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Letter to the Editor

Don't penalize parents for dropping off or picking up their kids from McClatchy HS

Response to Letter from Art Taylor, Land Park News, Sept. 14

Dear Editor,

Parents, teachers, and friends who are associated with 80-year old McClatchy High School care deeply about the safety of our students and appreciate the Land Park neighborhood where it is located. Scores of students live in Land Park and neighboring communities. Students come to and from McClatchy many different ways. Some walk, some bike, some drive, some take public transit. And, many others are dropped off and picked up by parents or friends.

Dropping off and picking up students in the circular driveway of McClatchy High School is not always possible and not always safe due to the large number of vehicles entering the driveway and the associated congestion on Freeport Blvd. And, at some hours of the day, it is not even possible to enter the driveway, much less stop and wait for students to be picked up.

It is much safer and much easier to drop off students and pick students up on streets in the immediate vicinity of McClatchy High School. These streets include, but are not limited to 7th Avenue, 8th Avenue, 19th Street, Bidwell Way, and 5th Avenue.

The current No Parking Restrictions without the possession of an "L" permit creates a hardship to those parents and friends who drop off students in the morning or who pick them up in the afternoon. There is usually no problem with the drop off of students in the morning, but there has been a problem in the afternoon, generally between the hours of 3:00 and 3:30 P.M. Last year and this year, city parking officers have threatened to give tickets to many parents, like me, who are merely sitting in our cars, waiting for our kids. We are not blocking driveways; we are not blocking lanes of oncoming traffic. We are just waiting for our kids.

Technically, we are not even "parking"; we are "standing" or "waiting." The Sacramento City Code doesn't have definitions for parking, standing, or waiting. So, one can look at the California Vehicle Code. Section 463 provides that "Park or parking" shall mean the standing of a vehicle, whether occupied or not, **otherwise than temporarily for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or unloading merchandise or passengers."** (emphasis added) That definition clearly fits our situation and demonstrates that we are not parking – we are temporarily engaged for the purpose of or are actually loading passengers into our cars.

In my opinion, there are two possible solutions to this neighborhood parking problem. Extend the 1-hour parking restriction to all of the streets surrounding McClatchy High School or advise the city parking patrol officers that people who are waiting to pick up students are not actually parking and should not be ticketed or be threatened with being ticketed.

Mr. Taylor and the Land Park Community Association, should also keep in mind that McClatchy HS parents are also tax-payers and many live in Land Park. Waiting to pick up students on residential streets does nothing to erode property values in Land Park. On the contrary, the proximity to fine schools like McClatchy High School enhances property values. Let's work together to maintain good relationships between McClatchy and Land Park neighbors who live nearby.

Teven Laxer, Resident of Land Park and South Land Park for nearly 30 years and parent of two McClatchy HS students (past and present)



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Cat-Only Clinics Most Suited for Man's Second-Best Friend

By JOE PERFECTO

In the US the domestic cat is ingrained in the human psyche as an archetypical household pet. C-A-T is even among the first words toddlers learn to spell. The species is ubiquitous across the American landscape. Cruise down most any local street and they can be spotted in short order—perched on the sill of a living room window, lounging on a shaded spot of lawn, taking in the scene with round yellow eyes from under cover of low shrubbery or a parked vehicle, or strolling down an urban alleyway. They have a substantial presence in cyberspace as well, accounting for at least 15 percent of online traffic. Then there's the vast array of cat-themed clothing, jewelry, coffee mugs, tote bags, stockings, greeting cards, makeup, books and other publications—the list goes on indefinitely. In fact, the cat is the second most popular companion animal in the US (behind freshwater fish), with more than 94 million across 47 million households, compared to about 90 million dogs in 60 million households.

There is no doubt that America *loves* its cats. Most owners consider a companion cat, in May Sarton's words, to be a "fur person"—a member of the family in every sense of the term, witness the $67 *billion* expended on these animals in 2016, with almost $3 billion of that for cat treats alone. Yet despite all of the treats, gourmet foods, toys, plush beds, catnip, jeweled collars and sundry other accoutrements lavished on these pampered felines, how well do their owners *really know* them? With regard to arguably the most important provision of all—healthcare—the answer is "*not so well*," and this can lead to serious consequences, the most troubling being a lessened quality of life and even a shortened lifespan for a beloved pet.

Yet for all their popularity, cats are widely misunderstood. While most types of household pets require healthcare management, for cats both *quantity* and *quality* are especially important. Not only should cats have regular checkups, the type of vet practice where they occur matters greatly. Despite a host of differences in both physiology and temperament between cats and dogs, cats are under-represented in veterinary emphasis as small-animal veterinary training focuses mainly on dog care, and thus a general practice clinic is seldom the best fit. The species *felis catus* possesses a raft of unique characteristics that are in fact best addressed by practitioners devoted primarily—even exclusively—to feline care. Recognition of these specific needs gave rise to the early 1970s emergence of *cat-only* clinics, where every aspect of the cat's visit—from atmosphere to handling technique—seeks to produce maximal benefit and minimal stress for pet and owner alike.

Of about 500 such clinics across the US, five are within 50 miles of downtown Sacramento, the closest being River City Cat Clinic at 2617 Riverside Blvd. Believed to be the second-oldest such clinic in the country, RCCC is in its 46th year of continuous operation. Founded as Veterinary Practice Limited to Cats in 1972 by Robert M. Powell, DVM, the practice was sold in 2001 to Jon Wolfson, DVM and again in 2015 to Wendy Salaguinto, DVM, an associate at RCCC since 2011.



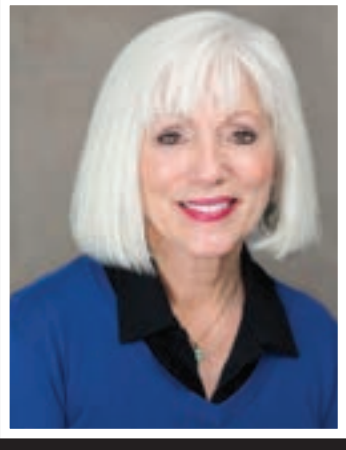
Photo by Joe Perfecto

The clinic has occupied the same Land Park site for nearly 50 years, but is unfamiliar to many locals.

One distinction of cat-only clinics is a less-hectic setting. Arrival at a general-practice clinic can be traumatic for a cat; the sights, sounds and smells of dogs are typically overwhelming. And all this before even enduring the vet's poking and prodding. A cat's primary instinct is to escape this hostile environment—and being powerless to flee can cause increased agitation. Stress is a critical factor, as it can affect not only ease of handling, but blood pressure and even test results, and where treatment and hospitalization are involved, it can decrease appetite and delay healing. "Cats are very sensitive creatures," said Dr. Salaguinto. "Most are very cautious with strangers, and many never leave the familiar walls of their own home." In marked contrast to the standard vet clinic, the cat-only practice is designed to minimize stressors. Sound levels are low overall, and in addition to there being fewer unfamiliar odors, a synthetic facial pheromone (e.g. Feliway) that mimics what the cat rubs on people and objects in a familiar environment is diffused throughout the clinic for its calming effect.

In addition, every staff member is trained in reading cats' behavior and in handling them in a non-threatening way. "Regardless of how good you think you are with cats, there's a lot to learn about body language, etc.," said Dr. Heather Kennedy, who joined RCCC in 2015. A cat perceives the clinic as a dangerous place, and improper handling will likely produce a fight-or-flight response; the cat will lash out and possibly injure the vet, assistant and even itself. Thanks to an in-depth understanding of cats, handling-based injuries at RCCC are essentially unheard of. Just as important,

See Cat Clinic, page 10



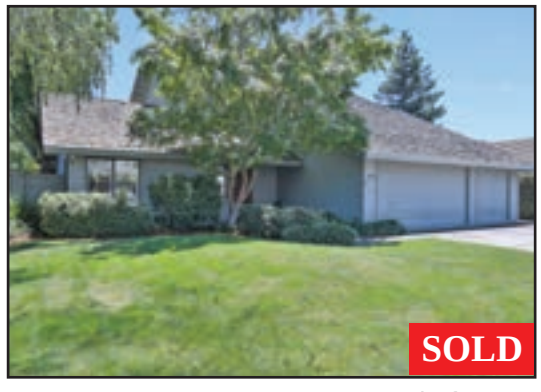
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My Sister's House High Tea set for Oct. 21

By DEBBIE ETO

My Sister's House is having their annual High Tea, October 21, 2017. The High Tea was created to raise some additional funds for My Sister's House and second to outreach to religious leaders about domestic violence and the services My Sister's House provide. Nilda Valmores, the Director of "My Sister's House" said this is the 10th year of the High Tea. "At My Sister's House High Tea we have good food, good fun, and meet with good friends. Table hostesses or organization sponsors decorate the table and the entire audience votes for the best decorated table. Awards are given out to the best decorated tables. There is also entertainment (Showstoppers Choir), a silent auction and a raffle of a jewelry item donated by Sharif's jewelers, and sharing by one of My Sister's House survivors."

My Sister's House is a non-profit, that helps victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. Established in 2001, My Sister's House has helped over 4,000 victims re-enter their lives as whole people. Their programs and services include a 24 Hour Helpline to assist callers with crisis intervention, safety, information, resources and general support. The Safe Haven Shelter Program assists women and children fleeing from domestic violence and human trafficking. The shelter provides a safe environment for the residents. Also, My Sister's House operates a 6 bed transitional house and recently opened a shelter for victims of human trafficking focused upon massage parlor and brothel victims. The Women To Work Program helps survivors of domestic violence move forward with their lives. The program provides services so they can become self supportive. Services include health Information and referrals, transportation, clothing, child care, housing assistance, employment, guidance, legal assistance and counseling.

My Sister's House also sponsors "Run For A Safe Haven". It's a 5K run that goes around William Land Park. Approximately 1000 people participate. This year's Run is November 4th. For more information contact www.my-sisters-house.com, 916-930-0626.

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Thousands of children in California's Foster Care System require temporary out-of-home care

By JAN DALSKE

There are estimated to be over 65,000 children in our state, and over 3,000 in the Sacramento area, who require temporary out-of-home care due to parental neglect, abuse, or exploitation. The largest percentages are African American and Latino children. Some may stay in foster care for just weeks, but, many of them will remain there for years. The children are of all ages and have a variety of needs, most importantly they need a stable home. They can no longer remain with their birth parents.

Foster parents provide a supportive and stable family for children who cannot live with their birth parents until family problems are resolved. In most cases, foster parents work with social services staff to reunite the child with birth parents. Foster parents often provide care to many different children. You must be certified to become a foster parent. Adults from the age of 18 to retirement age are welcome, as long as their health, energy, and desire are appropriate.

A license is required to operate a foster home. The process requires a licensing worker to visit your home and meet with you and other family members. Minimum personal, safety and space requirements are required by law. Foster parents work with social services staff to determine the type of child best suited for their home. There may be health issues. Some families may have preference for a boy, and some prefer girls. Foster parents receive a monthly payment to feed, clothe, and meet the material needs of the children placed in their care. Medical and dental coverage is provided through the Medi-Cal program. Foster parents who work outside the home must make appropriate child care arrangements.

The preferred placement of children who require out-of-home care is with relatives. If securing a home with relatives is not a possibility, foster parents and other caretakers can provide a supportive and stable environment for children who cannot live with their birth parents until family problems are resolved. In most cases, the foster parents and care providers work with social services staff to reunite the child with birth parents. Foster parents often provide care to many different children.

Children who require out-of-home care generally come under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court. The juvenile dependency process involves a series of hearings and case reviews which may result in foster care placement, including placement with relatives. County placing agencies have indicated a particular need for foster homes that will provide homes for adolescents, for homes that have enough room to permit siblings to stay together, and for homes that may be used on an emergency shelter basis.

In some cases, children may require more intensive structured care. These children may be placed in licensed community care facilities that may have from six beds to more, or, in a much larger institution. These group homes offer individualized treatment. To become a group home provider, contact your local county welfare office.

In addition to children placed in foster family homes and group homes, foster family agencies provide another placement resource. Agencies are licensed to provide certified family homes for children who require more services than are provided in foster family homes, yet these homes are less structured than group homes.

Paradise Oaks Youth Services (POYS), a local Foster Family agency has been providing foster care services since 1993. They continue to certify foster families who are committed to providing safe and caring homes for foster children. All prospective foster parents interested in becoming certified with POYS must go through a screening and certification process. They will receive training, and be supported and monitored to ensure compliance with accreditation and Community Care Licensing standards. If you are interested in learning more about their program, they can be reached at 916-550-2841.



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McClatchy High's new, $4.5 million track, field on course for completion by next month

By LANCE ARMSTRONG
lance@valcomnews.com

C.K. McClatchy High School's dream of having a new, all-weather track and field is about to become a reality.

Rob Feickert, McClatchy's longtime athletic director, stated that this $4.5 million project is on course to be completed by next month.

"From everything I'm being told, we're right on budget, right on time," he said. "Everything should be done no later than Nov. 1."

That schedule includes an Oct.13 completion of the field. And included in the project are the installation of turf, the addition of hash marks and numbers and the creating of end zones for football, and the addition of lines for soccer.

Last week, a 4-foot fence was being placed around the track, Feickert noted.

The overall project is being funded through $2.5 million from Measure Q and $2 million from Measure R.

Although its status is about to change, McClatchy High is currently one of only two high schools in the Sacramento City Unified School District without all-weather tracks and fields.

Among the latter high schools in the district that added all-weather facilities were Rosemont, Luther Burbank and John F. Kennedy high schools.

Feickert mentioned that McClatchy's new track will be a very significant upgrade from the school's old, dirt track, which was subject to flooding and damage during the rainy seasons.

"That (dirt track was) what we had for years," he said. "It flooded. The (physical education) department, the athletic teams, they used the area. I would say a quarter of the track on good days (during the rainy season) was under water. Then we would get the neighborhood kids. Why would (they) not want to go through a big puddle on their bikes? And then when it would dry up, it would just (leave) natural ruts in the dirt track."

And in what Feickert referred to as the "perfect storm," the school's soccer programs moved to the winter during the 2016-17 school year, during which time major storms hit the area.

"We were only able to play on campus for four home soccer games," he said. "Between the boys and the girls, there are probably about 22 (home games). So, it just once again drove the need to have an all-weather facility."

Feickert said that the process of creating an all-weather field included creating drainage systems and using large, vibrating rollers to compact the field.



The athletic track at C.K. McClatchy High School will be completed by Nov. 1.

As for the overall cost of this project, Feickert noted that significant savings were experienced.

"Because of how quickly they had to move on it, the insurance, project manager was already on our campus with the theater build, so they were able to do some stuff," he said. "And there was a field that Sierra College refused that was available at a reduced cost. That helped us out, because Sierra College is the same color scheme as McClatchy."

Feickert noted that McClatchy is hoping that there will be a second phase to its track and field project.

One of the more significant parts of that phase would be to move the varsity baseball field about 30 or 40 feet to the south. That action would allow space for the installation of bleachers and stadium lights for the track and field.

An issue with winter soccer at McClatchy is that with four teams, scheduling for games is much more challenging without a lighted field.

Feickert, a 1983 graduate of Sacramento High School, said that with the addition of lights, a better balance would be created that involves student athletes gaining more time in the classrooms.

And in addressing McClatchy's desire to be "good neighbors," Feickert said that the lights would generally not remain on beyond 8 p.m.

"There might be a couple special occasions where (the lights) might be on later than that, but we're going to be very conscious of our neighbors and what the lights could bring to the neighborhood," he said.

A community meeting to discuss the project and thank neighbors for their patience during construction will be held in the school's library on Oct. 16 at 6 p.m.

With McClatchy's current track and field project nearing completion, Johnson High will soon be the district's last remaining high school to be void of an all-weather track and field.

Feickert mentioned that McClatchy's Restore the Roar booster club has been exploring ways to support Johnson's efforts toward

See Track, page 7

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Shown is a recent view of the under construction C.K. McClatchy High School track and field.



Photos courtesy of C.K. McClatchy High School
Construction is nearing completion at the school's track and field facility.

Track:

Continued from page 6

adding its own all-weather track and field.

"I think it's just going to be a win-win for everybody that we continue to improve the Sac City Unified District's athletic (facilities), not only at the high school, but at the middle school level and the elementary (school level), because they're used all the time by different organizations," he said. "And if everybody has similar programs and similar fields, we now become a little bit nicer."

As for future developments of McClatchy's track, which will be open to the community in the evenings and weekends, Fleet Feet donated $10,000.

Feickert said that a need exists to raise funds for equipment for McClatchy's new track, since those funds were not included in the project's initial funding.

"We are now in full, kind of fundraising mode to raise funds for (various track) equipment," he said. "Probably our number one priority is (a type) of throw rug that you put down in front of the track for the kids to go from the concrete onto the throw rug onto the grass. They're about close to $600 with tax and we're looking to buy four of them."

Feickert also mentioned that the track is in need of new starting blocks, hurdles, hurdle and block carriers, and pole vault and high jump landing pads.

"The pole vault pads are $25,000 alone, the high jump pads are up to $10,000," he said. "Hurdles are about $200 apiece. We would like to have close to 80 of them, so if we ever do run a track meet, that we have all the equipment."

Altogether, this equipment, along with several other items on the athletic department's "wish list," will cost about $75,000, Feickert said.

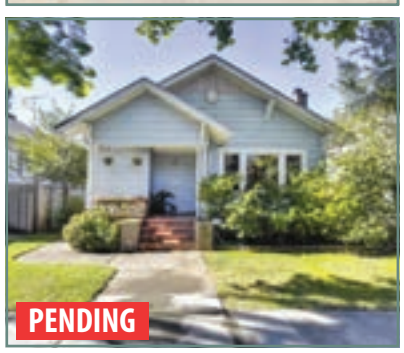
Despite its remaining track needs, Feickert noted that the overall storyline of the project is a positive one, which is celebrated by McClatchy High and the community.

And in pondering the reality of McClatchy's future track and field, Feickert said that he continues to have his moments of disbelief.

"I still kind of pinch myself a little bit that it's actually happening," he said. "I'm real excited."


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Photos by STEPHEN CROWLEY
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Mothers, grandmothers, and others looking for quality special event and evening wear, a selection of beautiful fashions were modeled by Los Ninos Service League member volunteers at the Casa Garden restaurant on Sutterville Road on Sept. 25.

Patrons enjoyed a complimentary glass of wine or champagne on the terrace during the ceremony, which was followed by a lunch inside the beautiful garden room. Menu choices included rosemary crusted turkey breast or salmon Caesar salad, followed by a decadent slice of wedding cake. For more information, visit www.casagarden.org or call 452-2809.













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Cat Clinic:

Continued from page 3

all staff are "cat people" who have chosen to work exclusively with felines. "The cats can tell who is and who isn't a 'cat person'—I think they sense it in our energy," said Dr. Salaguinto, whose home menagerie includes five of them. Dr. Kennedy's relationship with cats began practically at birth. "We've had cats my entire life," she said, and she has a long history of fostering and working with cats and kittens in a variety of ways.

The exam is optimized as well. Exam rooms are of open design, with no tight spaces where a cat might wedge itself, and to minimize discomfort, exam tables are heavily padded. At RCCC, each consultation is allocated 30 minutes instead of the usual 10-15, Dr. Salaguinto said, because it "allows cats time to adjust to the sight/smells of the exam room and to get used to our voice as we chat with their owners." The staff's increased experience and currency of feline-specific medical knowledge also mean a more comprehensive exam. Due to the sheer volume of cats seen, and feline-specific academic training and continuing education, feline-only vets have a decided edge over non-specific practitioners. "By focusing on just cats, we see far more feline patients than an average dog/cat veterinarian," said Dr. Salaguinto. "Also, most small animal veterinary training focuses on dogs. Cats are not small dogs. With less training and [fewer] cat visits per day, it can be a challenge for mixed-practice veterinarians to treat cats."

While all DVMs are qualified for general practice, and many for feline-specific medicine, some—such as the vets as RCCC—have the added benefit of academic distinction. Dr. Salaguinto graduated from Purdue in the top 10% of her class; Dr. Kennedy earned her DVM at UC Davis, currently the nation's highest-rated vet school. A few feline-only DVMs take training even further. Among DVMs is an elite group of ne-plus-ultra practitioners known as ABVP-boarded Diplomates, who are certified by the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners; there are just 69 worldwide and 59 in the US. Dr. Kennedy is pursuing such certification and upon completion of the rigorous program would become the region's second Feline Practice Diplomate (the other practices in nearby Carmichael).

Attaining all this specialized knowledge exacts great determination and effort from students pursuing strictly feline medicine. As small-animal academia is weighted primarily toward canine health since dogs are seen far more often in clinics, including those at vet schools, canine research is common; in contrast, by force of circumstance feline research is not. As a result, many students may choose to avoid a feline focus. Those who persist must take full advantage of available training resources. The fourth year of vet school, dedicated to practical experience but emphasizing dog care, requires students to seek out "externships" with cat-only clinics, which are scarce in many parts of the country. RCCC provides this opportunity to UC Davis students; one RCCC extern explained that students must choose a "track" (specialty) in their third year, but as a feline-only track does not exist, externships are very valuable for filling that educational gap. RCCC also employs three UC Davis students on Saturdays and during the summers.

While clinic environment and training address owners' procrastination over bringing a cat in for an exam, as well as provide optimal healthcare, after a nearly 50-year history cat-only clinics are still largely unknown to the cat-owning public. In addition, although cats should have a complete exam at least annually (including bloodwork for those aged eight and above), often pets are seen less frequently; a study conducted by Bayer Health Care indicated that 52% of cats in the US do not receive regular care (Dr. Kennedy contends the number is much higher). Major factors include cats' independent nature and what Dr. Salaguinto describes as a "unique ability to hide illness." Ironically, since many life-threatening feline diseases only produce symptoms at advanced stages, by the time an afflicted cat is diagnosed the prognosis is often grim.

In some cases symptoms such as vomiting do appear early on but are seen as normal. "It is *not* normal for cats to vomit," Dr. Kennedy said. "If we can't find the reason [for it], we keep looking." Anything beyond just a rare occurrence should be investigated as it can indicate a long list of serious issues, including cancer, hyperthyroidism, inflammatory bowel disease, kidney disease, liver failure, foreign body ingestion and bladder obstruction—the last two of which call for immediate attention.

Owners' tendency to misinterpret symptoms as well as select a clinic based on insufficient criteria illustrate that they really *don't* know their cats as well as they might—and until that changes, cats' healthcare needs will continue to be underserved. For those in the know, however, the advantages of a cat-only clinic boil down to a simple equation: A low-stress environment plus frequent checkups by practitioners intimately familiar with the specifics of feline health issues, including developments in research, can equal longer, healthier lives for companion animals.

Beyond the basic benefits of the cat-only practice, some clinics such as RCCC feature boarding, DVMs who specialize in dentistry, and partnerships with board certified surgeons who come to the clinic when highly complicated procedures are required.

Further, RCCC offers another, uniquely local benefit: its place in the Land Park community. "I noticed that RCCC wasn't very integrated in the community—neighbors in Land Park had never heard of the clinic despite driving past it on a daily basis," Dr. Salaguinto said. "I own a home in Land Park and my kids attend [a local school]. I've volunteered at the school and make donations to local events. I have made it my mission to establish this clinic into the community."

More information is available at www.weonlydocats.com and at 441-4727.

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Rising from the ashes:

Funderland concession stand suffers fire damage, repairs expected for completion during the closed winter season

By BIA RIAZ
bia@valcomnews.com



Photos by George Young

Shown here is a collection of photographs shortly after the concession stand fire at Funderland, which took place on Tuesday, Sept. 26. Park officials expect the concession stand rebuild to occur during the winter months when the amusement park is closed. The fire did not damage any of the rides and the park remains open on the regular fall schedule. Visitors are welcome to bring outside food into the park.

Standing in the shadow of the soot and ash coated remains of Funderland's concession stand, Sam Johnston reflected on decades of rich memories at the park and shared his hopes for the future.

Shortly after 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 26, Sam Johnston and his family were alerted about an incident at the park. As posted on Funderland's webpage: " … a fire broke out at the Funderland concession stand. Thankfully, no one was injured as it occurred while the park was closed and no guests or staff were present. The Sacramento Fire Department quickly responded to the fire and extinguished the flames before they spread to our rides. They are currently investigating what may have caused the fire. Our most heartfelt thanks go out to the SFD for their hard work protecting our park." As of Thursday, Sept. 28, the park has been open and all rides operating. The concession stand is closed, however, guests are allowed to bring in food and beverages.

Born and raised in Land Park, Sam Johnston proudly recalled his roots and history, "My father was in the carnival business. We owned and operated the original Funderwoods in Micke Grove Park and Pixieland in Concord. I'm second generation. I took over Funderland Amusement park from Roy Silva in 1984."

Funderland has been the quirky neighborhood carnival in Land Park since 1946. Oscar the Fisher, a bright blue octopus, is one of the original rides gently guiding little riders on the roundabout adventure to this day. Between the "whoosh" and hiss of the Flying Dragon, to the whimsical sounds or the ornate classic carousel, excited young visitors shrieked in glee and parents smiled as they enjoyed their visit to the park, thankful the park was open again after the fire closure.

Johnston remarked they were only closed for one day after the concession stand fire to allow them a chance to put up a fence and tarp around the damaged area. Johnston also made arrangements to convert the novelty stand into a temporary snack and beverage cart. "We've never had a fire at Funderland. The only damage we experienced was about four years ago when one of the tree limbs fell near the outside fence. No one was hurt. Since then, we have reinforced the roof to the train station and added additional rides. We've made a lot of improvements to the park. It's a local favorite visited by generation after generation."

As John Edds, Johnston's son-in-law and manager of operations, met with the Sacramento Fire Department's Investigation team, Johnston expressed, "My goal is to rebuild the concession stand with nice family size restrooms so people don't have to go across to the public restrooms in Land Park. We should have the investigator's report within a week or so to plan next steps. My

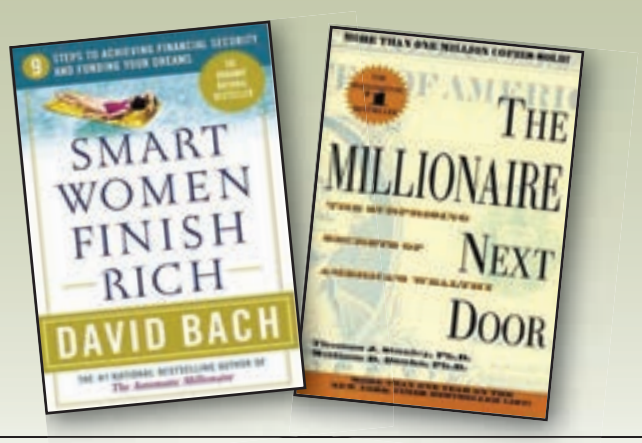
See Funderland, page 13

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Funderland:

Continued from page 12

daughter is currently looking into different bathroom designs to accommodate families. We are also looking into adding pizza to the menu. People usually get pizza delivered to the park for parties and events. Our concession stand has burgers, but they do take a lot of time to prepare, so pizza might be a good addition to the menu. People love pizza. You should see the number of empty pizza boxes piled up in our dumpster at the end of the day!" remarked Johnston.

Staff members, Victoria and Serina, shared their experiences since the re-opening of the park. "I used to work at the concession stand before the fire, but at least we still have snacks and sodas and water for people to purchase until they re-open the concession stand. We've got everything from cookies to chips to juice, priced from 50 cents to $3. Plus, people can still bring their own food or order delivery," said Victoria. "I really like working here. It's great to see the smiles on the faces of older ladies and the older teenagers who come back to re-live the past," expressed Serina, ride operator for Oscar the Fischer.

"We are hoping that we will be able to get the concession stand repairs completed during our closed winter season in December and January. At the most, we may need a couple of weekends in early spring to finish the work and offer visitors a new concession stand and family size bathrooms," stated Johnston.

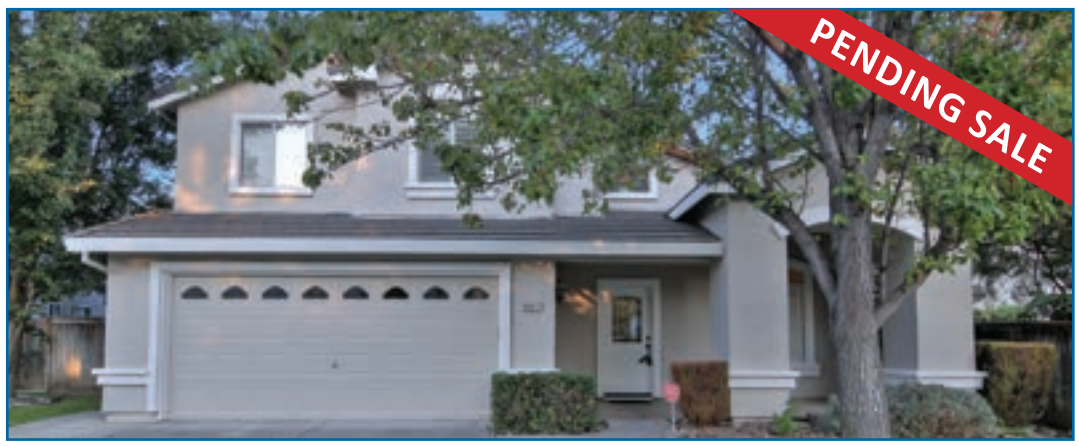
Funderland is currently operating on their fall schedule and is open Wednesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. There is no admission price to enter the park. Each ride does require a ticket which can be purchased at the central ticket booth. For more information visit their website http://funderlandpark.com/ or call 456-0131.











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Community looking to plant a Sakura Grove in Southside Park



Southside Park is on the cusp of creating something extraordinary and we need your help to make this happen! Sakuramento is partnering with the Sacramento Tree Foundation, the City of Sacramento Department of Parks and Recreation, and the office of Council Member Steve Hansen to bring a grove of flowering cherry trees to Southside Park this fall.

The goal is to celebrate our community's rich multi-cultural heritage by planting a "Sakura Grove" in Southside Park. The neighborhood surrounding Southside Park was once the home of many of Sacramento's Japanese families, a large portion of whom were displaced during the World War II internments. The grove aims to honor the Japanese community by bringing the experience of "hanami" (the gathering of the community under the blooming "sakura," or cherry blossoms) every spring.

With donations, Sakuramento will be able to plant 28 flowering ornamental cherry trees to create a welcoming Hanami experience. Donations will be going toward site prep, irrigation, trees purchase costs, and the all-important tree maintenance. (Once a tree is planted, the following three years of care are crucial to its long-term survival.)

Volunteers are scheduled to begin planting on Saturday, Oct. 28, so they need to raise $8,000 to cover the remaining construction and planting expenses by Oct. 16.

Donations can be made online at gofundme.com/sakuragrove or by check payable to The Sacramento Tree Foundation. The memo line should state "Sakura Grove."

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**For information about sponsoring the planting, please contact Torin Dunnavant at the Sacramento Tree Foundation: 974-4302.*

Stay updated to learn about future opportunities to support our efforts to build a new cherry tree park in along the Sacramento River and to celebrate our connections to Japan and to our local Japanese American community.

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Please **RECYCLE** this paper. Thank You

RESERVE YOUR SPACE IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

'Ofrenda' performance to transport audience to various regions of Mexico

By ABRAHAM PEREZ

From up above in the sky one can truly see the splendor that is our great "City of Trees", a flourishing oasis amidst a bountiful sea of life sustaining harvest fields. Our downtown is also a reflection of this bounty. Modern buildings give voice to a skyline, that says "We are ready to take our place in a modern world". Historical architecture telling tales of city rich in history and tradition, together speaking of a quiet prosperous economy. We can take pride in the simple elegance of our hometown feel, because where ever you go here, one can still count on a neighborly helping hand, even if it's just to wish you having a most wonderful day. Yes, I think that's it! Sacramento shines because of us; because we will always work at keeping that small town feel. Citizens of a city that is the shining beacon of the greatest state in the world.

Continually growing discovering our own sense of place, defining the values that are important for us. Valuing arts and the role it plays in helping us be a better people.

Sacramento is full of a budding arts community which gently and purposefully contributes so much to us as a whole. We have the opportunity of embracing and supporting the beauty and culture that is within our city.

Please let me introduce you to Instituto Mazatlán Bellas Artes (IMBA) de Sacramento. IMBA is a multi-faucet not for profit artistic venture in performing arts.

IMBA is proud to be the home of performing company Ballet Folklórico de Sacramento.

Ballet Folklórico de Sacramento (BFS) is humbled to be considered a highly valued cultural artistic resource and one of California's most esteemed Mexican folk dance companies.

This component provides the opportunity for youth from underserved communities to train as professional dancers and present to audiences at major venues. To date BFS has consistently presented at the following major venues Luther Burbank Center in Santa Rosa, CA. Gallo Center in Modesto, CA. and Harris Center in Folsom, CA.

It is BFS's goal to bring more of our work home.

It is for this reason that we invite you to come Celebrate "Ofrenda dia de los Muertos".

Life is a wonderful blend of hopes and wishes, which give rise to beliefs, then settle into traditions. Of all the festivals which are Mexico, none speak more resoundly to us than Dia de los Muertos. Where tales speak of the souls of dearly departed loved ones coming back to visit us once each year, "Ofrenda" will take you on journey through various regions of Mexico unveiling for you the mysticism of Dia de los Muertos. This live on stage dance performance will present for you, a firsthand tour of the festivals that are Dia de los Muertos. Accompanied by traditional music group Córima, Ofrenda promises to leave our audience joyously amazed.

Friday October 27, 2017, Crest Theater Sacramento located at 1013 K St. Sacramento, CA 95814

For tickets please visit www.crestsacramento.com Or call 916-476-3356 M-F 11:30 am to 1:30 pm





—EVENT CALENDAR—



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Holiday Craft Faire
Saturday, November 4th
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Holiday Arts & Crafts Festival
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Sacramento Elks Lodge No. 6
6446 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento, Ca. 95831
More info: Mary-Jo at (916) 691-3059
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What's happening, Land Park?

SATURDAY, OCT. 14

HAWAIIAN STYLE TEXAS HOLD-EM TOURNAMENT FUNDRAISER FOR LOCAL CHARITIES: Tournament is being played on Saturday, Oct. 14 at Swallows Nest Country Club, 2245 Orchard Lane, 95833. South Sacramento Rotary's Satellite Club is hosting this event. Come to play or just cheer on your favorite player while enjoying some good food and great fun, HAWAIIAN STYLE. Beginners welcome! There will be a practice table for those who arrive early. One lucky winner will take home the grand prize valued at $500! Your participation will benefit worthy Sacramento non-profits supporting women and children. From 5 to 6 p.m., come for the drinks, practice table, and buffet. From 6 to 10 p.m. is playtime and from 10 to 10:30 p.m., prizes will be awarded. Players are $80 per person; spectators, $20 per person. Bring friends - RSVP and sign up online at Checks to be made out to Rotary Club of South Sacramento Foundation.

Provide checks to your Rotary contact or mail to: Rotary Club of South Sacramento Foundation, 6191 South Land Park Drive, Sacramento, CA 95831. The Rotary Club of South Sacramento Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization (Tax ID # 68-0234137), and your contribution is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Must be 21 years or older to attend. Tickets are non-refundable. Tickets may be transferred to individuals over the age of 21; contact information for transferred tickets must be provided to Rotary no later than Oct.9 for tickets to be honored. And don't forget to wear your best island casual!Each ticket includes one drink coupon and dinner buffet. Players receive chips, and the opportunity to purchase additional chips during the event. https://info.3marketeers.com/rotary-club/texas-holdem-night

FRIDAY, OCT. 20 AND SATURDAY, OCT. 21

LANTERN TOURS 2017: You're invited to the annual October evening tours with Victorian-era costumed actors for "Wild Rides" through the tombstones at the 2017 Lantern Tours of the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery presented by the Old City Cemetery Committee. Four tours per night are available on Oct. 20-21 and Oct. 28 at 7 p.m., 7:45 p.m., 8:30 p.m., and 9:15 p.m. On Oct. 27, two tours are available at 8:30 and 9:15 p.m. On a lantern-led tour through Sacramento's past, guests will meet some of the cemetery's eternal residents who will share stories of adventure and misadventures on the water, across the prairies, on trains and through Gold Rush streets. A stage show will feature riverboat entertainment at the tour's midpoint, and you will encounter riverboat gamblers and enjoy period music. Along the way, you will encounter some ghostly – or is it ghastly? – spirits. It will be a lively night in the cemetery!

Tickets for this fundraiser are $35 and available only through http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3034629. Price includes the tour, entertainment and light refreshments. Proceeds benefit cemetery preservation and maintenance, and other programs of the Old City Cemetery Committee. **Tickets on sale now.** For more information, call 916-448-0811 or 916-264-7839. The mission of the OCCC is to join hands with the community to restore, beautify, preserve, and protect the Historic City Cemetery, while maintaining access by descendants of the deceased, and to provide educational services to all visitors to the Historic City Cemetery of Sacramento. The Sacramento Historic City Cemetery is located at 1000 Broadway, Sacramento.

FRIDAY, OCT. 20 -SUNDAY, OCT. 22

SAFE & SUPER HALLOWEEN IN SPACE: Take off to a galaxy far, far away for three nights of trick-or-treating and family fun in space at the 31st annual Safe & Super Halloween! Go on a space adventure as you meet your favorite intergalactic characters, take part in Jedi training and lightsaber fitness, and travel to Dagobah, Endor, and Tatooine. This three-night extravaganza also features 15 treat stations, a nightly costume parade at 8:30 PM, hands-on activities, and lots of fun from 5 to 9 p.m.

Please note:
This is a special ticketed event. Fairytale Town will be closing at 2 p.m. each day in order to prepare for the evening festivities.ts
Advance Tickets (September 1 – October 19):
Adults: $10; Children (2-12yrs.): $10
Children 1 and under: Free
Fairytale Town members receive $3 off per ticket

Day-of Tickets (beginning October 20):
Adults: $12; Children (2-12yrs.): $12
Children 1 and under: Free
No member discount

FRIDAY, OCT. 27 AND SATURDAY, OCT. 28

LANTERN TOURS 2017: You're invited to the annual October evening tours with Victorian-era costumed actors for "Wild Rides" through the tombstones at the 2017 Lantern Tours of the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery presented by the Old City Cemetery Committee. Four tours per night are available on Oct. 20-21 and Oct. 28 at 7 p.m., 7:45 p.m., 8:30 p.m., and 9:15 p.m. On Oct. 27, two tours are available at 8:30 and 9:15 p.m. On a lantern-led tour through Sacramento's past, guests will meet some of the cemetery's eternal residents who will share stories of adventure and misadventures on the water, across the prairies, on trains and through Gold Rush streets. A stage show will feature riverboat entertainment at the tour's midpoint, and you will encounter riverboat gamblers and enjoy period music. Along the way, you will encounter some ghostly – or is it ghastly? – spirits. It will be a lively night in the cemetery!

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SATURDAY, OCT. 28

FILM SCREENING OF "MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED" AT SAC CITY COLLEGE: From 3 to 5 p.m., there will be a film screening followed by Q & A panel of local innovative school leaders.

SATURDAY, OCT. 28-SUNDAY, OCT. 29

BOO AT THE ZOO: From 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., enjoy trick-or-treating throughout the ENTIRE zoo at 15 different candy stations, face painting for kids, festive games, themed stage shows, magic shows with Trevor the Magician, keeper chats and even animal enrichments. Top off a perfect day with a ride on the spooky zoo train or the creepy carousel for an additional fee. *10 am: Early entrance with valid Sacramento Zoo membership card and Boo at the Zoo tickets.

Get out those costumes, grab a trick-or-treat bag and head to the Sacramento Zoo for the daytime Boo at the Zoo!

Early Bird Ticket Prices, through October 22: All ages: $13*; children under 2 years old are free; Sacramento Zoo members receive $3 off per ticket

General Ticket Prices, after October 23: All ages: $16*; Children under 2 years old are free. Sacramento Zoo members receive $3 off per ticket

*All proceeds from Boo at the Zoo will benefit the general maintenance and animal care at the Sacramento Zoo.

*Rain or shine. No refunds.

This is a ticketed event. Membership passes, discount passes or any other coupons are not valid for Boo at the Zoo admission. COSTUME NOTICE: Due to animal safety, you may be asked to remove full head costume pieces in certain areas of the zoo. Costume accessories, such as wands, brooms, etc. are allowed, but CANNOT be used over fences or animal barriers. ALL DAY ACTIVITIES include Trick-or-treating stations, interactive EdZOOcation stations, face painting, giant coloring wall, Zoo crafts and games. SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES include Magic Shows with Trevor the Magician at 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2:15 p.m. on the amphitheater stage. Wildlife Stage Shows will be held at 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. on the amphitheater stage. Keeper Chats, which will be held at the exhibits, are as follows:
10:30 a.m.: Pelican;
10:45 a.m.: Reptile House, on the lawn; 2:15 p.m.: Wolf's Gueneon; 2:30 p.m.: Fennec Fox and 2:45 p.m.: Giraffe.

SUNDAY, OCT. 29

"TRUNK OR TREAT" : From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., spirited guests of all ages are encouraged to visit the Automobile Museum dressed in their favorite Halloween costumes ready to enjoy an afternoon of trick-or-treating and family-friendly activities on Sunday, October 29. Children will especially enjoy exploring the Museum and all the cars and costumed characters on this special day – they'll even see a traditional burial hearse on-site – while finding goodies to fill their Halloween bags. Ad-

See more What's Happening, page 19

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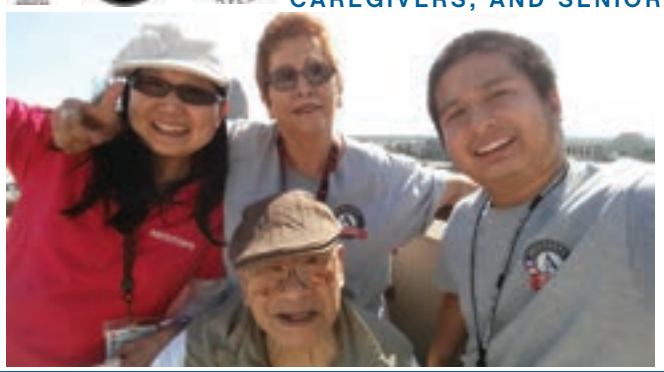
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Engage seniors in arts and crafts, light exercises, and other social activities

Provide much needed rest to caregivers

- **VOLUNTEER BENEFITS:** Training opportunities, monthly stipend, and $1,493 Education Award (upon completion of 450 hours from November 1st to October 31st)
- **ELIGIBILITY:** At least 17 years of age, US citizen or permanent resident, high school graduate
- **ORIENTATION DATES:** October 10, October 24, or October 31 at 2 PM (Please pick one (1) day. Orientation is mandatory.)

For more information, please contact Chau Nguyen at cnguyen@accsv.org or (916) 394-6399 ext. 130

What's Happening:

Continued from page 18

ditional activities include hands-on crafts in the Education Center, storytelling, and a fun Halloween photo opportunity in Sparkplug Square. All ages are welcome and two children (in costume) get in free with each paid adult. All "Trunk or Treat" activities are included with Museum admission. Regular Museum admission is $10 for adults, $9 for vintage (ages 65+), $5 students (ages 6-17), FREE for children under 5.

TUESDAY, OCT. 31

HAUNTED HEADLIGHTS TOUR: The California Auto Museum presents the "Haunted Headlights Tour". Exhibits will come to spook-tacular life like never before! (Kids under 13 are not advised at this spooky event!) Price includes the tour, and beverages and snacks in our lounge afterwards. Spots in these tours are limited; get your tickets soon! Fun starts at 6:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at https://www.calautomuseum.org/hauntedheadlights?mc_cid=542863b657&mc_eid=91045e66c5

SATURDAY, NOV. 4

MY SISTER'S HOUSE FUN RUN: The Asian Pacific State Employees Association (APSEA): My Sister's House Run/Walk for a Safe Haven fundraiser is going to be held on Saturday, Nov. 4 from 8 a.m. to noon in William Land Park, 3800 West Land Park Drive. This is a good opportunity to support an organization working toward ending domestic violence in our community. This is also a great opportunity to network with APSEA members and others in our community. APSEA has set up a team to support this great organization. Our team name is APSEA Team. The team cost is $32 for each adult member (includes a t-shirt). Hope you will consider supporting this event. To register for this event, click on link below to take you to APSEA registration page. On the right section APSEA Team, select Join Team. Then it will take you directly to the registration page. In entering your registration information, you will be asked for a team password. The team password is APSEA2017. https://raceroster.com/events/2017/13911/run-for-a-safe-have n-5k-runwalk-kids-half-mile-2017/pledge/team?id=11

CHARLES PHOENIX TO PRESENT AMERICANA SHOW AT THE CALIFORNIA AUTO MUSEUM: In partnership with SacMod, Charles Phoenix will return to the California Auto Museum for a great retro show this November! Cost is $29 per person and starts at 6:30 p.m. Charle Phoenix, the "Ambassador of Americana" unleashes his stories and glories of spectacular space-age style, amazing attractions, local landmarks, roadside wonders, fun foods, festive fashions, crazy car culture, futuristic transportation and more galore. Your imagination will be inspired and your American spirit will soar! Come for the show…stay for the Addicted to Americana book signing, classic cars and ice cream social! SacMod and California Automobile Museum Members get one free drink coupon at check-in. The mailing address is: 2200 Front Street, Sacramento, CA 95818. For more information, call 442-6802 or fax 442-2646. Tickets can be purchased at https://www.calautomuseum.org/addictedtoamericana?mc_cid=542863b657#038;mc_eid=91045e66c5

THURSDAY, NOV. 2

LAND PARK PUBLIC SAFETY TOWN HALL: Councilmember Steve Hansen will be hosting a Land Park Public Safety Town Hall on November 2nd from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at California Middle School, 1600 Vallejo Way, to hear from residents, businesses, employees and others about your concerns and ideas for improving public safety. Representatives from the District Attorney's office, the Police Department, and other city staff will be available to provide information and answer questions. Council District 4 and Land Park have been dealing with increasing reports of crime and public safety problems. Councilmember Hansen is firmly committed to advocating on behalf of our residents to ensure people feel safe in our homes, in our parks, on our streets and at our work. For further information please call Councilmember Hansen's office at (916) 808-7004. This event is open to the public and all residents are encouraged to attend. Please RSVP at goo.gl/MDC4os.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 8

SCUSD "CHOOSE YOUR FUTURE" HIGH SCHOOL EXPO: 5:30pm - 7:30pm at the Serna Center, 5735 47th Ave.

SATURDAY, DEC. 2

FIFTH ANNUAL DANDELION ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW: The Sacramento Senator Lions Club presents this free admission and free parking event at the Sacramento Buddhist Church, 2401 Riverside Blvd. from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All sales profits go to support various community projects. Visit sacramentosenatorlions.org to see how the Sacramento Senator Lions Club serves the community. For event information, email senatorlionsevents@gmail.com

ONGOING

BELLE COOLEDGE LIBRARY VIDEO GAMES AND VIDEO GAME SYSTEMS DRIVE: The Belle Cooledge Library is looking for video games and working game systems for our afterschool teen space program for next year. If you have any video games or working game systems that you would like to donate please bring them to the Belle Cooledge Library and we will provide a tax receipt. What is Teen Space? Join other area teens in our community room for our afterschool Teen Space! Hang out, geek out and mess around with friends and snacks! Seriously, what could be better? Teen Space occurs weekdays from 3 - 5 PM (except Thursdays 1:30 - 5 p.m.), is free, and open to teens between the ages of 12 - 18. (During the school year) All Library programs are free and open to the public a library card is not required! Belle Cooledge Library is located at 5600 South Land Park Dive. Library hours are Tuesdays noon to 8 p.m.; Wednesdays and Thursdays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fridays 1 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

OFF THE GRID FOOD TRUCK EVENT: Every Thursday evening, Off the Grid is hosting a weekly food truck and music event from 5-9pm. Mark your calendars for this fun, family-friendly event on 15th Ave near Land Park Drive! Visit https://offthegrid.com/events/ for vendor details. Corner of 15th Ave. and Land Park Drive.

JANE AUSTEN READING GROUP AT ELLA K. MCCLATCHY LIBRARY: This monthly group reads the works of Jane Austen and meets the third Saturday of each month in the Ella K. McClatchy library from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. All Austen fans are welcome. 2112 22nd St.

MCCLATCHY CLASS OF 1967 50-YEAR REUNION: The 50th reunion for McClatchy graduates will be held at Scott's/Westin Hotel on the Sacramento River, $75 per person until August 1. Details at: http://www.1967mcclatchylions.com. Call Bob Sertich at 441-0657

LAND PARK VOLUNTEER CORPS WORK DAYS: Help the corps with various work projects in William Land Park after a very wet winter.. First Saturdays of the month from 9 a.m. to noon. Meet at the Base Camp located in the picnic grounds directly behind Fairytale Town.

FAMILY FRIDAYS AT BELLE COOLEDGE LIBRARY: Spend some family time together this summer at the library with Family Fridays! Each Friday, in the Community Room there will be board games, cards, Wii gaming, arts and crafts, toddler toys, and a reading nook! This is a Summer Reading Challenge: Read by Design event each Friday from 3 to 5 p.m., 5600 South Land Park Drive.

ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTH SACRAMENTO: The friendliest club in Sacramento, the Rotary Club of South Sacramento meets every Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. at the Casa Garden, 2760 Sutterville Road.

SAC TRANSIT RIDERS UNION WEEKLY MEETING: Interested in democratizing transit and putting the "public" back into "public transit"? Sac TRU's weekly meetings, held every Saturday from 1-3 p.m. addresses these issues. Organize Sacramento, 1714 Broadway, Sacramento, CA 95818

POP-UP BOOK SALE AT BELLE COOLEDGE LIBRARY: Every first Tuesday of the month from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., the book sale features books for all ages. Support your local library and pick up some great reads! All proceeds from the sale benefit library programs. The Friends Bookstore will be open regular hours. The sale is held at the entrance to the library. 5600 South Land Park Drive

SUNDAY BREAKFAST BUFFET AT THE ELKS LODGE, NO. 6: From 8:30 to 11 a.m., enjoy eggs, omelets, corn beef hash, bacon or sausage. 6446 Riverside Blvd.

BABY STORYTIME AT BELLE COOLEDGE LIBRARY –Nursery rhymes, fingerplays, simple stories, and songs designed to encourage a range of early literacy skills. For children up to about 18 months old. Each child must be accompanied by a participating adult. Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m. at Belle Cooledge Library, 5600 South Land Park Drive.

TODDLER STORYTIME BELLE COOLEDGE LIBRARY– Toddlers ages one to three and their caregivers will enjoy fun songs, stories, and fingerplays. After the storytime, there will be a stay and play group. Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. at Belle Cooledge Library, 5600 South Land Park Drive, Sacramento.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME AT BELLE COOLEDGE LIBRARY – Preschoolers ages three and older and their caregivers are invited for fun songs, stories, fingerplays and a play activity. Thursdays at 11 a.m. at Belle Cooledge Library, 5600 South Land Park Drive, Sacramento.

HOMEWORK ZONE AT BELLE COOLEDGE LIBRARY– Teen and adult volunteer homework coaches will be available to assist students in grades K-8 with homework assignments. Please note: Homework Zone ends on June 8, 2016. Space is available with coaches on a first-come, first-served basis. Wednesdays from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursdays from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Belle Cooledge Library, 5600 South Land Park Drive, Sacramento.



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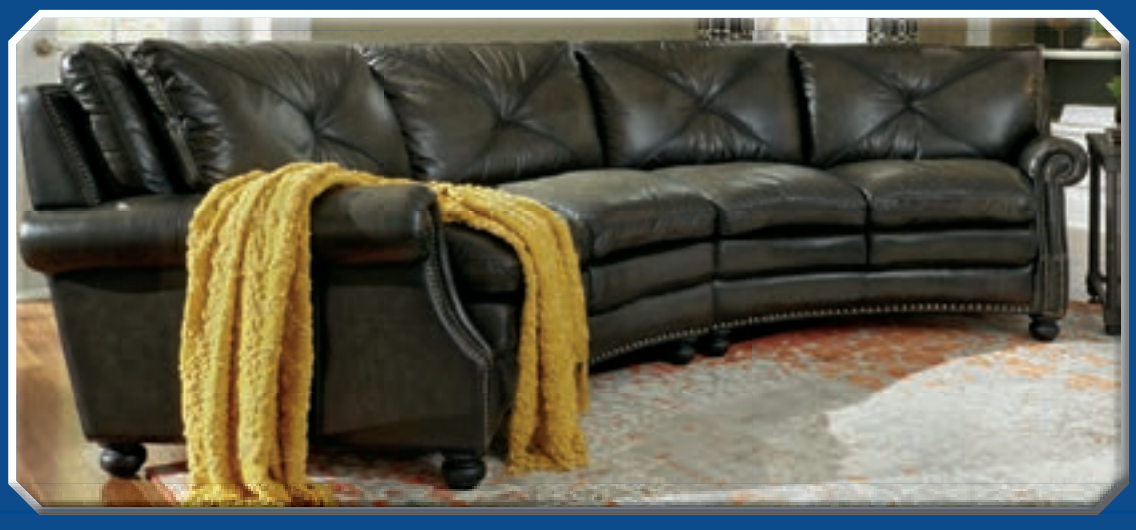
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Sun 11am – 6pm

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*Sale applies to all indicated items except all "Clearance", "Truckload" and "Special Buys". Sale price not available in conjunction with any other offer or discount. Allow time for delivery on some items. Sale Ends 10/31/17