder what is around the next corner while trying to focus on the blessings of the present situation. This constant back-and-forth contributes to compassion fatigue which drains your physical, mental and emotional energy. Let's explore where you are at today and how asking the right question will open doors to a strategy that activates self-awareness, identifies options to relieve today's challenges, and reduces worry about what may be around the next corner.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR
Thursday, April 28th At 5:30pm
Time Matters: "A Women's Retirement Outlook Seminar"
Presented by: Michael DePhillippis and Edward Jones
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Rutland:

Continued from page 12

com, or visit the conference website <http://hart-crcwriter-conference.org/>.

Ginger Rutland began her journalism career in television, first as a general assignment reporter for a Sacramento station and later as the state capitol reporter for the NBC affiliate in San Francisco. After seventeen years in television, she switched to print, joining the editorial board of The Sacramento Bee. While at The Bee, she also recorded regular commentaries for Capitol Public Radio. Amidst the torrent of headline issues she tackled, from immigration to homelessness, nuclear power to global warming, political races to pesticide poi-

soning, Ginger also writes about her mother, father, sisters and brother, intimate stories about her family, and her life beyond the newsroom. It's this softer side of her career she will share with you.

Workshops: 2016 "Our Life Stories" Writers' Conference Discover your Ancestors: Beginning Genealogy and Library Resources with Beth Daugherty—

In order to start writing about your ancestor, you might first need to gather more information about that person's life. This workshop will introduce you to the basics of genealogical research and give you the tools you need to get started. Also highlighted in this presentation will be the wide variety of free resources the Sac-

ramento Public Library makes available to the family history researcher. From lectures to databases and more, the library is ready to help!

The Art of "Perhaps" in Flash Nonfiction with Jacqueline Doyle—You may be working from a photograph, or a family anecdote, or a handful of letters. How do you fill in the gaps of what you don't know? In this workshop we will work on "perhaps" or imaginative speculation in short form creative nonfiction. Please bring a photograph of a relative or relatives from a previous generation (your grandparents' wedding picture, for example, or a snapshot of your parents when they were younger than you are now, or a portrait of an ancestor, or a picture of a relative you don't know).

Turning Your Research into Compelling Stories with Dale Flynn—Creative nonfiction is very popular now. We will talk about what creative nonfiction is (how we tell fact from fiction) and how to write it. In particular, we will look at strategies for turning the dry facts we uncover when we do research into compelling stories that others will want to read.

Memories, Memoirs, and Building the Past with Gerald

Haslam—"Everything we write filters through our own lives whether we want that or not, so it's important to learn to use it to our advantage." Whether writing for personal use or for publication, you want to start from a base of truth and rigorous observation. Moreover, reflecting on and writing about your life can lead to insight and cull illusion. You might, for example, relate the adventures of your family's life into larger historical patterns. Become an observer: watch, listen, sniff and exaggerate a little if you must. Give readers life through your personal prism.

Writing Poems from Memory: Our Stories as a Matter of Craft with Jeff Knorr—In our memories, we all have very rich histories, yet each of us remembers and reconstructs these histories differently. The process of recalling the events and shaping them into language is one that is both inherently creative and intellectual. While we may work from our own sense of memory, we may also find ourselves researching personal and family events for the "truth" of the moments we use in our work. This workshop will offer exercises for accessing memory and offer tools for re-creating them on the page as poetry.

Blogging and Genealogy: Telling Your Family's Story 500 Words at a Time with Ginny McReynolds—Blogs are a perfect way to share your story with a broad audience, whether it's a general group or specific people you choose. This workshop will introduce you to the tool of online blogging as a perfect way to tell your family's story. In addition to tips for writing compelling blog posts, we will discuss what to include, how to find your audience, and creative ways to add visual elements to your story. We will also look at the basics of blogging, including finding a domain name and a blog host, increasing your readership, and becoming a guest blogger on other sites.

Every Family, Every Person Has a Story with Ginger Rutland—Using key questions as an interviewer, you will have the opportunity to explore some of the most significant events, people, places, and things of someone's life. Life stories are not always made of earth shattering, headline events, but quiet, personal moments that touched us or made us laugh or cry. What were yours? You will learn the key to unlocking the stories of someone's life.

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CALENDAR

APRIL

Sacramento SPCA's 23rd Annual Doggy Dash

April 9: Join the Sacramento SPCA for the 23rd Annual Doggy Dash and Bark at the Park Festival, where an estimated 5,000 animal enthusiasts will gather both with and without their canine companions to raise funds for animals sheltered at the Sacramento SPCA. Come for the 2k or 5k walk, and stay for the SPCAs Bark at the Park Festival, where you can enter your canine pal in the Pup Show, high-flying disc contest, or the ever-popular pug races! Watch canine demonstrations, participate in a variety of canine contests, visit with pet-friendly businesses, learn about Sacramento-area animal rescue organizations, or sit back and just enjoy all of the action. Walk registration begins at 8:30 a.m.; Bark at the Park Festival, from 9 a.m. until approximately 1 p.m. Walk begins at 10 a.m. Where: William Land Park, Village Green Area in Sacramento. Why: Proceeds from the Doggy Dash will help the Sacramento SPCA care for more than 7,000 homeless animals in 2016. Whether you choose to bring a canine companion or invite a two-legged friend, mark your calendar and join us for Doggy Dash and the Bark at the Park Festival. Register as a solo participant, start a team or join an existing team. Registration fees start at \$30 per person. For additional information or to register, visit www.sspca.org/Dash. For questions about Doggy Dash, please call (916) 504-2802 or email specialevents@sspc.org.

Overview of senior legal hotline services

April 12: For over 20 years, the Senior Legal Hotline has provided advice and counsel at no cost to Sacramento area residents over age 60. Learn about the Hotline and its various programs, including pension counseling, mediation service and the most common legal issues for seniors. Also, learn about other

er other services available from Legal Services of Northern California for low income seniors. Free of charge. Pre-registration required. Class will be held on Tuesday, April 12 from 10 to 11 a.m. at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more details, call (916)393-9026 ext 330, www.accs.org

Common changes of condition in the elderly

April 13: This presentation will discuss why it is important to recognize changes in symptoms of conditions in the elderly and the types of symptoms home care aides should report. Different scenarios and possible outcomes will be discussed with tips provided to caregivers. Free of charge. Pre-registration required. Class will be held on Wednesday, April 13 from 11 a.m. to noon at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more details, call (916)393-9026 ext 330, www.accs.org

Music at noon

April 13: Free music programs, offered at Westminster Presbyterian Church at noon

on Wednesdays. This week enjoy music by The Black Cedar Trio (flute, cello, guitar).

Root Cellar Sacramento Genealogical Society

April 14: The general meeting will be held at Christ Community Church, 5025 Manzanita Ave., Carmichael. From 6:15 to 7 p.m., there will be a pre-meeting with informal discussions. Folks can ask questions, share brick walls, find others who are researching in your geographical areas. Then, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Dr. Bob LaPerriere will present on the following topic: "Gold Rush Medicine." Dr. Bob is a retired physician and well-known local historian. His fascinating presentation describes the devastating diseases that were prevalent in the mid-19th century and the "advanced" medical treatments of the time which included bleeding, cupping, and the use of arsenic and mercury. Visitors always welcome! For more information, go to info@rootcellar.org

Kaiser Permanente to offer eye screenings for free cataract surgeries

April 16: Kaiser Permanente physicians and staff in Sacramento will offer screenings for area residents who may be eligible for free cataract surgeries that will be performed this spring.

The screenings, by appointment only, will be on Saturday, April 16 at the Kaiser Permanente Point West Medical Offices, 1650 Response Road. The surgeries are part of Mission Cataract USA, an annual program in which participating doctors provide the sight-restoring procedure to hundreds of people across the nation who have no health insurance and can't afford the operation. This is Kaiser Permanente's 21th year in the program. Kaiser Permanente physicians and staff will perform as many as 20 free cataract surgeries on eligible individuals in early May. Annual service is for Sacramento-area residents who are uninsured. Screening appointments can be made until the available slots fill up. To sign up for the screening, or to request more information, call: (916) 973-7159.

Music at noon

April 20: Free music programs, offered at Westminster Presbyterian Church at noon on Wednesdays. This week enjoy music by Men of Worth with James Keigher and Donnie Macdonald; Irish.

Birding in Alaska to be topic at Audubon meeting

April 21: Planning a birding trip to Alaska? Ed Harper, an expert birder who has made many trips to the 49th state, will present a program on the more accessible hot spots and the birds and other crea-

tures you're likely to see there at the April 21 meeting of the Sacramento Audubon Society. In addition to learning about the Spectacled Eider, Northern Wheat-eater, and Arctic Warbler, be prepared for Moose, Musk Ox, and Grizzly Bear! He'll cover visits to Seward, Homer, and Denali National Park, a boat excursion to Kenai Fjords National Park, and trips to other good birding places. The public is invited to the 7 p.m. meeting at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center in Ancil Hoffman Park (For directions, see sacnaturecenter.com.) There will be no charge for the program, and no park entry fee.

Diabetes academy educational series

April 22: Diabetes 101 is a series of three classes dealing with diabetes. The first class to be held on April 22 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. will be an overview of diabetes and its management. The second class to be held on May 19 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. will be on checking, managing and coping with your blood sugar and diabetes. The third class to be held on June 7 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. will be on meal planning and carb counting. Free of charge. Pre-registration required. Class will be held at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more details, call (916)393-9026 ext 330, www.accs.org

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Helicopter dropped eggs for Easter at Riverside Wesleyan

By SCOTT STEVENSON
Photos by STEPHEN CROWLEY

On the morning of Saturday, March 19, the Riverside Wesleyan Church congregation rallied together and brought an Easter spectacle to the church lawn, on the corner of Riverside Boulevard and Florin Road.

Inflatables, face painting, door prizes and donuts were all part of the free community event...but that wasn't all!

Anyone in the vicinity heard and felt the rumble, the wind and the screams of laughter from the over 500 people in attendance, as over 5,000 Easter eggs were dumped from a helicopter hovering over the lawn at fifty feet.

The drop itself took about seven minutes, as the helicopter hovered above, and the kids swooped up the eggs in seconds. They even offered a special, separate egg hunt for kids, three and under.

A pastor at Riverside Wesleyan, said this, "People came from all over to be a part of

the action. Our single aspiration was to create a safe, fun and off-the-wall experience that served our community. So people showed up and they connected. I think it really showed the community what kind of church we are. We want to serve families, of all kinds, and this event showcased that. It was a huge success! This will definitely become an annual event for us."

The church has so much to offer the community! From young families to empty nesters to young professionals and everyone in between...there's something for you at Riverside!

Riverside Wesleyan Church is a Bible-believing, Bible-teaching faith community located at 6449 Riverside Blvd. The church serves people from all walks of life, all backgrounds and circumstances.

For more information on the church, check out their website at rwcsac.org, as well as their social media pages on Instagram (@rwcsac) and Facebook.



More egg drop photos

Continued from page 18



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www.rwcsac.org

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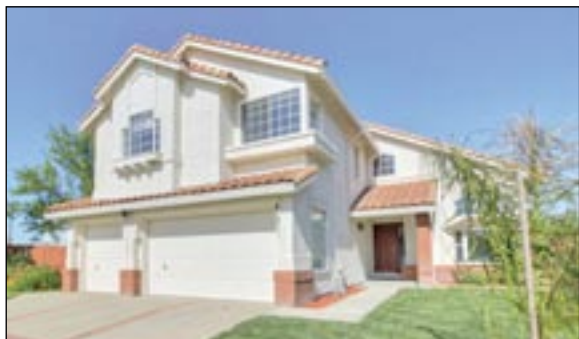
MONA GERGEN 247-9555



SOUTH LAND PARK HILLS

Delightful home is perfect for outdoor living with the large sparkling pool, personal hot tub and outdoor grill. 3 bedrooms 2½ baths, 1725 sf lovingly maintained. Spacious open floor plan. Paradise is a personal thing but this might be yours!
\$519,000

SHEILA VAN NOY 505-5395



FABULOUS ELK GROVE

Amazing home and lot in highly desired Elk Grove neighborhood. 3 or 4 bedrooms 3 full baths. Spectacular 1.25 acre lot. 65 fruit trees all on drip system. Upgrades include interior/exterior paint, refinished cabinets, dishwasher, stove, whole house fan. Spacious 3 car garage.
\$425,000

MONA GERGEN 247-9555



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
\$449,000

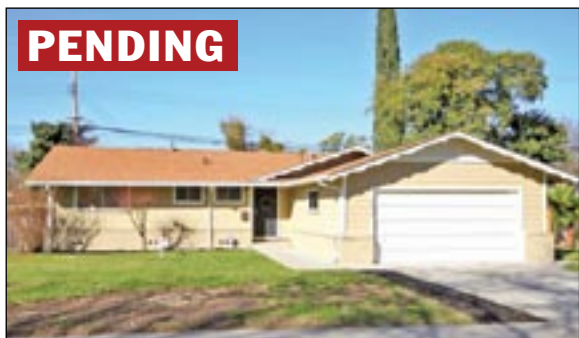
PAULA SWAYNE 925-9715



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.
\$398,000

CHRIS BRIGGS 834-6483



GOLF COURSE TERRACE

Beautifully updated four bedroom home located in a nice neighborhood. Refinished real hardwood floors, painted kitchen cabinets, updated bathrooms and more. Great open floor plan. Private yard with patio. Near Bing Maloney Golf Course, downtown, and shopping.
\$260,000

MONA GERGEN 247-9555



INVESTOR SPECIAL

Remodeled 2 bedroom, 2 bath halfplex with tenant in place ... and this tenant would like to stay! Newer tile in interior. New roof and gutters in 2012. Seller would prefer an investor buyer who will allow tenant to stay in place.
\$132,500

CHRIS BRIGGS 834-6483



FOULKS RANCH ELK GROVE

Better look at this! Open and bright 3 bedroom 2 bath home that has a big backyard. Pretty laminate flooring and a newer roof plus...easy walk to Foulks Ranch Elementary School. So close to shopping, parks, greenbelts, freeways and public transportation. Call today!
\$299,000

SHEILA VAN NOY 505-5395

for current home listings, please visit:

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