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Land Park News

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Holiday cheer brought to residents of Eskaton

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Door to Door
with PAT LYNCH

Christmas

One windy Christmas Eve when I was four or five, my sisters Kathleen and Moira and I ran around in a frenzy. We lived temporarily on a Navy base. This night we were going to be allowed to stay up late and listen for Santa, who came at midnight. The minute we heard him on the roof we were to run to bed because Santa did not like to deliver to wide-awake children. We climbed up on the couch and noted excitedly the small circles of fog our breath made on the big window. Smiling, our parents watched from the little dining room.

Later our father picked up the phone and dialed. He said to our pregnant mother, a bit loudly, "I have to call the Admiral." Then he said, again in the same loud voice, "Hello Admiral. What? I have to come to the meeting? Now? At nighttime? On Christmas Eve? Well, I'll be darned." It was unusual for our father to talk like this and we stared from the couch. He was not an, I'll be darned, type of swearing man. He was an, I'll be damned, I'll be damned to hell, I'll be damned to hell and back, I'll be damned to hell and gone, and infinitely more vivid, type of swearing man. But now he sounded like one of those jolly Dad's in the Sunday comics, like Pricilla's Pop, who said, gosh and jeepers.

"This meeting must be very important," our mother said in the same raised, strangely stilted voice. She got Dad's coat for him.

We ran to our father. "Don't go, Daddy. You'll miss Santa."

But we knew he had to leave. In the hierarchy of tremendously important men who must be obeyed, the President came first, then the Admiral, then Generals in the Army and Air Force, then Daddy. He opened the door and we glimpsed the Christmas lights on neighbors' houses. He kissed us good-by and off he went into the twinkling night.

We returned to the window. We helped Moira climb up on the couch because she was still a toddler. She had a towering mop of red, curly hair and a toddler's odd way of pronouncing words, something Kathleen and I found

See Door-to-Door, page 4

Petrovich lawsuit hearing set for Dec. 15 at 9 a.m.

After long delay, Petrovich Development Company's lawsuit challenging the city's denial of the gasoline station at Crocker Village will be heard on Friday, Dec. 15 at 9 a.m. in Department 31 (4th floor) of the Sacramento Superior Court located at 720 9th St., reported the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association.

This will be a hearing on the merits and not a trial. No witnesses will testify. Instead, the lawyers argue the merits of the case based on the administrative record and some additional documentary evidence.

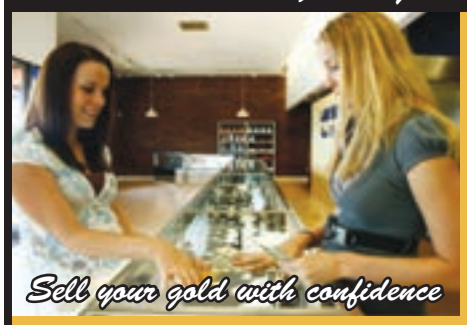
The length of the hearing is difficult to predict, and is based in part on the number of other matters heard, if any, that morning. A reasonable estimate is between two and four hours.

The hearing will be open to the public, and SCNA encourages neighbors to attend in order to reflect the significant public concern about this project.

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Sacramento resident's dream bell tower has holiday visitor: Santa Claus

By LANCE ARMSTRONG
lance@valcomnews.com

Among the more unusual scenes in Sacramento this holiday season is a 4-foot tall, plastic Santa Claus waving from the interior of a bell tower.

Perhaps even more unusual is that the bell tower does not rise above a church.

It is instead part of the residence of Bernard and Anne Kitt.

At sundown every evening through at least Christmas Eve, a timer turns on a light inside this vintage, hollow Santa Claus and a colored string of lights above him. But by 10 p.m. each night, the timer shuts the lights off to abide by a homeowners' association regulation.

Once again abiding by a regulation, the bell tower rises not an inch above 33 feet from the ground.

Because the roof of the Kitts' home is 22 feet from the ground, the bell tower was constructed as an 11-foot-tall landmark.

The Kitts' bell tower, which measures about 5 and a half feet wide, is a fully functioning bell tower, Bernard explained.

"I have it set so you can sit down up there and eat lunch or whatever you want to do," he said. "There's a bell in there with rope and everything, but it's not connected to the front porch. I tried to connect it, but there were just ropes all over the place. It was a little crazy. But (the bell works). You can get up there and (ring it). It's really loud."

In continuing to comment on his bell tower, Bernard said that he is well aware of his unique status of owning the only home with a bell tower in the Pocket.

But being unique in that regard made no difference to Bernard when he made the decision to add a bell tower to his home. Instead, he noted that he simply wanted to fulfill one of his childhood dreams.

"(For many years), I wanted to put a bell tower on my house," he said. "When I was in grammar school, we lived a few blocks away from (the University of California), Berkeley, and they had what they call the Campanile. It's like a giant bell tower.

"You used to go in there and go up in an elevator and go up to the top and see all the bells, and walk around up there and everything. And I said, 'God, I've got to get a bell tower.'"

Bernard said that he finally made arrangements to have his own bell tower constructed at his residence about two years ago.

"I had a handyman do it for me," he said. "He was kind of a local guy. It took maybe a month (to build). The base is real stone – not imitation stone – and then there's these four columns that are between 5 and 6 feet tall. Then there's this copper roof that goes into a point, and then there's a weather vane on the top."

As for the bell tower's sturdiness atop his home, Bernard said that it is very strong.

"It's tied into the structure of the house," he said. "It's not just sitting there. Structurally, it's sound. And the homeowners' association approved it. You have to go through the homeowners' association, if you make a change that's a visible thing (to neighbors). And they gave the OK on it. If you had some nutty looking thing, they're not going to say, 'OK.'"

Bernard added that, to date, the bell tower has only received one complaint.

"This guy who was on the (homeowners' association) board told me somebody across on the other side of the lake (complained about a glare caused by the tower)," he said. "When I first put it up, there was the new copper, and it was shiny. The sun was hitting it somehow, and shined it into their living room. But one week later, it was not shiny anymore."

Bernard mentioned that he was able to get rid of the glare through a very inexpensive process.

"I looked into spraying it to make it antique green, like it's 100 years old," he said. "(The research) went on and on and on, and (there were) all these formulas and you mix these things up. They were really pretty complicated.

"And then I ran across this lady who wrote in on some discussion group, and she says, 'I don't know anything about this, but I read somewhere if you put on Miracle-Gro – a garden fertilizer – it turns to green.' I had some, so I put it in a little bottle and sprayed it. It looked like it was 100 years old and (that appearance) hasn't gone away."

Bernard recalled that upon its completion, the bell tower drew curious looks from neighbors.

"We had the Keel Crawl, where all these people (in the neighborhood) go from house to house and have drinks or lunch or dinner," he said. "And so, they came up to (the Kitts' house) and I had just finished the bell tower.

"People were just a gasp. They were standing out there in the front just staring. I mean, they were not saying a word. They were just standing there, just immobilized, and just trying to take it in. They had never seen anything like that."

Although Bernard generally does not spend more than an hour inside the bell tower when he takes on projects such as cleaning and caulking, because of his love for the tower, he said that he is considering an addition that could keep him in there longer.



Photo by Bernard Kitt
Santa has made a special visit this year to Bernard Kitt's bell tower that sits atop his Lake Greenhaven home.

"If there's a TV (in the tower), I'll sit for hours and hours and hours," he said. "I think (placing a TV there) is an idea."

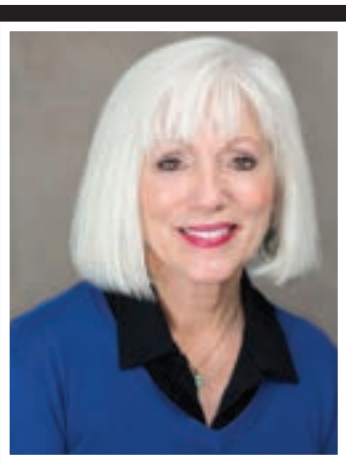
Bernard, who has visited bell towers throughout the world, said that he has a fascination with bells that extends beyond bell towers.

Located at his residence are at least 20 bells of various sizes that he has accumulated throughout the years.

One of Bernard's favorite bells of his collection is larger than the bell he had installed inside his bell tower, he said.

"I've got a way bigger bell in the (backyard) and it says U.S. Navy on it," he said. "It's really cool. It's off of a battleship."

In further pondering the realization of his childhood dream to have his own bell tower, Bernard said, "The one I've got in my house is really great. It really feels good to be in a bell tower. It really feels good."



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Great curb appeal and lovely artistic touches enhance both the interior and exterior of this custom built home. It features 3 bedrooms, 2 ½ baths, formal living room, formal dining area, updated kitchen, family room with fireplace, light and bright with multiple glass windows and doors, inside laundry and beautiful backyard with gazebo.
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Door-to-Door:

Continued from page 2

extremely funny. "Moi, say Merry Christmas," I said.

"Mi mi massama ," Moira said.

Kathleen and I, already over-excited, doubled over with laughter. "Kathleen said, "Merry Mi mi massama," and I said it back and we had a mockery fest, tumbling back on the couch, laughing.

"What's going on out there?" Our mother, said from the kitchen. Kathleen and I quieted down. In our house you were not allowed to make fun of the way other people looked or talked. We returned to the Santa vigil.

"I heard something," Kathleen said. "Did you hear that?"

I listened hard. Nothing.

Our mother came from the kitchen and turned off the living room lamps. "I heard something," she said.

This validated it. My heart felt like it galloped.

Mom got on the couch with us.

"Listen," Kathleen said, her blue eyes huge.

We heard the chinking of bells. Real bells, on the roof. Then a scraping sound.

"That must be the sled," Mom whispered.

Then came a protracted rattle of bells. The reindeer must be shaking their heads. In the dark, staying up late, holding hands now because Santa was actually here, on the roof, our roof, scraping and jingling, I felt nearly paralyzed with excitement. I didn't object when Mom whispered that we should tiptoe down the hall to bed. She picked up Moira and carried her. "Did you hear Santa?" our mother whispered to her.

"Goo gog-along bink," Moira said, clapping her hands. "Goo gog-along bink."

Kathleen and I glanced at each other but did not giggle at Moi. The night had become too consequential. We lay in bed, afraid to whisper lest we miss a sound. It grew windier but we were sure we heard the chinking of bells and the pawing of hooves between the gusts. Then came an even louder scraping noise and a man's voice...



Sutterville Bicycle Company celebrates four years in business and giving back to the community

Shop works in tandem with East Sacramento-based Boys 4 Bikes charity

By JOE PERFECTO

For many local (and not-so-local) bicycle-riding residents, Jeff Dzurinko is a household name. The mechanic-*cum*-fabricator-*cum*-engineer-*cum*-philanthropist recently marked the third anniversary of his Hollywood Park success story, known as Sutterville Bicycle Company, by throwing a bash with 400 customers and associates. The Nov. 12 party—the fourth since the 2014 grand opening—took place in the small parking area outside his space that's sandwiched between auto repair shops at 2365 Sutterville Bypass.

On display were a variety of rides from small to large, vintage to new, road to BMX, basic to exotic—many at discount prices. The vittles included veggie/meat kabobs, chicken, beans and cole slaw churned out by Swiss Buda chef/Sacramento Catering Co. owner Eric McFadden at the barbecue station; draft beverages tapped by nearby Two Rivers Cider and Fountainhead Brewing; and a variety of cookies and other sweets on offer at The Boys 4 Bikes charity bake sale booth. At the raffle table, two bucks bought a chance to win prizes ranging from bike bells and accessories, books, helmets and clothing to a new Retrospec Mantra V2 single-speed "fixie." Providing the soundtrack was longtime local group dRAW PiNKY (whose lineup includes Dzurinko's mother) followed by bassist/vocalist Emma Simpson, co-founder of Girls Rock Sacramento. In attendance were riders of all stripes—commuters, roadies, casual cruisers and members of a number of clubs, some clad in motorcycle-style leather jackets and vests—most arriving on two-wheeled vehicles spanning a wide gamut.

The festivities painted a faithful portrait of what's characterized those three years of operation—and, in fact, Dzurinko's entire career: Fun, fraternity and a profound fanaticism about *all things bike*. His professional involvement with the spoked wheel began years ago as a salesperson at Performance, where he advanced to assistant manager. A stint as a mechanic at East Sac Bike and another as service manager at City Bicycle Works followed. When the shop that is now Sutterville became available in late 2014 after just four months of operation, he snapped it up, gutted it and rebuilt the space, which he then proceeded to cram with hardware.

The shop's nondescript façade of orange BICYCLES sign, weathered wooden-plank nameplate and 10-foot-wide glass door/window unit gives little indication of the scope of what awaits inside. Just beyond a perhaps 12-foot-long narrow entryway that's lined by a wall on one side and two levels of packed bike racks on the other, the view opens up to reveal a space about 30 feet wide by 40 feet deep and what seems like 100 feet high, absolutely packed with all manner of parts, accessories and bikes, bikes and *more* bikes—on the ground, on the walls and hanging from the rafters. "We're out of storage space," Dzurinko said, which would only be news to the sight-impaired.

While many shops focus on sales of a few bike styles, and secondarily on repair, Sutterville specializes in service, repair, restorations and custom builds, and also has bikes to suit almost any need. In order to be able to service the wide variety of equipment on offer, as well as anything that might come through the door, running along the entirety of two shop walls are long glass cases full of thousands of components—cranks, gear clusters, derailleurs, hubs—for practically any application whether common or obscure, new or very *very* vintage.

"We do *everything*," Dzurinko said. "I don't want to limit myself to one type of bike because I love all different kinds of bicycles and styles of cycling."

As cycling hardware evolves, it becomes increasingly difficult to find parts for once-popular systems, such as the famed 9-speed Shimano drivetrain—but this is among the many outdated systems the shop has in stock. "I save 9-speed parts because they're becoming less and less abundant; I'll actively continue to source more of them—I love 9-speed stuff," Dzurinko said. "I don't think any other shop has some of the stuff that we have."

Beyond fixing whatever's broken and tuning up what isn't, the shop restores vintage rides, whether for sale or for customers. "Jeff mechanically restored my mom's early '50s Schwinn-built Henderson and buffed up the brightwork; it shines now and is quite rideable for the first time in 25 years," said Steve Cimini, a member of the Sacramento Bike Hikers, the area's oldest cycling club. "I bought a 1959 Schwinn Corvette from him that had been restored." Probably the oldest bikes on site are from Dzurinko's private collection: Two rare single-speeds built by the Iver Johnson Arms and Cycle Works in 1910-15. Even though they look a bit rough, they're quite valuable. For the right price, however, Dzurinko will part with them, and they'll look nearly new when they leave the building.

Another shop specialty, *custom builds* are designed to perfectly suit a rider and can involve anything from swapping out a few parts on a bike of standard configuration, to putting together from scratch a one-of-a-kind ride from a precisely chosen set of frame, fork, wheels, tires, handlebars, saddle and drivetrain. "Jeff's done maintenance on all of our bikes and listened carefully to [my husband] Rick's needs for 'just transportation' to do neighborhood errands, which resulted in him creating one of Rick's favorite bikes," said Becky Neal, another Bike Hiker member.

As Dzurinko's work is legendary in the cycling community, he has a dedicated legion of loyal customers, many of whom have followed him from shop to shop. He receives much patronage from clubs such as the aforementioned Bike Hikers, who hold him in high regard—and the feeling is mutual. "I'm a Bike Hiker myself," he said, "and I'm very fortunate to have some of those guys as my customers."

"It's neat to have people whose bikes you've worked on for years—you know the history of their bikes and their riding," Dzurinko said. "We *have* put quite a few bikes on the street; sometimes riding around town I'll recognize a customer's bike and I'll say, 'Oh, I remember fixing that one' or 'I remember building that.'"

Among the reasons for such loyalty are the depth and breadth of his knowledge and experience, and an innate ability to take a pile of parts and sculpt them into a machine that works well and looks good. And in the event that a certain part just isn't available, he'll make one. Longtime customer John Hax put it simply: "He's an *artist*."

Two other qualities that are mentioned repeatedly in countless online reviews are *speed* and *affordability*. Although the shop can at times be swamped with equipment in dry dock, turnaround time can be surprisingly short. And Dzurinko's downright cheap, for both service and supplies—often by a wide margin. "We're one of the most reasonably-priced bike shops in town," Dzurinko said. "[For

See Bicycles, page 10



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Sacramento Zoo announces new director

Jason Jacobs to begin in January 2018



The Sacramento Zoological Society Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that Jason Jacobs has been selected as the new director and chief executive officer of the Sacramento Zoo. Jacobs will assume the position in early January 2018.

"The Sacramento Zoological Society chose Jason from among 38 prospects and five finalists. We are impressed with his track record at some of the leading zoos in America, and especially in what he has accomplished in Tucson," said Jeff Raimundo, President of the Sacramento Zoological Society's board of trustees. "Most important, he clearly shares our vision for reimagining the future Sacramento Zoo, providing the best possible environment for the animals in our care, a focus on animal conservation in the wild, and creating new and exciting experiences for our half-million visitors a year."

Jacobs, the current director of the Reid Park Zoo in Tucson, Arizona, has been involved in zoos for most of his life and has worked in almost every department at a zoo during the span of his career. He grew up visiting Zoo Miami in Florida where he fell in love with animals. During his grade school years, he interned, volunteered, and ran education programs at Zoo Miami. Jacobs received dual bachelors degrees in environmental science and English from Florida International University.

Highlights of his career include a year at Walt Disney's Animal Kingdom, deputy director at the Potawatomi Zoo in South Bend, Indiana, director of development and marketing at the Los Angeles Zoo, and for the last 4.5 years, director of the Reid Park Zoo.

Jacob's zoo experience, passion, and close family ties to northern California make an excellent fit for the position with all the tools to be successful and a desire to set roots down in the area. As the new director/CEO of the Sacramento Zoo he plans to build a stronger relationship between the zoo and the Sacramento community while keeping the zoo a partner in global animal conservation activities. In his role, he will oversee 108 employees, a collection of more than 500 animals on 14-acres, as well as the zoo's robust education and international conservation programs. He will also spearhead the reimagined Sacramento Zoo by using the zoo's master plan as a guide map for building the Sacramento Zoo of the future and telling the unique story of each individual animal. The zoo director is an employee of and reports to the Sacramento Zoological Society's board of trustees, which consists of 20 members from throughout the Sacramento region.

Source: Saczoo.org

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Century-old Southside Improvement Club bids farewell

By LANCE ARMSTRONG

The Southside Improvement Club disbanded on Nov. 26, as they ended their more than 100-year history with a "sunset party" at Club Pheasant in West Sacramento.

Larry Budney, the club's final president, said that due to dwindling membership and low attendance at meetings, the difficult decision was made to fold this once mighty club.

"We were having trouble getting members into the club, and the guys were just not able to get to the meetings," he said. "We went from a newsletter mail-out of 120 people to down to 60. And of the 60 mailings, only 20, max, would ever appear at the meetings. The momentum of the club had pretty much dwindled and went away. So, we took a hard look at ourselves and decided to call an end to the club."

With the remaining funds of their budget, the club financed their final gathering, which was attended by about 65 people, of which at least 50 were members.

While overlooking the room, Budney commented on the well-attended event.

"We're just happy with the fact that we're able to get this many people tonight," he said.

The club's history dates back to the early 1900s, and the organization was incorporated on Nov. 10, 1913.

In its following day report on the club, The Sacramento Bee noted: "It was agreed that any person owning property on the south side (of the city was) eligible for membership" and "the club (would) fight for desired public improvements."

The "South Side" section of the city was then described as being located from Front to 15th streets and from R to Y (now Broadway) streets. However, the club eventually eliminated their strict boundary requirements.

The club was chartered with 20 members, who, during their Nov. 10, 1913 meeting at the O.D.E.S. Hall on W Street, between 5th and 6th streets, elected Charles S. Ralph, president; William L. Rose, vice president; Peter J. Nusbaum, treasurer; and Charles W. Walser, secretary. The club's constitution was read and approved during the organization's following meeting on Nov. 24, 1913.

Among the early activities and improvements that the club played significant roles in were the development of Southside and William Land parks, the construction of the William A. Carroll and Robert E. Callahan memorials, the repairing and removal of levees, and improvements to local streets. For many years, the club worked in a partnership with the city to present the annual 4th of July fireworks show and other entertainment at Southside Park.

The club was also influential in the efforts to have the current swimming pool constructed at Southside Park.

Budney said that the club eventually transformed into a social club.

"The reality is that we don't have a lot of business to do any more," he said. "This club is no longer a politically oriented club like it was at one time. It's pretty much a social club.

"I think there will be guys that will be gathering together and still meeting on an informal basis, but not on an official basis."

Budney noted that folding the club had nothing to do with the cost of dues.

"Not at $3 a year," he said. "That's one of the things that Al (Balshor, a former president of the club) kept for a long time was the dues at $3 a year. So, yeah, that would not be a problem whatsoever."

He added that any club that maintains its existence for more than a century has members that are passionate and dedicated.

Budney also mentioned the types of influential people who were members of the club.

"At one time, we had people in our club who were mayors, police chiefs, people involved with the legislature, and we had a lot of influence," he said. "People would gather and send letters to the city managers and put a lot of pressure on people that made decisions about improving the city conditions. So, we were very powerful at one time."

During its history, the club had 57 presidents, eight of whom are living today.

At the event, members of the club made it evident that Al Balshor remains their most memorable president of the club.

Al, who owned Balshor Florist from its establishment in 1950 until his death in 2015, was referred to by his widow, Marie, as "the glue that held the club together."



Photo by Lance Armstrong

The event, which included a meal and a program with speakers and singing, was well attended.

Marie said that one of the first things that Al did after returning from serving his country in World War II in 1945 was get recruited to join the Southside Improvement Club.

She also mentioned that if someone desired to be successful I Sacramento at that time, they would join the Southside Improvement Club.

"At one time, in order to get a job with the city of Sacramento, you had to come before this club, and many also joined," she said. "There were many influential members that could help them find a job. It was like Tammany Hall, but not Mafia."

Budney also commented on Al, who grew up in a large family in a home at 315 U St., near Southside Park.

"Al was definitely a leader and he was a motivator and he had direction and purpose," he said. "That is what we were looking for, and so there's a lot of truth to the fact that when he passed, we lost momentum. We definitely struggled, so it was difficult for the club to absorb his loss."

Another notable name on the list of former presidents of the club is George L. Klumpp, who served as mayor of Sacramento and was a part owner of the old Sacramento Solons baseball team.

Although Klumpp, who lived for many years at 920 U St., died at the age of 77 on Sept. 24,

See Farewell, page 14



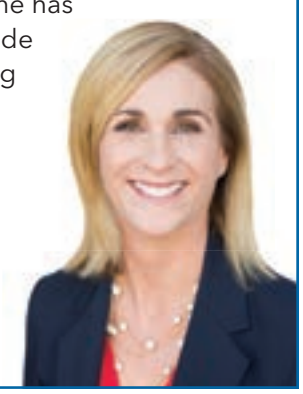
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Holiday cheer brought to residents of Eskaton

By JOE PERFECTO

A bit of holiday cheer arrived a few weeks early for residents of the Eskaton Monroe Lodge retirement community on Freeport Boulevard by way of a Holiday Sing-Along on Dec. 9. About two dozen attendees enjoyed 90 minutes of holiday songs and musical performances, and a brief visit with a familiar-looking bespectacled fellow adorned with an elegant red outfit, tall black boots and a long, thick, white curly beard crowned with an impossibly stylish handlebar 'stache. This was the third year for the event, presented by the Land Park Community Association (LPCA) in appreciation for the complimentary use of Eskaton's facilities for LPCA meetings. A secondary goal was to solicit t-shirts, socks and monetary donations to Sacramento Children's Home.

The festivities opened with an animated, enthusiastic reading of *A Visit from St. Nicholas* (aka *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*) given by LPCA president Dr. L. Steven Winlock (a familiar face to longtime Sacramentans due to his years of hosting KVIE pledge breaks). As he related the age-old story, Winlock strolled, gestured and pranced, interspersing his own comments with the actual text, such as "On Comet, on Cupid, on Donner and Blitzen—who did we *forget*? He's not *in* here! *Rudolph*! Thank you!" and "Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a pound; he was dressed all in fur—not politically correct, I know."

Next a string quartet from C.K. McClatchy High School gave surprisingly professional renditions of a variety of holiday selections. Winlock then returned to lead the group in a sing-along featuring yet other holiday classics, with accompaniment by local pianist Judy Emick at the keys of a beautiful ebony Henry F. Miller baby grand. While they solicited requests, the only suggestions came from Helen, a matronly resident who asked for a few unfamiliar pieces; not only was there no sheet music available, the pianist had not heard of them. So the resident sang a bit of one—in German. Three students of nearby Health Professions HS then took the stage to perform a few brief pieces on piano, guitar and that most traditional holiday instrument, the ukelele.



Photos by Joe Perfecto

Young and old alike spent some face time with Santa.

Perhaps the highlight of the afternoon was lap time with Santa. It got off to a slow start, with only a few venturing forth to perch on the Great Red One's knee (Helen, who is of a somewhat robust build, was willing and able, but refrained because "I'm afraid I would crush his leg."). So Santa sauntered into the seats, visiting with each attendee in turn to learn their Christmas wishes, and giving each a warm embrace. Some wishes such as "world peace" and "happy people" were said aloud, but others were delivered right to Santa's ear, as if they perhaps tended a bit toward the mischie-

See Sing-Along, page 9

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Sing-Along:

Continued from page 8

vous end of the naughty-or-nice spectrum. Only Santa knows for sure, but he was tight-lipped on the topic.

Once all wishes had been heard and photos with Santa had been taken (the Land Park News reporter found himself pressed into impromptu service as Santa's official photographer), the assemblage adjourned to the West Rec room for an assortment of refreshments courtesy of Sprouts Market, and coffee donated by Starbucks. At some point it was observed that The Jolly One had left the building, for there could be heard a curious commotion coming from the general direction of the roof, similar to a ruckus heard a bit earlier. Could it be that he'd made his way back up the chimney to his sleigh and his steeds, and "away they all flew, like the down of a thistle?"

Air traffic control staff at Executive Airport was asked about sleigh sighting reports; a supervisor stated that due to the vehicle's extreme speed, visual contact is unlikely. The renowned sleigh *can* be precisely tracked via radar because it carries a device that transmits a unique N*POLE*1 identifier, but due to security concerns, TRACON can no longer discuss the sleigh's movements. However, the supervisor, who requested anonymity, made comments off the record indicating that the sleigh's airborne days are not yet over.

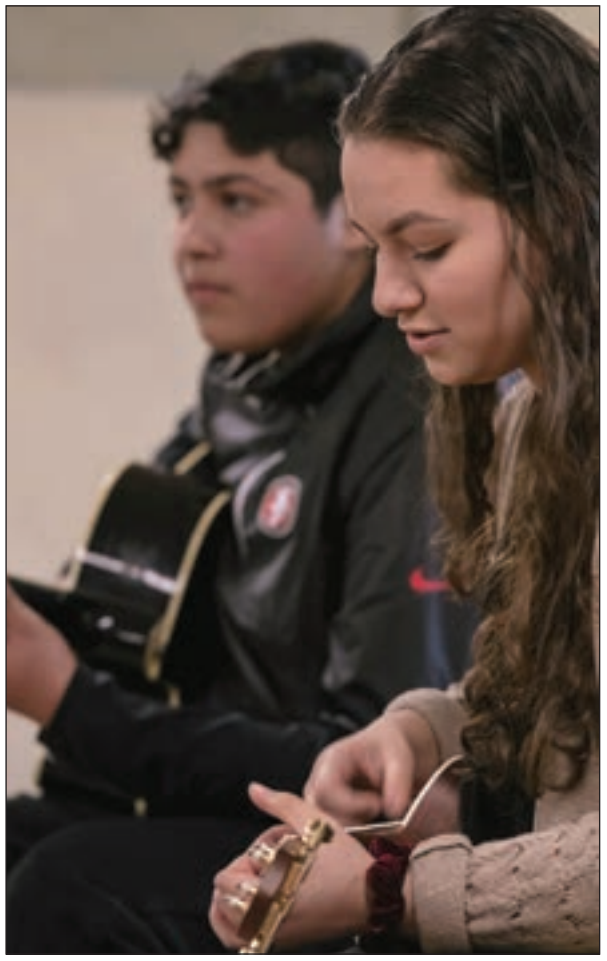
Now, if someone would stuff a surveillance camera and roof mount in Eskaton's stocking, maybe at the *fourth* annual Sing-Along the mystery surrounding Santa's comings and goings will at last be resolved.



A CK McClatchy HS string quartet performs Away in a Manger.



Eskaton resident Mari sits for a portrait to be used in her Christmas cards.



Students of Health Professions HS performed a few short holiday songs.

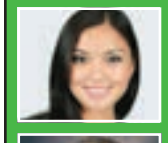
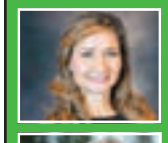
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Bicycles:

Continued from page 5

example,] we sell inner tubes for $5 every day." (The typical cost is about $8.)

What's more, the shop incorporates a *culture of giving*. Beyond the moderate pricing, Dzurinko's been known to throw in additional parts or labor for no extra cost, to make deliveries to customers in need (despite recently having his van go kaput) and even to open the shop on his day off under special circumstances. Dzurinko and crew (Andrew, Collin and Nicole) also find time, despite their often demanding shop schedule, to lend support to charity concerns such as the Boys 4 Bikes group, whose own story deserves telling.

In late 2014, just weeks after Sutterville opened its doors, a group of 10 East Sacramento middle school students decided to venture into the business world by offering baked goods to the throngs of visitors drawn by the neighborhood's annual holiday home tour. Like some of their wares, the returns were sweet and plump, to the tune of a bit over $1,000. This raised the issue of what to do with all that holiday greenery, as the group *had no preconceived plan*. It was decided that the cash would be used to buy bikes for children in need—and Boys 4 Bikes was born.

One of the boys, Owen, was the son of one of Dzurinko's customers, Mary Kelly, who asked for help in making it happen. Through his wholesalers Dzurinko got all the bikes he could for the available cash and the shop crew assembled them at no charge. To those he added some used rigs, for a total of 30 bikes that were then distributed through several organizations such as Stanford Youth Solutions.

In similar fashion the number of bikes rose to 40 in 2015, and to 50 last year. While Boys 4 Bikes will host yet another bake sale at this year's holiday home tour, their earnings from their booth at the Sutterville party—combined with the raffle proceeds donated by Dzurinko—puts the group $1,000 to the good, a month ahead of schedule. Due to this windfall, and the group's unwavering enthusiasm, Dzurinko is hoping to donate a record number of bikes this year. He expects to continue his association with the boys into the foreseeable future. "I'm really proud to work with Boys 4 Bikes," he said. "Their excitement encourages me to keep with it."

Dzurinko was also involved in relief efforts in the wake of the widespread devastation of the recent Santa Rosa fires. The Bike Hikers club approached him for help in getting new bikes to children in a Santa Rosa school district whose families had suffered severe losses. He immediately secured the bikes for the club at a sizable discount through a wholesaler, he and his crew quickly assembled them at no charge, and on Nov. 8 the club delivered them to what club member Becky Neal described as "very appreciative kids and their parents."

In its review of a book authored by a particular one-time embodiment of pro cycling who unfortunately has since fallen from grace, the Cincinnati Enquirer said: "It's not about the bike, or about the sport. It's about the soul." The book's author himself once noted, "Knowledge is power, community is strength and positive attitude is everything." Within the walls of Sutterville Bicycle Company are found the accoutrements typical for a shop of its kind, and quite a lot of stock that isn't. But far more importantly, behind its small, dimly-lit entrance is something far greater—a *nexus* where soul, knowledge, community and positive attitude converge, where the bicycle is a work of art, a way of life.



Photo by Joe Perfecto

Sutterville Bicycles owner Jeff Dzurinko addresses party-goers outside the shop.

And that spot in Hollywood Park is where Jeff Dzurinko and his staff want to be. "We've been growing every day for the past three years. I feel very fortunate to be in this community," Dzurinko said. "I love the neighborhood; I'm really happy here."

From all appearances, the community is happy he's there as well.

The Sutterville Bicycle Company is located at 2356 Sutterville Bypass. Bike shop hours are: Monday, closed; Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sunday: Noon to 6 p.m.

On the web:
Sutterville Bicycle Company -- www.suttervillebicycle.com
Boys 4 Bikes -- paypal.me/Boys4Bikes

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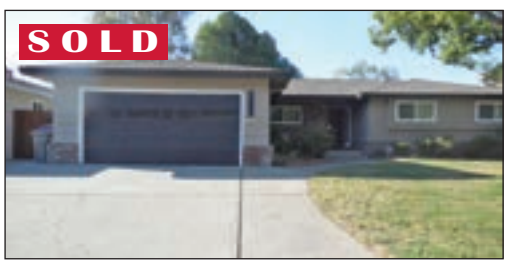
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Local author of TigerFish releases children's book

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

During the great flood of 1997 in Northern California, pumpkins from the Sacramento farms floated down the river past the bucolic town of Clarksburg on their way to the San Francisco Bay. Whole pumpkins of various sizes bobbed among the debris, branches, logs, tree trunks, garbage, and critters in the fast and muddy current. Children spotted them while riding in the car on the River Road near home and it caused quite a stir that afternoon.

This unique event inspired Pocket author Hoàng Chi Truong Smith to write "No Ordinary Sue" for her children. While working on publishing her book "TigerFish" in 2017, California experienced yet another high-water year, so she decided to share this historical fiction children's book with other families.

"No Ordinary Sue" is a flood refugee who started her journey as a timid pumpkin. Her neighbor, Lulu later joined her, and their exodus turns into an exciting and rewarding journey while helping others in need along the way. In the end, she finds her dream life because she acts courageously with generosity and compassion.

In an interview with the author, Hoàng Chi explains that "No Ordinary Sue" discovers the strengths and confidence she didn't know she had from selflessly serving those who looked for help. "It's a story of self-discovery, compassion, and the willingness to go out of one's comfort zone to achieve their goals and dreams. It highlights the roles of each individual within a of community to work toward the resiliency of its community during a natural or man-made disasters," she said.

During the 1997 flood, Hoàng Chi's young children, who were 7 and 4 years old, spotted the pumpkins floating down the Sacramento River while she drove them to their then-home in Clarksburg. "It was such a peculiar sight of many whole pumpkins of various sizes rushing out to sea. I wrote this story that afternoon for the children but never named nor published it," she said.

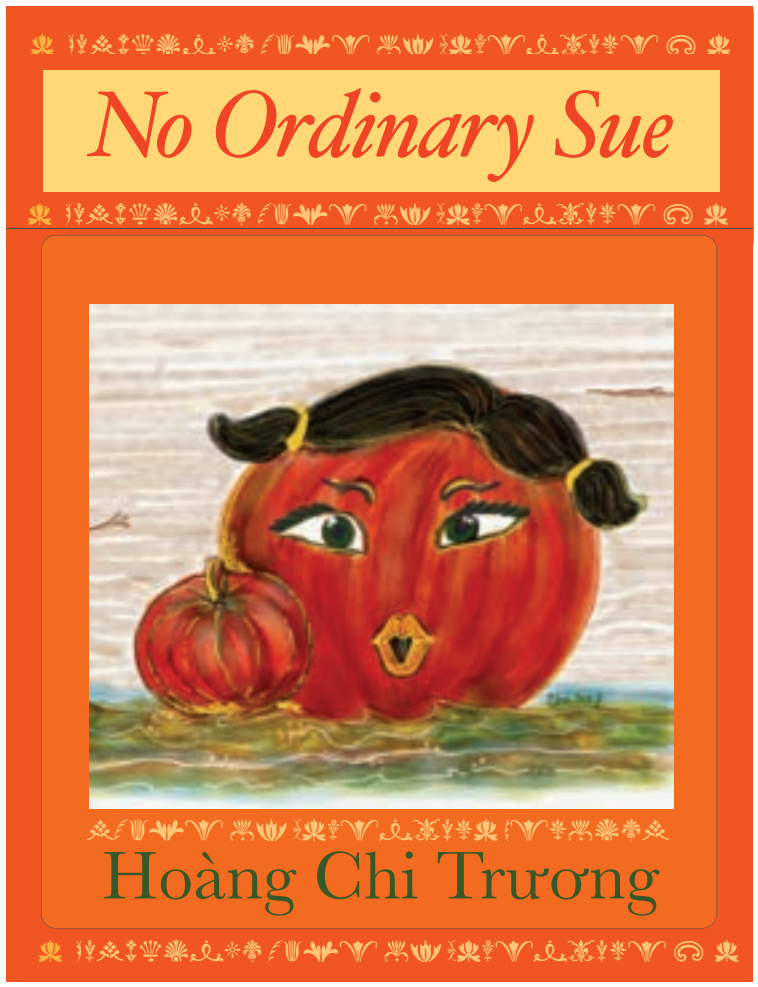
This hobby, writing stories whether fiction or non-fiction of her daily life and experience as a mostly stay-at-home mom when her children were younger, was Hoàng Chi's artistic expression, along with drawings and reading. While the characters in the story are fictional, as they are pumpkins and mice, the family who Sue encounters at the end of her journey is loosely based on Hoàng Chi's own family who sailed in the Sacramento River Delta with the young children and whose young boy has developed an intense love for the seas and sailing at a young age. "He also loved his blanket around this time when he was 3 years old," she said.

As many children's book authors tend to write when their children are young, Hoàng Chi explains it's "because we have a first hand understanding of what our children want and love for us to read, again and again."

"No Ordinary Sue" was written when her children were young, only to be published after the author launched TigerFish for other families to enjoy. It's especially for those who live locally in the Sacramento area and Northern California who remember the 1997 Flood or were disaster refugees themselves, having been evacuated from the affected areas.

"No Ordinary Sue" is adored by parents and non-parents alike who appreciated the bright and adorable illustrations of Sue, the mice, the boy's family, and the scenery – all in bright and happy colors. Each illustration depicted an important moment in the story, explains Hoàng Chi, who is also the illustrator. "I've been drawing as long as I've been reading and writing, so when I decided to publish No Ordinary Sue, it was an easy decision to do my own illustrations."

Hoàng Chi says she values the freedom that comes with



self-publishing and she's using Createspace, a Print on Demand service associated with Amazon to print and publish both of her books, "TigerFish" and this new children's book, "No Ordinary Sue."

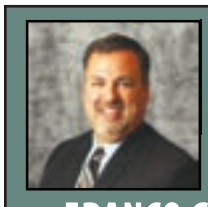
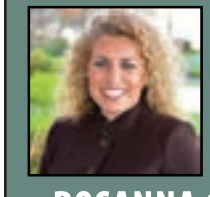
"No Ordinary Sue" is now available on Kindle. The paperback edition will be available after Dec. 16 on Amazon and soon after at Blumoon Books & Vinyls and Davis Avid Reader.

A bilingual version in both Vietnamese and English will be published in early 2018 "to fill the gaping hole of the underrepresented and underserved segment of readers whose first language is Vietnamese, or wish to raise their children in a bilingual household," Hoàng Chi says. "I didn't have baby or young readers' books in Vietnamese for my children and this hindered my ability to teach them both languages."

Incredibly grateful for those who rallied around her the month before she launched TigerFish, Hoàng Chi says she can safely say that "it's one of the most spiritual times of my life when I'm astounded by the kindness of friends, families, bloggers and authors who selflessly supported me because they believed in my book's message and want to see it shared with the world.

"Last April proved to me that what seemed to be a herculean effort to get TigerFish published could only happen because my support group and community wanted to see me successful in sharing my message and advocacy for refugees, immigrants and the marginalized population. My first published book is an example of collective power of the many, of years in the making since it was written in 1992 and left fallowed until 2016, when I believed that it was no longer mine to keep privately. I had the privilege to realize my American Dream and felt the moral obligation to speak up for the voiceless as I once was a teenage refugee."

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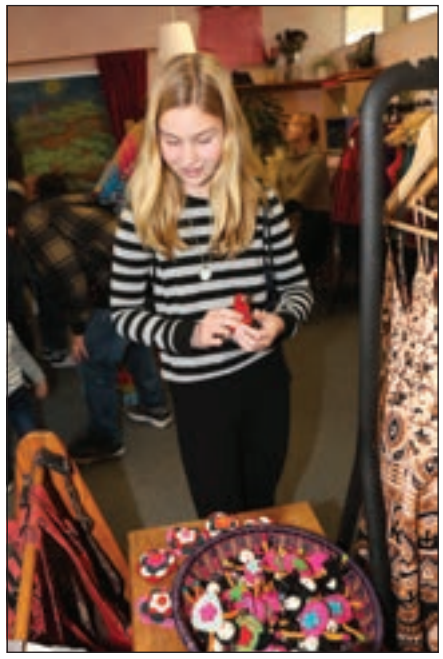
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Faces and Places:

Alice Birney Winter Faire & Festival of Light 2017

Photos by STEPHEN CROWLEY
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This delightful celebration of the season was a wonderful school and community event. A fun family day, Alice Birney offered crafts, handmade items from talented parents and students, a vendor area with a nice selection of mostly handmade items and the Starlight Cafe for a snack. Musical performances took place and there was plenty of time to hang out with friends. A highlight of this event featured the Children's Store where children got to go shopping and purchase holiday gifts (often made by parents and friends) for as little as 50 cents. The line is always long and the anticipation great as they wait for a chance to enter this magical place that has been lovingly decorated to resemble a fairy forest (complete with fairy lights). No parents were allowed inside. Children were greeted by an adult that helped them with their shopping.

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FARM AND FLAVOR

By KERIN GOULD

The summer crops are all tilled under now with sparrows and finches pecking at leftover seeds and bugs. Winter crops are being planted as soil dries enough to allow walking between rows. Seedlings for greens, snow peas and sweet turnips are getting their starts under gray, fuzzy sky. This means that the season of comfort food and nostalgic indulgences has arrived.

But what if your health and/or sensitivities really *need* you to stay on track? Let's have a few goals: Continue eating fresh produce; Limit sweets and processed foods; Savor every bite mindfully; Share; Love the nostalgia, but let's avoid eating our feelings to the point we create new regrets.

I've been a vegetarian for almost 40 holiday seasons' worth of social awkwardness, challenges and gotcha questions, lack of satisfying foods, etc. I have been at that party where dinner was hours behind schedule, and then the lone "vegetarian" dish had shrimp in it. (What tree do you suppose shrimp grow on!?!?) I'll admit I was cranky, not the most gracious guest. Not proud of it.

So I have some suggestions to help things stay festive and friendly:

Let people know in advance about your limitations, and tell them, "Don't go to any trouble for me, but I don't want to make you feel bad if I don't eat something." Don't say I "don't do" tomatoes. Explain allergies or long-term food practices (vegetarian, vegan etc.) clearly.

Bring a dish to share that makes *you* happy and full. Feeling *hangry* can spoil any event (see my bad example above). Hit the farmers' market to see what is in season and what appeals to your senses. Save experimental, exotic dishes that scream "hippie health-nut!" for another time. Think "kid-friendly", even among adults. Show-off casseroles like a veggie tamale pie or a vegetable Wellington will satisfy everyone My maple-coconut yams are picky kid-tested. Who needs sugary marshmallows?

Holiday Yams

Ingredients:
3 large sweet potatoes (mix purple and orange colors if you like), sliced into 1/4 inch rounds
1/2 c. finely chopped walnuts
1/2 c. shredded coconut
1/2 c. butter (substitute), melted
1/2 c. orange juice
1/2 c. maple syrup

Directions:
- Preheat oven to 375 degrees
- Mix melted butter, orange juice and maple syrup and set aside.
- In a casserole dish, layer slices of sweet potato to cover the bottom.
- Sprinkle coconut and nuts over the slices, then add another layer of sweet potatoes, more coconut and nuts, etc until you fill the casserole dish.
- Sprinkle nuts and coconut over the top, the pour the liquid evenly over the whole dish.
- Bake for about 30 minutes, until the liquid is bubbling, sweet potatoes are tender, and the top is a little browned.
- Don't throw the traditional baby out with the bath-water! Small adjustments can save the day! Wild rice blends can make a rice dish richer AND healthier. Green beans can be cooked with a homemade mushroom duxelle rather than canned soup. Pies can be more fruit than sugar and flour, and the crust and sweeteners can be healthier. Try an almond flour crust and maple syrup for sweetening. More cinnamon too!

Hold out for the tastiest indulgences with the most nostalgia-value. Candy canes can just be decorations unless you wait all year for them. Remember the Seinfeld episode about eating a Snickers bar with a fork and knife? Elevate your treat! Savor slowly focusing on the exquisiteness of a treat. A small amount on a big plate – the way the French plate their restaurant food – can encourage mindfulness. Or just the opposite! Take a small plate and load it so it looks like a huge portion, putting healthy stuff on your plate first, the less nutritious stuff around that.

Find an ally! Don't be marginalized in your own family. Invite co-conspirators into the kitchen while you are preparing food or sit with a health-conscious relative at the dinner table. Holidays are no time to feel lonely and left out, munching on twigs and leaves and resentment. Incidentally, celery may help lower blood pressure…just sayin'!

Don't apologize for your choices, and don't debate. Tell people your food choices make you feel good physically and mentally. That's all. And be grateful we can make such choices for ourselves.

Watch out for sugary drinks. Put sparkling water in any juice to reduce sugar and make it bubbly-special. Spicy chai or a low-sugar/non-dairy hot chocolate with a drop of peppermint extract can warm you up. Ginger or peppermint tea works if your stomach feels nasty from the hubbub. Try this fruit-filled Mexican-style punch:

Make 1 quart of strong hibiscus tea

- Add it to 4 more quarts of water in a pot
- Chop and add a couple of guavas, a pear, an apple, an orange and some prunes
- Add 2 sticks of cinnamon and several 4 inch sticks of fresh sugar cane. Add a few slices of ginger and a pinch of clove if you like. Bring to a boil, then let simmer for an hour. Sweeten as needed. Strain and serve hot

Give yourself the gift of some space. Schedule regular walks for your "digestion". Take a breather from stuffy air, germs, and most of all people. I'm going out to walk the dogs around the field right now.

Visit producewithapurpose.wordpress.com for more recipes and resources.

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Farewell:

Continued from page 7

1967, his name continues to be known today through the historic Land Park business, George L. Klumpp Chapel of Flowers. That business is located a short distance south of Balshor Florist.

Another former president of the club, Manuel Perry, who was born at 314 ½ U St., across the street from Al Balshor, said that Al introduced him to the club.

"When I got out of the Marine Corps in 1956, Al Balshor told me the first thing I've got to do before I even go to a bar was to come with him to the Southside Improvement Club," he said. "Only in those days – it was kind of a joke – they called it the Southside Employment Club. And truthfully, for a lot of us kids that grew up in the Southside (area), that was the correct name for the Southside Improvement Club."

Dr. Herbert Yee, a former, notable Sacramento dentist and longtime member of the club, said that he became very familiar with the Southside area during the 1930s.

"As a child I ran from 7th and J (streets) down to Southside Park and around and came back," he said. "I was only like 12 years old. In those days, there was not (a lot of) traffic."

Chris Brown, another former president of the group, conducted an audience participation activity.

During that activity, it was determined that Perry, at 85 years old, is the club's oldest living president, while Yee, 93, is the oldest living member of the club.

Forty-eight-year-old William Burg, who served as the club's historian, was recognized as the club's youngest member.

The event also included a meal, a raffle, which included 45 poinsettia plants from Balshor Florist and other items, and a historical film presented by Burg.

In being that the gathering was celebrated as a "sunset party," Budney gave a prayer, in which he said, "For over 100 years, the men and women of this club have met and worked to improve the conditions of this city. We shared meals, shared stories, shared school and community memories, and (grew) to appreciate and love each other.

"We have aged, become sick and come to accept we are not able to go on any longer. The sun sets for this club. We are happy for what we have accomplished, and who we are at this moment. We say goodbye to one another and hope the best for each."

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Words Matter. I'm amazed Dr. Boucher didn't shoot Senator Paul. Holidays are anxious times, before you lose it, lash out without thinking, talk to me. I'll listen. G Epstein, MD 916-454-3668

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What's happening, Land Park?

FRIDAY, DEC. 15

LIVING HOLIDAY ORNAMENTS WORKSHOP: A fun project with air plants that makes a great gift, an impressive holiday decoration or for a fun, crafty night with friends, all while sippin' on a glass of wine or hot chocolate! In this workshop, participants will be creating their own living ornament with natural elements, which can be hung on your Christmas tree (or around the house after the holidays)! This affordable workshop is great to do with friends or as a date night, from 6 to 8 p.m. 2791 24th St. Room 11 at Sierra 2 Center. Fee is $28 per person. Admission includes a glass of wine (or hot chocolate) and all materials. Advanced Registration Required; Attendance is limited. Visit to learn more and register at sierra2.org/event/living-holiday-ornaments/

FESTIVE HOLIDAY JAZZ CELEBRATION: Starting at 7 p.m., The Brickhouse Art Gallery presents a "Festive Holiday Jazz Celebration". The concert features local inspirational jazz singer Carol Manson and music director Chet Chwalik with the Blue Skies Band. Band members include: Chet Chwalik, piano; Kerry Kashiwagi, bass; Russell Brown, guitar; Jeff Minnieweather, percussions. To help usher in the holiday season singer Curtis James Smith will join us for a song or two! Wine, beer, soft drinks will be available. The Brickhouse is located at 2837 36th St. For tickets, visit /www.eventbrite.com/e/festive-holiday-jazz-celebration-carol-manson-with-chet-chwalik-tickets-39753550941
Cost is $10 in advance/$15 at the door.

SWIM WITH SANTA AT THE YMCA: Santa Claus returns to the indoor heated swimming pool at the Sacramento Central YMCA to enjoy a swim with local children. The annual "Swim With Santa" will welcome kids to bring their wish list and join Santa for poolside pictures and a swim. Photos with Santa are from 5 to 6:30 p.m. and the swim with Santa is from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. "Swim With Santa" is free and open to all. There is a suggested donation of $2 per person to benefit YMCA youth programs or a non-perishable food item benefiting the Sacramento Food Bank. All kids under age 7 must have a parent in the water with them at all times. In addition to a swimming with Santa, families can join Mrs. Claus while she reads her favorite holiday stories. Children will also have the opportunity to make Christmas ornaments in Santa's workshop with his elves or play some reindeer games for all ages. At the end of the night, families can exit through the pool patio to make Snowman Soup (hot chocolate) for $1. During the holiday season the Sacramento Central YMCA will be offering a variety of Giving Season promotions. Bring your gifts by the Sacramento Central YMCA to get them wrapped by our volunteers who will be onsite collecting $5 donations ($1 for each additional gift) on December 16 from 10 a.m. to noon, and Dec. 18 and 20 from 9 a.m. to noon. Visitors can also join the YMCA Giving Tree tradition. Stars on the tree have specific item donation requests from the Loaves and Fishes, and Mustard Seed School. Grab a star off the tree and bring in the donated item suggested on the back and place it under the Giving Tree. Tree ornaments are also available at the Front Desk ($5 suggested donation for ornaments). Holiday shoppers can also consider giving the gift of good health with a YMCA gift certificate.

SATURDAY, DEC. 16

SING WITH BUDDY THE ELF, MOVIE MATINEE AT THE 24TH STREET THEATRE: 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.; theatre fundraiser showing of the holiday joyride: Elf. Come early for cookie decorating, a holiday craft, hot cocoa, coffee, and candy canes. Wear your best ugly sweater, Santa hat or elf ears to receive a raffle ticket for holiday goodies (or buy more to improve your chances). You can "spread christmas cheer and sing loud for all to hear" led by Mister Cooper before the show begins. There will be an intermission about halfway through the event. The show is free, but we would appreciate a $10 donation per person (for the Theatre Restoration Project), for which you will receive a customized holiday ornament for your tree. Concessions will be available. Holiday Photo Booth, Beer, Wine, and Cider, Soda/Capri Sun/Bottled water, Plush Toys, Goody bags, "Restore the Theatre" Totes and T-Shirts, Vintage Seat sales. New seat sponsorships available; 2791 24th St, Sacramento, CA 95818.



File photo by Lance Armstrong

SWIM WITH SANTA AT THE YMCA

MODEL RAILROAD PARTY – Visit the American River Model Railroad Society to learn about where trains travel. Experience the history of America through the magic of model trains. You may even meet Thomas and Friends! All ages. Dec. 16 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Belle Cooledge Library, 5600 South Land Park Dr., Sacramento.

THE MAGIC OF TIMOTHY JAMES – Come celebrate the winter holidays with a spectacular magic show with award winning illusionist, Timothy James as he makes bowling balls appear from nowhere, makes drawing comes to life and has the audience predict the future! Saturday, December 16 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Ella K. McClatchy Library, 2112 22nd St., Sacramento.]

13th ANNUAL ROCK FOR TOTS TO BENEFIT JOHN'S PROGRAM FOR REAL CHANGE THIS WINTER: Returning to Sacramento for the 13th year, Rock for Tots is gathering toys for children as part of the annual holiday concert featuring local bands. Music will include Life in 24 Frames, Among the First, Jacob Paul & the Heartbeat, and Paulie Onoff at Holy Diver 1517 21st St. at 7 p.m. Tickets are available for $10 each on Eventbrite. Anyone bringing a toy, or children's pajamas, will be entered into a prize raffle. Local businesses are supporting the raffle with prizes including haircuts, wine, dining, skateboards, apparel, gift cards and even tattoos. This year's event will support Saint John's Program for Real Change, operating Sacramento's largest shelter and the only one exclusively serv-

See more What's Happening, page 18

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PRESENTATIONS
BACKYARD BIRD SAFARI, Landscape Artist Mike Heacox
GOING BATTY, Corky Quirk
CONSERVATION AMBASSADORS, Gabriel Kerschner
CAL-WASTE, Leesa Klotz
HAWKS, HONKERS AND HOOTS, Kelli Moulden
KEYNOTE SPEAKER, PAUL BANNICK

TOURS
Sunrise Photography Tour/Kyle Bowlin
Tall Forrest & Riparian Habitat/Dr. John Trochet
Heritage Oaks Bird Walk & Lunch/David Yee
Birds & Beer at the Barn/Amber Veselka & River Rock Brewery
Paint & Sip at the Barn/Amber Veselka & Consumnes River Farm
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Barn Owl

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Space is limited, so sign up for tours now at website below.
Visit www.ci.galt.ca.us/WBF for more information or call 209-366-7180

What's happening, Land Park?

Continued from page 17

ing homeless women and children in crisis. To learn more about the annual event estimated to help at least 300 children, contact Jake Desrochers at (916) 370-2942. For more information about Saint John's Program for Real Change, contact Rebecca Sloan at (916) 798-0777.

SOL RISING CELEBRATION! Sol Collective is hosting Sol Rising, an open-house event designed to give thanks to the community that helped Sol Collective buy their first building on Dec. 16. You are welcome to join Sol Collective for Sol Rising, a night of music, food, and familia to thank you for support in purchasing our building earlier this year. The group will also be unveiling some exciting future plans for the development and expansion of the Sol Collective Arts and Cultural Center! Bring the whole family out for a night of Sol food, art, live music, and celebration at Sol Rising from 4 to 7 p.m. at Sol Collective, 2574 21st St., Sacramento, California 95818. Tickets available at www.eventbrite.com

SATURDAY, DEC. 16-SUNDAY, DEC. 17

FAIRYTALE TOWN WINTER WONDERLAND: This year's holiday celebration will bring Dr. Seuss' beloved holiday tale How the Grinch Stole Christmas to life. Enjoy Grinch-themed activities, festive holiday decorations, dazzling lights, and more! Visit with Santa in his workshop, step inside a giant snow globe, and watch a flurry of snowfall at 7 p.m. Tickets are on sale now! Tickets are $7 for nonmembers and $3.50 for members. Children ages 1 and under are free.

SUNDAY, DEC. 17

BAZAAR IN THE BARRIO: From 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., Barrio Cafe will be having local craftsmen & artists selling their arts, crafts, and creations! Just in time for the holidays! Support local businesses while shopping for your loved ones this holiday season. Barrio Cafe is located at 1188 35th Ave.

GLOBAL LOCAL MERCADO-HOLIDAY SEASON AT SOL COLLECTIVE: The holiday season is here! From 2 to 6 p.m., come support international and local artisan collectives and vendors. Discover authentic handmade and unique gifts for yourself and your loved ones! Global and Local artisan goods, food and music! Sol Collective invites you to the 12th annual Global Local Mercado season! The mercado is meant to highlight handmade, arts & cultural goods by local and global vendors. This year we will also feature curated vintage and much more. Rolas y Ritmos by the Raza Vinyl Collective will be in the house spinning some tunes! Participating Vendors include: The Fig & The Wasp, PXC Designs, WeAreSeeds, Ama y Apa Tiendita, Prismatic Design: The Artwork of Brie Hardy, Retrospect Vintage, Cocoa Charms, LLC - Cocoa & Shea Butter Body Butters, Bluebird_song, Shop JUST. The vision of the Global Local Mercado is to support economic development, cultural preservation of Global and Local artisans and to make arts & cultural goods accessible to the community at large. Our store embodies the work of global to local artisans focused on sustaining and sharing culture through art, clothing and accessories. The purpose is to introduce their efforts through the Global Local Mercado. Sol Collective, 2574 21st St, Sacramento, California 95818

SUNDAY, DEC. 24

FREE ADMISSION DAY AT FAIRYTALE TOWN: Escape the hustle and bustle of the holiday season for some play and free admission on Christmas Eve from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., weather permitting.

SATURDAY, JAN. 27

TROOP ONE'S CRAB FEED: TROOP ONE OF SACRAMENTO, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA: From 5:30 to 10 p.m., support Troop 1 as you enjoy fresh, hot crab cooked on-site, along with shrimp, pasta, crusty sourdough bread, and salad at the California Automobile Museum is located at 2200 Front St, Sacramento, California 95818. Tickets are available at troop-1.com. The evening will feature music, a raffle, a Silent Auction and Dessert Auction, and the chance to stroll around the California Automobile Museum (included in your ticket price). Proceeds benefit Troop 1 Scouts and make the Boy Scouting and Venture Crew youth programs possible! Tickets are on sale ONLY until January 18 and WILL NOT be sold at the door! Buy tickets in two ways:
1) Download, print, and mail in this form with a check: http://troop-1.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/2018-T1-Crab-Feed.pdf
2) Buy tickets online ($4 extra per ticket if ordered online): troop-1.eventbrite.com

TUESDAY, JAN. 30

COPS & COFFEE: The Land Park Community Association and SacPD invite you to enjoy a variety of free coffee and treats while meeting with officers. Timely updates will be provided as well as opportunities to ask questions. The gathering will take place inside the Crocker-Riverside Elementary Auditorium from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, FEB. 12

TOASTMASTERS VALENTINE'S DAY POTLUCK: Brush up on your public speaking skills and bring a dish to share. Prepare a speech to deliver in a safe environment. Free event, 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Eskaton Monroe Lodge, 3225 Freeport Blvd. For more information, contact mikenerby@gmail.com or call Mike at 847-5409. klassytalkers.toastmastersclubs.org.

ONGOING

WINTER CAMP: DEC. 27-29; JAN. 3-5 Winter at the zoo is unlike any other time of year! Campers will explore the zoo, learn about the animals, participate in games and crafts and even get up-close and personal with some of our animal ambassadors.

STATE FAIR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ANNOUNCED: The Friends of the California State Fair Scholarship Program is now accepting scholarship applications for the 2018 - 2019 academic year. The program offers 14 categories of scholarships ranging from $1,000 - $2,500 each with varying eligibility requirements. Categories include: agriculture, art, academic excellence, business, culinary/hospitality/event management, education, international relations, trade school, viticulture and enology. Applicants may apply for one scholarship category of their choice per year and will be evaluated based on academics, community service, quality of essay and recommendation. Top scholarship winners in select categories may be invited to compete for the $5,000 Ironstone Concours Foundation Scholarship Scholarships are not renewable; however, students may reapply each year as long as they continue to meet the eligibility criteria. The Friends of the California State Fair Scholarship Program is a collaboration between the Friends of the California State Fair, the California Exposition & State Fair, the California State Fair Agricultural Advisory Council, the Ironstone Concours Foundation, Blue Diamond Growers and Western Fairs Association. International Scholarship and Tuition Services, Inc. (ISTS), an independent scholarship management company, hosts the online application process and disburses awards for the program. The deadline to apply is March 2, 2018. Learn more at CAStateFair.org/scholarship. For questions about the Friends of the California State Fair Scholarship Program, please email scholarship@calexpo.com.

LADIES GOLF CLUB IN LAND PARK: Did you know there is a women's golf club that regularly plays at William Land Park? Women can discover the joys of golf, build new social relationships and get fit the fun way by joining the William Land Women's Golf Club. This 9-hole group meets Thursday mornings. It's open to women of all ages and golf abilities. Questions....or want more information....please call 916-422-0831 or email gretjen@comcast.net

See more What's Happening, page 19

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What's happening, Land Park?

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.

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.

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 wivll 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.

BELLE COOLEDGE LIBRARY PRESENTS SING ALONG WITH MISTER COOPER – Join neighborhood favorite Mister Cooper for 30 minutes of music time and freeze dancing for families. Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Belle Cooledge Library, 5600 South Land Park Drive.

FAMILY STORYTIME AT ELLA K. MCCLATCHY LIBRARY – Every Tuesday at 10 a.m. for books, songs, stories and fun. Miss Lindsey and her guitar always make this storytime a fun event. Everyone is welcome to stay for our STEAM stay and play activity of the day. Recommended for ages 0-5. Every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Ella K. McClatchy Library, 2112 22nd St., Sacramento.

THE FORUM: HEALING PATHWAYS PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES: Every Thursday from 5:45 to 7 p.m., the community is welcome to the Sierra 2 Center, 2791 24th St., to participate "CONVERSATIONS ON THE EDGE!" The forum provides a framework for investigating human nature. FORUM IS NOT THERAPY, it is a ritualized form of communication designed to enhance transparency, growth, and community. A Way of Group Communication and Being in Community through a Culture of Non-Violence. Tamara Intentional Community and Forum Founders Sabine Lichtenfels and Dr. Dieter Duhm define one aspect of community as living truthfully with each other and this is the cornerstone of our peace work. Another aspect of having a culture of non-violence is ending the war between genders, by letting go of fear in the humanistic love we share with and for one another, despite our gender differences and the complexities brought to our gender identity. These definitions embody what it means to be in Forum, including transparency with our felt experience and what is alive in us, psychologically and emotionally. Participants connect through their own self awareness and through a willingness to share it with the group. They may wish to do this nonverbally, with active or passive facilitation, through a poem, dance, or whatever moves you! The Forum will be held in the Garden Room. Donations are encouraged to cover the cost of room rental.

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF SACRAMENTO SOUTH MEETING: The club welcomes women and girls to the club's lunch meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. at the Aviators Restaurant, at Executive Airport, 6151 Freeport Blvd.

WEDNESDAY COFFEE AND CONVERSATION GATHERING: Every Wednesday morning from 7 to 10 am., join neighbors at Cafe Latte, 7600 Greenhaven Drive, for conversation and fun. Find the group back near the piano.

ACC PRESENTS 'BODY WISDOM BREATH AND MOVEMENT': Perform easy to follow seated and standing exercises for health and well-being. Most movements are based on eastern techniques for relaxing and re-energizing the body. Use simple Qigong postures to stimulate vitalizing "Chi". Discover the joy of self-massage and acupressure. Slow down with guided imagery and meditative breath-work. Improving your health and be simple and fun. Pre-registration and Pre-payment of $20 @ $5 per class required. $7 Drop-in rate per class. Class will be held from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. at ACC Senior Services, 1180 Corporate Way. For more details, call (916)393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.org.

ACC PRESENTS YOGA-NEW: This yoga class introduces the lyengar method of hatha yoga. Basic standing, sitting, forward extension, introductory inversion, and restorative postures will be taught. This class will build upon prior class and will use props to assist the students. You will need a yoga mat and possibly blocks, belts and blankets. Pre-payment is $6 per class or $8 drop-in rate. Pre-registration required. Class is now held from 7 to 7:30 p.m. at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. for more details, call (916)393-9026 ext 330. www.accsv.org

BABY/TODDLER STORYTIME -- Babies and toddlers (ages 0 to 3 years) and their caretakers are invited to join us for songs and rhymes. Arrive early or stay late for extra social time with other children and parents. Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 11 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. at Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library, 7335 Gloria Drive, Sacramento.

KNIT TOGETHER -- Love to knit? Want to learn? Join the library for expert advice, great conversation and more. All crafters are welcome--not just knitters! Every Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. at Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library, 7335 Gloria Drive, Sacramento.

NATURE EXPLORERS AT THE SACRAMENTO ZOO: The Sacramento Zoo and the Sacramento Library in an open play environment, the last Saturday of the month anytime between 10 am to 2 pm. Near the playground, there will be storytime, playing, and exploring the wonders of the natural world with a new topic each month. For more information, call 808-5888; 3930 West Land Park Drive.

WELLS FARGO WEDNESDAY AT THE SACRAMENTO ZOO: Thanks to Wells Fargo, the first Wednesday of each month in 2017 is Wells Fargo Wednesday. Up to four children ages 2-11 receive free admission to the Sacramento Zoo with a paid adult.



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