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Land Park News

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California Museum exhibit highlights Chinese-Americans

see page 8

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"Oops": Raley's iconic neon sign comes crashing down, but have no fear, it's OK

LAND PARK NEWS
WWW.VALCOMNEWS.COM

E-mail stories & photos to: editor@valcomnews.com
Editorial questions: (916) 267-8992

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Cover by:
Steve Crowley



By Monica Stark

As Raley's on 4850 Freeport readies itself for the big move next door, the iconic neon sign came down with a crash on Feb. 3. Some took to the internet exclaiming "Rest in Pieces". And down the street, Land Park Ski and Sports responded to the incident in jest on their sign with one word: "Oops". Meanwhile, Raley's addressed the community via social media: "Have NO FEAR, the sign is okay!" They said the script on Raley's logo was impacted, but the letters are fine... despite the pictures. In partnership with Western Sign Company, Raley's will rebuild and refurbish it using the original elements to maintain the integrity of the historic sign, according to an official statement. The iconic "Rx" had already been removed and was unaffected. Raley's looks forward to reinstalling the iconic sign at the new Raley's location in March with the new store opening in April.

According to SacMod (Sacramento Modern)'s 2016 Sacramento Mid-Century Modern Home Tour guidebook, Freeport Boulevard has historically been a commercial corridor and contains many of Sacramento's beloved neon signs, which contribute to the streetscape's authentic and vintage character. Electrical Products Corporation was located at 2101 28th St. and designed the Raley's sign as well as many other favorites in Sacramento, including Sam's Hofbrau that was located at J and 17th streets, the original Tower Records "dancing kids" sign atop Tower Cafe, "Jugglin' Joe" from Gunther's Ice Cream and the Hollywood Hardware hammer on Freeport Boulevard.

In other Raley's News, there is a job fair, today – Thursday, Feb. 13 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Raley's College Greens 8391 Folsom Blvd. They are hiring for a variety of positions. Apply on the website to Store #415. Walk-ins are welcome.

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Neon and Nostalgia, Reminiscent Gallery Exhibit



Images are original, copyrighted works of René Domingo, Hollywood Hardware, Sacramento

René Domingo is displaying "an ongoing photographic journey documenting vintage neon signs and other roadside nostalgia" in the upcoming art exhibition, Neon and Nostalgia. The exhibit will be featured in The University Union's Gallery until Feb. 13 during general hours.

Rene was called to the world of photography while she attended Sac State in the 1980's. However, she began receiving training to do professional photography in 2008 at Cosumnes River College.

Rene is passionate about documenting places that often go overlooked in the world, and she is fueled by the "hunt for quintessential Americana."

The exhibit is open to the general public.

The Gallery is open Monday-Fridays from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Wednesday-Thursdays from 5-8 p.m. during the semester.

For more information about upcoming art exhibits, visit www.theuniversityunion.com/gallery.



Gunther's Ice Cream, Sacramento,



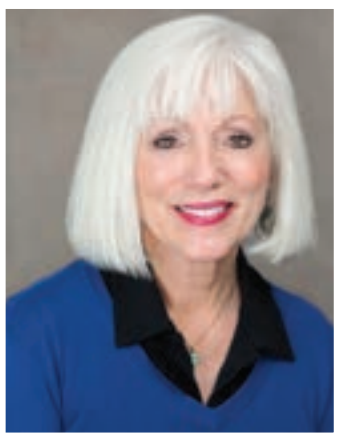
The Sandman Motel, St. Petersburg, Florida



Hi-Lo Motel, Weed, California



The Tower Theatre, Sacramento



Sue Olson
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LAND PARK

This two bedroom cottage needs some TLC. It features a formal living room with fireplace, formal dining area and eating space in kitchen. Large bath with original tile, tub, and stall shower. Partial wood floors, floor furnace and window a/c. Inside laundry area with sink and attached single car garage.
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LAND PARK

This beautifully rebuilt, four bedroom / three bath home, on a corner lot, is nestled on one of Land Park's prettiest streets. The formal living room has a fireplace, exposed wood beam ceiling and plantation shutters. Formal dining area opens to a spacious custom kitchen with marble counters, tile back splash, double ovens, gas cook top, stainless appliances, wood-paneled refrigerator and a large breakfast bar. There are two master suites upstairs boasting spacious bathrooms, sitting areas and walk-in closets. Two bedrooms and one full bath on the lower level. The large finished basement, with painted concrete floor, can be utilized as a game room and storage. Inside laundry room with sink, cabinets and walk-in pantry. Detached two car garage, low maintenance backyard with patio and fountain. The artistic landscaping wraps around the whole front and sides of the home. **1100 Teneighth Way $1,175,000**



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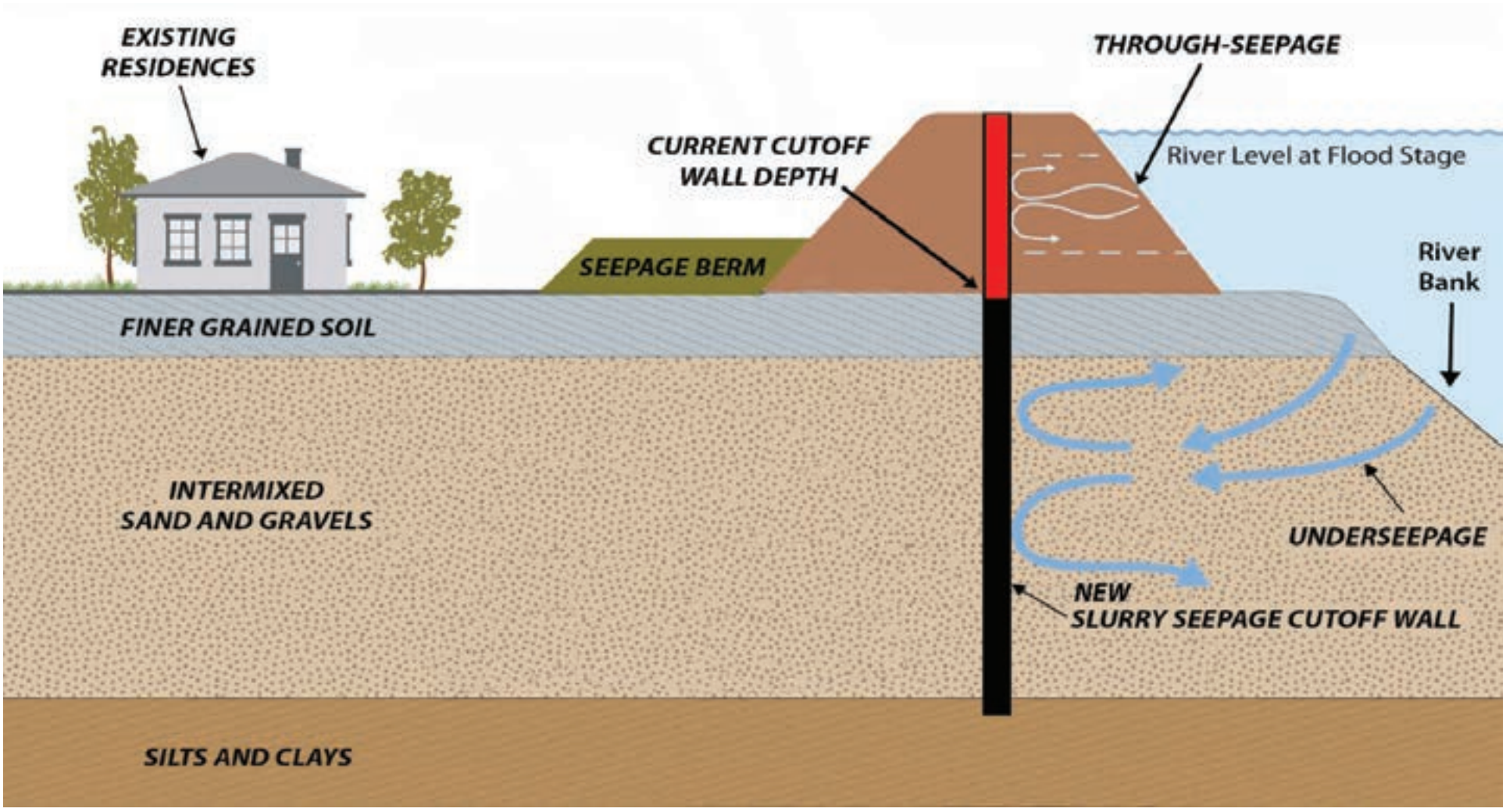
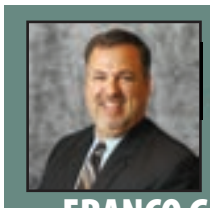
New Slurry Walls Coming to Sacramento River Levees in 2020



This graphic from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) shows through seepage, underseepage, the current cutoff wall depth, and the new cutoff wall which will increase our flood protection. Courtesy of USACE, Sacramento District, Public Affairs Office.



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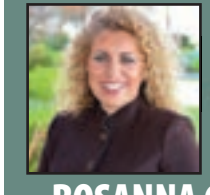

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By Patricia A. Clark

It was 27 years ago, in 1993, that the Pocket Area last saw levee improvements on a large-scale. That year the Sacramento River levee, critical infrastructure that protects us from catastrophic flooding, was reinforced with concrete-like slurry cutoff walls inserted into the levee centerline to prevent water seepage through the levee. Considered state-of-the-art in 1993, the cutoff walls now do not meet the current standard and need reinforcement. The "American River Common Features 2016" project has solicited its first contract for levee improvements along the Sacramento River East Levee to address "underseepage," or seepage under the levee that is also a risk to the neighborhood. This significant and important flood protection work will take place this year, from April to November, and there are many things for Pocket residents to be aware of.

The first thing to know is that this project is a multi-agency project. The lead agency is the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) as the federal agency, the Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB) and the CA Department of Water Resources (DWR) as the state agencies, and the Sacramento Area Flood Control

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Walls:

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US Army Corps of Engineers.

LEVEE IMPROVEMENTS WILL SOON BRING LOWER FLOOD RISK

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in partnership with the California Central Valley Flood Protection Board, California Department of Water Resources and the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, will be constructing levee improvements along the Sacramento River East Levee from downtown Sacramento to Freeport. This work is part of the American River Watershed Common Features, WRDA 2016 project authorized by Congress in 2016.

What to Expect

Pre-construction (December 2019-March 2020)
Relocate utilities, remove encroachments, cut and trim trees located only in the construction footprint.

Levee Construction (Spring 2020-Fall 2020)
Degrade existing levee up to 1/2 its height, install slurry cutoff walls and rebuild levee section. Haul trucks and work crews will access levee at points near construction work areas shown on map.

Recreational Impacts

Temporary closure of the Sacramento River bike trail in the Pocket area and north of Sutterville Road.

Garcia Bend Park boat ramp/launch area and boat trailer parking area will be closed. The park will remain open throughout construction

For More Information

Website: www.sacleveeupgrades.com

Telephone: (916) 557-5100
Email: spk-pao@usace.army.mil

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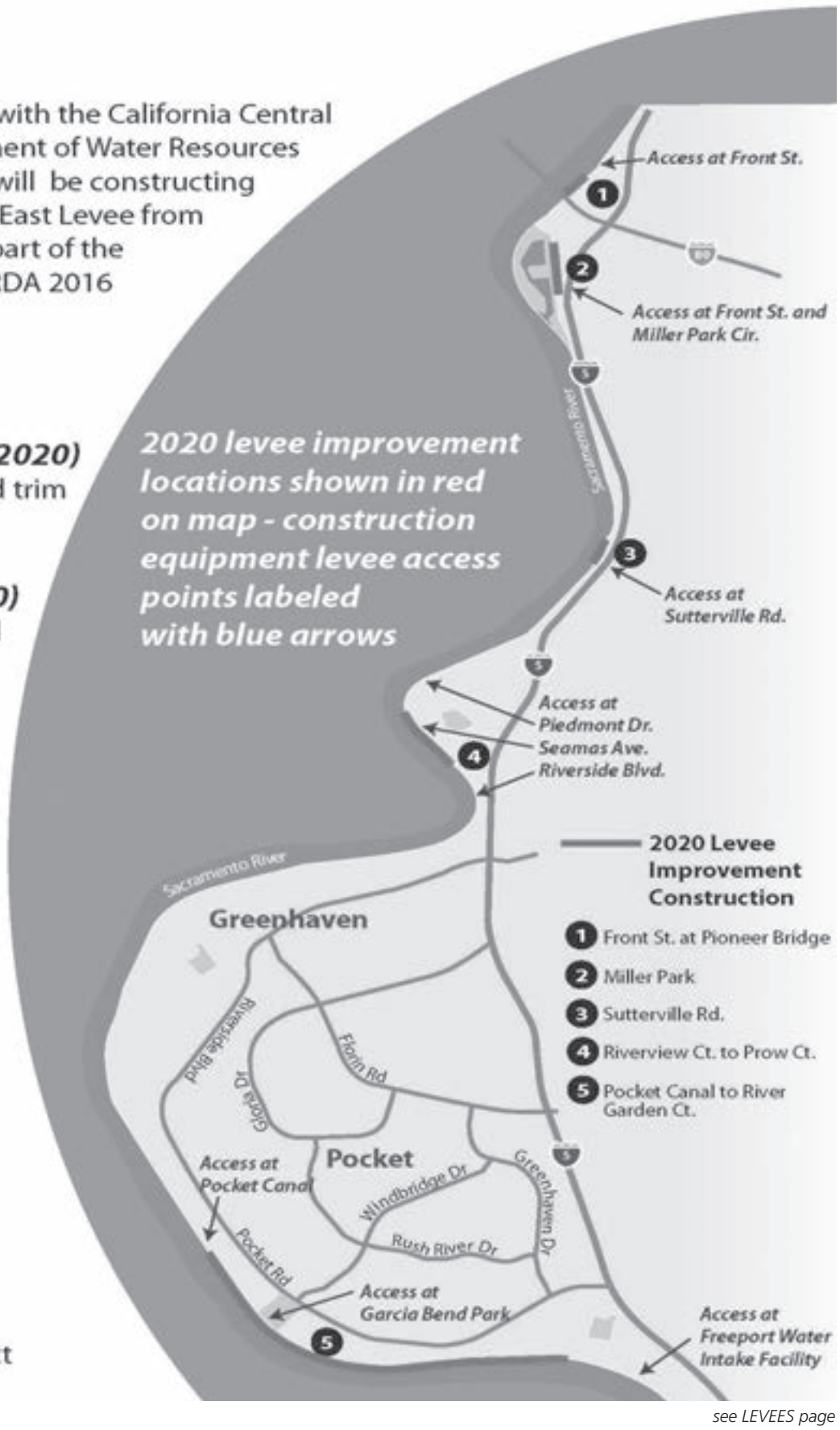

see LEVEES page 6

Levees:

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Agency (SAFCA) as the local partner.

Although it's more than a quarter-century later, the basic work of the project is similar to 1993 because the main task is to add new cutoff walls, only to a deeper level this time. Most of the 1993 cutoff walls descend to a depth of approximately 35-45 feet in our area whereas the new walls will go deeper, up to 135 feet in some locations. A slurry cutoff wall is a strengthening structure installed into the levee, generally 3 feet wide and consisting of cement, bentonite and levee material; its purpose is to stop seepage of river water through and under the levee towards the landside. The 1993 walls will not be removed, rather the new walls will be installed on the land side, next to the older walls, according to USACE.

What's behind the changing standards? The quickest answer would be Hurricane Katrina in 2005, yet the more comprehensive answer is many engineering studies that followed the levee failures and catastrophic flooding in New Orleans. The lead agency for this project is the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and their standards have changed nationally. In our case, geotechnical engineering studies and investigation of seepage incidents in our area have informed the decision that repairs are needed.

"The almost-flood of 1986 was really the wake-up call," said CVFPB President Bill Edgar and former City Manager of the City of Sacramento. "This is a historic project that has gone through many iterations. It has come a long way, the result of learning as events are analyzed. We've got to pay attention to it. As standards change, we have to change with them. Maintaining the public safety infrastructure we have needs to be a high priority."

The USACE has a slightly different answer to the changing standards question. "I would not say that the standards have changed," began Erik James, USACE Sacramento District Levee Safety Program Manager. "Two things have changed: first, the way that the Corps looks at risk, and second, more ubiquitous and accurate computer modeling of complex subsurface conditions. The risk portion is driven by the post-Katrina failures and has caused the Corps to take a more systematic approach as to how levees are analyzed, and how priorities for work are selected. But the advancements in computer modeling of levee through- and underseepage, including modeling of expected cutoff wall performance, has become commonplace, whereas in the 90's computer modeling was more limited in detail and less widespread in usage."

The project will require construction activity with heavy equipment. In order to install a slurry cutoff wall, the existing levee will be degraded by about one-third or one-half its height and a deep trench must be dug to the required depth at that location. The slurry mixture is typically a combination of bentonite, cement and levee material. Bentonite is noteworthy for its properties as a sealant with low permeability and was also used in the 1993 cutoff walls. The mixture will be poured into the trench and allowed to solidify before the levee is reconstructed using new material. Trucking in new material to rebuild the levee with is required because our levees, which were originally constructed by farmers over one hundred years ago, contain sand and silt which are highly water permeable and are now identified as sub-standard levee material. While the extra truck traffic may be an inconvenience, remember that the benefit is safer flood protection infrastructure that protects our homes and community.

Studies about seepage incidents in our area have contributed to the decision to proceed with this project. Seepage is the gradual escape of river water through permeable section of the levee, and can lead to levee failure. Specifically, the USACE standards now distinguish between "through seepage" and "under seepage." Through seepage is water traveling through the levee; under seepage is water traveling under the levee and exiting on the landside of the levee. Either type can be dangerous although it is also true that certain sections of the Pocket have historically had significant seepage at high water events with no failure. Levee patrol personnel typically know which areas get seepage and what it normally looks like, and they are keen to monitor such areas during high water events. With the new USACE standard, it appears there is reduced tolerance for seepage of either type.

Nearly $500M in levee improvements will be constructed in the Pocket-Greenhaven and Little Pocket neighborhoods between 2020-2024. This year, the Sacramento River East Levee will see nearly 3 miles of slurry cutoff wall construction. Specific to the Pocket area this year, the work area is basically the southern half of the Pocket area, roughly from the Pocket Canal (a few blocks upstream of Garcia Bend Park) to River Garden Court in the South Pocket neighborhood (just a few blocks upstream of the Freeport Regional Water Intake facility). Other smaller locations to be improved this year include the southern half of the Little Pocket area, a small section near Sutterville Road, a small section near Front Street and another small section near Highway 50 and the Pioneer Bridge. Other sections of the levee will be improved in subsequent years.

The City of Sacramento's emergency team is well aware of the upcoming project and its significance. "Our comprehensive network of levees, pumps, and drainage systems are critical infrastructure protecting lives and property by reducing the risk of flooding," commented Daniel Bowers, City of Sacramento Director of Emergency Management. "These levee improvement projects across Sacramento are instrumental to increasing protection in historically flood-prone areas."







Sacramento County Crowns 2020 Poetry Out Loud Winner

C.K. McClatchy High School Student Wins Competition

Eden Getahun from C.K. McClatchy High School, in the Sacramento City Unified School District, is the winner of the 2020 Sacramento County Poetry Out Loud competition. She took first place from a field of 12 competitors during the Sacramento County finals, held Thursday, February 6, at Rosemont High School in Sacramento.

Amorri Lee from John F. Kennedy High School, in the Sacramento City Unified School District is the Sacramento County runner-up. Ms. Getahun will represent Sacramento County in the State Finals, March 15-16, in Sacramento.

The Sacramento County Poetry Out Loud competition encourages high school students to learn about great poetry through memorization, performance, and competition. The program provides students with the opportunity to perform poetry in English classes. Modeled like the National Spelling Bee, the Poetry Out Loud program began in local high school classrooms, with winners advancing to school-wide, then regional competition. Schools countrywide are participating in regional competitions.

2020 Poetry Out Loud Participants

·Eden Getahun - C.K. McClatchy High School (Sacramento City USD)

·Amaya De La Cruz - Capital Christian School

·Geoffrey Muller - Cornerstone Christian School

·Alicia Hernandez - George Washington Carver School of Arts and Science (Sacramento City USD)

·Sumayyah Khan - Heritage Peak Charter School

·Enviey Hicks - Inderkum High School (Natomas USD)

·Amorri Lee - John F. Kennedy High School (Sacramento City USD)

·William Clement - Kit Carson International Academy (Sacramento City USD)

·Koriem Muhammad - Luther Burbank High School (Sacramento City USD)

·Ifuy Ifyefobi - Pleasant Grove High School (Elk Grove USD)

·Miryam Leaderman-Bray - Rio Americano HS (San Juan USD)

·Allisen Joyce - Rio Linda High School (Twin Rivers USD)

Sacramento County's Poetry Out Loud program is supported by the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE), California Poets in the Schools, and the Poetry Foundation. This activity is funded by the California Arts Council, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.



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California Museum exhibit highlights Chinese-Americans





More than 1,000 guests attend opening day festivities

By LANCE ARMSTRONG
Photos by Stephen Crowley

Downtown Sacramento's California Museum on Jan. 26 debuted its newest exhibit, "Gold Mountain: Chinese Californian Stories."

The exhibit focuses on the history and contributions of Chinese-Americans to California, from the days of the Gold Rush to present times. Those contributions include benefitting the state's economy, governance and culture.

Another emphasis is the Chinese-Americans' triumphs over racism and other obstacles.

Visitors at the exhibit have the opportunity to view information boards, historic photographs, artifacts, interactive video stations and other features.

Among the individuals highlighted in the exhibit are former Secretary of State March Fong Eu, Sacramento restaurateur Frank Fat, and Anna May Wong, the first Chinese-American film star.

Another feature of the exhibit is a display about the federal Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, and the fight against it.

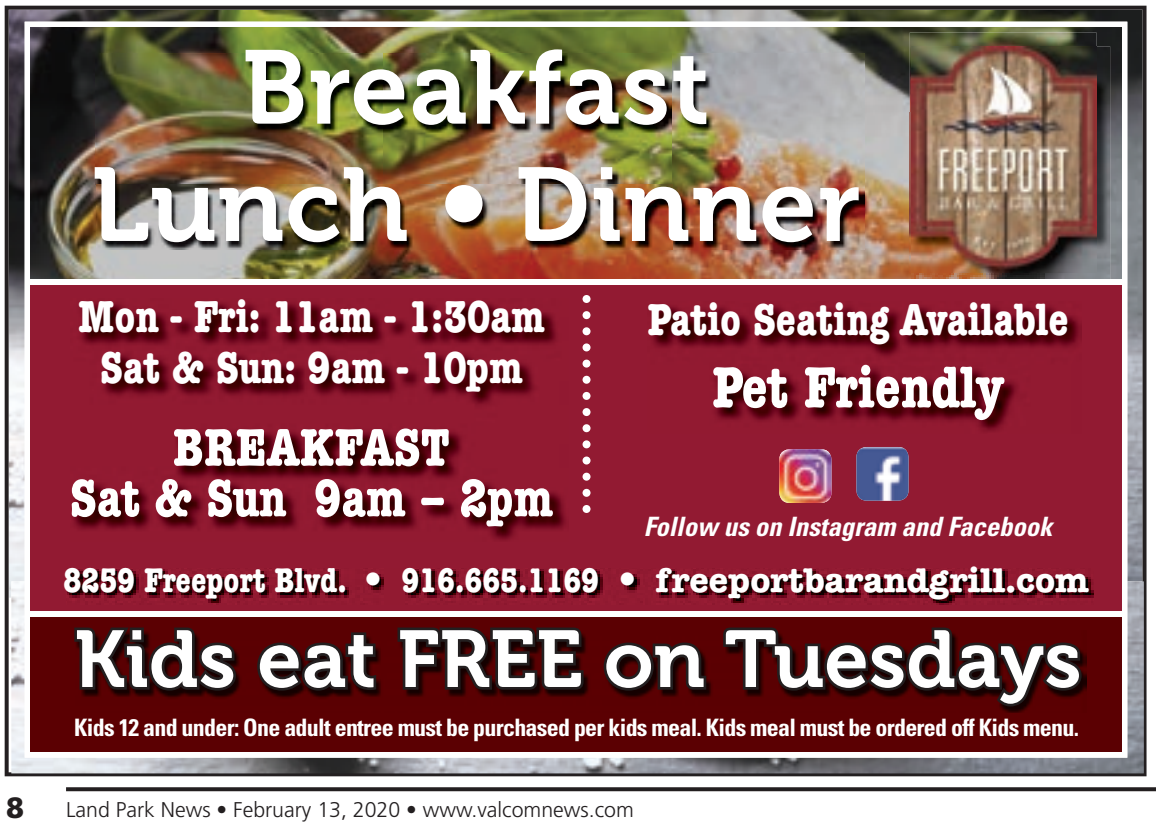
The exhibit also presents the story of San Francisco native Wong Kim Ark, who won a lawsuit against the federal government in a landmark case that established birthright citizenship in 1898.

A 71-foot Chinese golden dragon and a replica of a motion picture theater marquee are also among the exhibit's features.

"Gold Mountain" is especially timely as it also celebrates the Chinese Lunar New Year.

Also timely is the current 150th anniversary of the completion of the first transcontinental railroad, which linked

see MUSEUM page 9









Museum:

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the Central Pacific Railroad from the West with the Union Pacific Railroad from the East. That event occurred with a special ceremony in the Utah Territory on May 10, 1869. Thousands of people, the majority of whom were Chinese, were hired as laborers to build the Central Pacific Railroad.

As a signature exhibit, "Gold Mountain" is being presented indefinitely.

California Museum spokesperson Brenna Hamilton noted that in terms of attendance, the opening day of the exhibit was one of the most successful days in the museum's history. About 1,400 people attended the day's private breakfast reception and the exhibit's public opening.

Hamilton mentioned that this exhibit is the culmination of a two-year project.

"We've been wanting to feature the stories of Chinese-Americans, who are also largely overlooked in history for some time, and we got the funding about two years ago and the space to be able to add their stories through this project," she said. "So, we've been working on it for the last two years."

The exhibit's opening included a lion dance, a book signing by Pocket area author Lawrence Tom and a guest appearance by television journalist and author Lisa Ling, who grew up in Carmichael and graduated from Del Campo High School in 1991.

Ling, who hosts "This is Life with Lisa Ling" on CNN, described what it was like to grow up as a Chinese-American in a place with little cultural diversity.

"Sacramento is such a richly diverse part of the

see EXHIBIT pagr 10

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Exhibit:

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state, but Carmichael at the time wasn't so much," she said. "So, I will admit something to you today, which is that growing up as little girl I was sort of embarrassed of being Chinese, because there were so few Asian people in our community."

Ling added that she spent a long time not feeling "entirely American," before finally gaining an appreciation for her cultural heritage.

Among the other notable Chinese-Americans who attended the event was C.C. Yin.

Yin shared his success story with this paper.

"I came (to America) at age 27 and I washed dishes and mowed the lawns and go to school and become engineer," he said. "Now I'm with McDonald's (as the owner of many Northern California locations of this fast food restaurant), and now I'm building (the Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association) national foundation of 30 chapters, 30,000 members. We started in Sacramento."

Pocket resident Elizabeth Xiu Wong expressed great excitement for the exhibit.

"I am a fourth generation Californian Chinese, and to me, I've been waiting 40 years for an exhibit like this to be presented," she said. "Without this general recognition, Chi-

see CHINESE page 11

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Chinese:

continued from page 10

nese could be in their little pockets of areas and you hear legends.

"But this being in print, being in photos, being in films, bringing everyone of every background together is a true recognition (that) we are Californians."

Another Pocket resident, 91-year-old Mollie (Fong) Chow, also mentioned that she was appreciative of the exhibit.

"It's wonderful," she said. "I'm glad we're finally doing something here."

Chow was especially drawn to local details of the exhibit.

"It brings back memories of my childhood days," she said. "I grew up at 3rd and O streets, and I know (Sacramento's) old Chinatown."

Chow also recalled a particular law that applied to Chinese homebuyers in Sacramento during her earlier years.

"We couldn't live beyond Broadway," she said.

Janet Pitak, a first generation Chinese-American, noted that through the exhibit, she learned a lot about what life was like for Chinese-Americans of earlier generations.

"I came here in 1991," she said. "My family didn't tell me about this history, so being able to read about it is very educational to me."

Helen Yee, a member of the Henry Yee family, said that the exhibit is helping to keep her family's history alive.

"I am a trustee on the (museum's) board, and I helped with some donations, and then our family is featured in the exhibit," she said. "It's keeping the legacy of the Henry Yee family and the generations (alive) here in California. I just feel really honored to be here."

Among the many Yee family members attending the event were South Land Park resident Herbert Yee and Arden area resident Franklin Yee, who are the sons of Henry Yee and the great-grandsons of an herbalist, named Dr. Wah Hing (born Yee Fung Cheung), who arrived in California during the Gold Rush.

Herbert, 95, is a former dentist and the eldest member of his family. He came to the United States through Angel Island as an immigrant from Sing Tonga, Kee Siu, Toi Shan, China when he was 6 years old on May 1, 1931.

Franklin Yee, who worked as a surgeon in East Sacramento, shared what the exhibit means to him.

"The exhibit is a review and actually an affirmation of the contributions of the Chinese to the American fabric and to the American dream," he said.

For additional information about this exhibit, visit the website, www.californiamuseum.org.

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2020

3:15pm ***Golda***

5:00pm **Reception with filmmaker Dani Menkin and photographer Amos Nachoum**

6:00pm ***Picture of His Life***

8:30pm ***Aulcie***

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2020

2:00pm ***Love in Suspenders***

5:30pm ***Carl Laemmle***

8:10pm ***Tel Aviv on Fire***

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2020

6:00pm **Reception with Joel Westheimer**

7:00pm ***Ask Dr. Ruth***

10:15pm ***Leona***

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2020

10:30am ***There Are No Lions in Tel Aviv***

12:15pm ***Crescendo***

12:30pm ***Abe*** (at Esquire IMAX, see SJFF website)

2:30pm **Reception with filmmaker Yael Katzir**

3:30pm ***The Albanian Code***

5:20pm ***Dimona Twist***

7:20pm ***Those Who Remained***

Local author co-authors fourth book

New book focuses on Marysville's Chinatown

By LANCE ARMSTRONG

Pocket resident Lawrence "Larry" Tom and his brother, Brian, are the authors of four Northern California Chinatown-related history books, including their latest, "Gold Country's Last Chinatown."

Larry and Brian are third generation Chinese-Americans and natives of Marysville.

In their most recent book, these brothers share stories and photographs of the Chinese of Marysville.

Released on Jan. 13, this book is part of The History Press series of the Arcadia Publishing Co.

"Gold Country's Last Chinatown"

Larry explained the title of his latest book.

"(People) can read about why Marysville's Chinatown is the last Chinatown in (the) gold country," he said. "There are three things that do that. First of all, there's the Bok Kai Temple, and it's been used for worship since 1869.

"(There are also) the Marysville dragon – the Chinese call it lung – and the Bok Kai Festival, with the firing of the bombs."

In creating their recently published work, Larry and Brian gathered information through interviews with Chinese-Americans who lived in Marysville.

Ceremonial dragon

Larry mentioned that Marysville's first ceremonial dragon was called Moo Lung – or "Dancing Dragon."

"It came (from China) in 1878, and cost about $5,000 to $7,000," he said. "And for any Chinese community to have a dragon at that time was the ultimate honor, since the cost was prohibited. Marysville was actually a pretty wealthy Chinese town."

A ceremonial dragon symbolizes good fortune, and it drives away evil, Larry noted.

"The longer the dragon, the more luck it would bring, and Moo Lung was 150 feet long," he said.

Larry added that Moo Lung was a very famous dragon throughout the country.

"People started wanting to borrow it," he said. "It went to Seattle in 1909 for the (Alaska-)Yukon expedition, it went to Chicago in 1893 for the world expedition, Los Angeles, La Fiesta celebration in 1896, 1902. And there were some others, like San Francisco. It went to New York in 1911."

Altogether, Marysville has had four ceremonial dragons. The original dragon is on display at Chinese American Museum of Northern California in Marysville.

Dr. Sun Yat-sen

Among the most famous people to visit Marysville was Dr. Sun Yat-sen (1866-1925), Larry noted.

"Dr. Sun Yat-sen, who later became the first president of

see BOOK page 14



Photo courtesy of Lawrence Tom

Pocket resident Lawrence "Larry" Tom is the co-author of four history books, including the recently published work, "Gold Country's Last Chinatown."

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Photo courtesy of Lawrence Tom

Marysville's Bok Kai Temple is shown in the early 1900s.



In his new book, Pocket author Lawrence Tom describes how Marysville survived a possible levee break in 1955.

Book:

continued from page 13

China, visited Marysville in the early 1900s, seeking support to overthrow the Qing dynasty," he said. "The thing is there's not much documented on his visit, because he had to stay hidden (due to the possible arrival of) Manchu assassins."

Larry added that fortunately Marysville community leader W.T. Ellis Jr., who had a historic meeting with this Chinese leader, documented part of Sun's visit.

Hollywood connection

The most senior people interviewed for the recently published book was Bertha Waugh Chan, who was born in 1924.

Larry described Chan as a "very interesting" third generation Marysville resident.

"She was the first licensed female plumber in the state of California," he said. "She had a love for tap dancing."

While living in the Los Angeles area, Chan studied tap dancing with such famous entertainers as Dick Van Dyke, Hal Linden and Marge Champion.

Chan, whose husband was once nominated for an Academy Award in the category of Best Art Direction, attended several Academy Awards presentation parties.

Flood of 1955

Also significant in Marysville's history is the flood of 1955.

"In 1955, there was a downpour in the valley, and Marysville was surrounded by water," Larry said. "The water was like 15 (feet) to 20 feet above the street level, and so Marysville was evacuated, and I know that, because I was a part of that evacuation.

"As water was getting higher, there was a possible levee breach at the location of Bok Kai Temple. And so, panic was setting in with the workers sandbagging the levee, and some of the workers were starting to flee from the site."

Larry added that Marysville was saved when a break occurred in the levee at Shanghai Bend on the Yuba City side of the (Feather) River.

Inspired to preserve fading history

Larry explained the inspiration behind why he and his brother chose to write books on Chinatowns in Northern California.

"The reason we developed these books is the history of the Chinese in the area is slowly disappearing, and the first generation and the second generation of the Chinese-Americans have all passed on," he said. "Many of the third generation now are passing on.

"I learned this from an elder, a proverb, 'When an elder leaves us, a whole library disappears.' That's very true."

The Tom brothers' other books

The first three books by the Tom brothers – "Maryville's Chinatown," "Sacramento's Chinatown" and "Locke and the Sacramento Delta Chinatowns" – are part of the Arcadia Publishing Company's Images of America series.

Larry said that he and his brother's most recent book required more writing.

"The difference (between the previous books and the current book) is Arcadia (Images of America) books are picture books with 200 pictures that tell the history of a town or region," he said. "History Press books are text driven and provide a more in-depth look into the history of an area.

"History Press books still have a lot of pictures, but not as many as Images of America."

More on the authors

Larry noted that he and Brian grew up in Marysville, and left their hometown to attend higher education institutions.

"Like many from our generation, after we finished high school, we left town to continue our education in four-year institutions," he said. "I retired in 2000 as a CEA or career executive appointee from the (California) Department of Transportation."

Larry graduated from California State University, Sacramento with a bachelor's degree in business administration, and Brian graduated from the University of California, Davis School of Law.

Brian is a retired attorney and the founder and director of the Chinese American Museum of Northern California.

How to purchase the books

"Gold Country's Last Chinatown," as well as Larry and Brian's other books are available through the website, www.amazon.com. The cost of their most recently published book is for $23.99.



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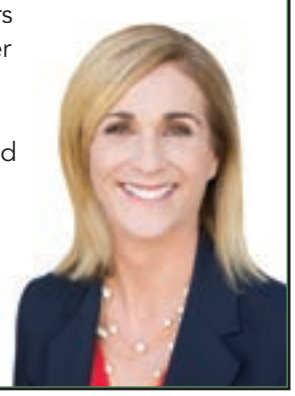

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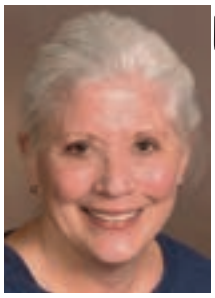

THIS 'n' THAT

by Carol Bogart

Abortion Stories

So, here we are again. Debating whether abortion should be legal. There are, of course, as many pre-legalized abortion stories as there were abortions.

The trump (no comparison pun intended) card for those who supported, and won, a 'woman's right to choose' was a Supreme Court that agreed with them.

Recently I read a quote with who-knows-who positing that, "Women who've had abortions don't regret them."

In the interests of transparency, I should interject here that I grew up in a conservative Christian household. Where my father, an elder in our church, had grown up forbidden to dance or play cards. "Sins," his mother told him. On my grandparents' working farm, only sons would go to college, and only if they paid for it themselves. Dad scraped rust off the sides of tanker ships anchored on Lake Erie, every other semester, to get his business degree from Ohio State.

Dad was an 'up by your bootstraps' kind of guy, who believed, and often said, "All welfare mothers should be sterilized." He did not, however, believe in killing of unborn welfare babies.

Moving on to my high school years (during which, if a girl was having sex, she did NOT admit it). Important to remember that those years predated the pill. Prevailing 'wisdom' included: There's no such thing as rape because a girl can run faster with her skirt up than a boy can with his pants down. Virginity, at least in concept, was highly prized. Mothers cautioned daughters: No one will buy the cow if the milk is free. All girls knew you were more likely to 'land' a 'good' husband if you met this 'marriage material' in college.

I went to a public high school. We were required to wear skirts to school. They could NOT be 'miniskirts' – which were all the rage.

In my high school, as far as I know, there were NO then-illegal abortions. A pregnant girl could not come to school. "Bad example." "A distraction." The few that got knocked up went to the Florence Crittenden Home for Unwed Mothers (and gave up the baby for adoption). I especially remember one senior girl: a cheerleader; "going steady" with the football team's quarterback/captain; always nice to everyone, including gawky sophomores (i.e. me).

A pretty blonde, one spring, she disappeared. A few months later, she came back. Her hair was brown. Her eyes were haunted.

By the time I went to college, 'back alley' abortions were not unheard of, following an era in which some desperate girls tried to end 'problem' pregnancies with a knitting needle or a coat hanger.

Here's the true story of one girl I knew in college. Very smart girl. "Pretty face." Self-conscious about her weight but couldn't shed it. One Friday, jocks invited her to a party at the frat house. There was a lot of drinking. The girl passed out – and the jocks took turns. She got pregnant.

A shady procedure in New York City 'took care of it.' Did she regret the abortion? I don't think so.

Several years post-college I got a call from a graduated college friend living in D.C. She'd just learned she was pregnant and was aghast. Didn't know if the baby was Long-time Boyfriend 1's, or New Boyfriend 2's. Months of indecision followed. Five-months along, she finally decided on abortion. Snag. Her gynecologist wouldn't do it. She threatened to sue him because her contraception failed.

She ended things with Boyfriend 1. A year later or so, married Boyfriend 2. Soon, they had one son. Followed by two failed pregnancies. She got to thinking about the abortion. Secured the records. The aborted baby was a healthy boy. At 5 months, a fetus can survive outside the womb.

Regret that abortion? Yes. She did.

Today, abortion is, for the most part, legal. Here are recent stories: Two married women who, with their spouses, opted to abort a second pregnancy.

Case #1: After years of trying, the couple was expecting. Both were, by then, successful in their careers. They adored their toddler, but now knew that a child is a lot of work. One was enough, the two decided, and aborted the toddler's sibling.

Case #2: The wife refused carry a second pregnancy to term after her husband, an off-and-on provider, refused to give up pot. Their only child, a girl, is now a teenager.

And here's a third story: A Catholic friend whose husband is an OB/Gyn. She married him, in part, she says, because he wouldn't do abortions. Her faith, melded with his conscience. They have two boys.

Even if today's Supreme Court reverses the pro-choice ruling, making abortion, again, illegal – it's likely that a California teenager who passes out at a frat party and winds up pregnant could still end the pregnancy. The same as any other rape victim.

But what about the possibility, maybe likelihood, of more babies being born to girls and women of insufficient means? Who perhaps lost their free birth control at Planned Parenthood when it lost its federal funding?

Back in the day, when some families had more babies than they had money, an excess baby might be abandoned in a back bedroom. Where, starving, it cried until it died.

Foster homes always seem to be in short supply.

Questions? comments? Contact Carol at carol@bogartonline.com



What's happening, Land Park?

FRIDAY, FEB. 14

VALENTINE'S DAY CRAFTS: Celebrate Valentine's Day at Fairytale Town from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for a fun time making Valentine's Day crafts. Valentine's Day Craft activities are free with paid park admission. Weekday admission is $6 for adults and children ages 2 and older. Members and children ages 1 and under are free. Adults must be accompanied by children and children must be accompanied by adults in order to gain admittance to the park. Fairytale Town is located at 3901 Land Park Drive.

SATURDAY, FEB. 15 AND SUNDAY, FEB. 16

HEARTTOUCH PRODUCTION'S VAGINA MONOLOGUES: HeartTouch Productions presents Vagina Monologues this coming weekend at the Parkway Theater, DDSO Campus, 5051 47th Ave, Sacramento. This unique production will feature 11 actors performing in American Sign Language. Each actor will be shadow-voiced by a speaking actor for the enjoyment of the Hearing audience. Those of you who have seen our ASL shadow-interpreted performances know this combination makes for enhanced emotional expression and fascinating theater. Showtimes will be Saturday, Feb. 15 at 8 p.m. with a social hour at 7, and Sunday, Feb 16 at 2 p.m. Tickets are $25, available at the door or online (see attached flier for link). Plenty of secure off-street parking! Short Center Rep and HeartTouch Productions are hoping to collaborate on future productions featuring Deaf actors, ASL and voice interpretation.

SATURDAY, FEB. 22

LOCAL AUTHOR BOOK SIGNING – MARIA PRYOR HERNDON: Join Crawford's Books for this special event with local author, Maria Pryor Herndon as she presents her book, The Look: Paris for the Last Time. In this Christian romance, the lives of an American divorcee and an expat living in Paris intertwine as they fall in love and search for a way to be together forever. 2 to 4 p.m., Crawford's Books, 5301 Freeport Blvd., #200. For more information, call 916-731-8001 or visit www.crawfordbooks.net.

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

DR. SEUSS' BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION: "Today you are you, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is youer than you." And there was no one quite like Dr. Seuss! Join Fairytale Town as Fairytale Town invites you to celebrate Theodor Seuss Geisel's 116th birthday with Seuss-themed hands on activities and crafts from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Stop by the Mother Goose Stage for a unique nonstop reading of your favorite colorful, tongue-twisting, rhyming Seuss books! And "If you never did, you should. These things are fun, and fun is good."Dr. Seuss' Birthday Celebration is free with paid park admission. Weekend admission is $7 for adults and children ages 2 and older. Members and children ages 1 and under are free. Please note: Adults must be accompanied by children and children must be accompanied by adults in order to gain admittance to the park. Fairytale Town closes when it rains heavily. If skies are gray, check our website or call 916-808-5233 to confirm our hours and program details. Fairytale Town is located at 3901 Land Park Drive.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

NINTH ANNUAL SOROPTIMIST CRAB FIESTA FUNDRAISER: Sacramento-area residents, business leaders, and community advocates for women and girls who are looking to enjoy a night out with a delicious full course crab dinner, bid on the chance to win exciting raffle and auction prizes and, importantly, support a worthwhile cause at the Soroptimist International of Sacramento INC. ninth annual Crab Fiesta. This annual fundraiser supports programs, scholarships and grants that provide women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment. It will be held Saturday, March 7, 2020 from 5 to 10 p.m. at The Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, 616 Alhambra Blvd. Soroptimist International of Sacramento, Inc. is proud of its 97-year history and many accomplishments in the Sacramento community through the club's signature Dream programs. These programs provide training and resources that help women and girls in our community reach their full potential and live their dreams. The programs include Dream It, Be It – a career mentoring and life skills program for girls at SAVA Charter High School in Sacramento; Live Your Dream – cash awards for women head of households entering the workforce, college or job training; Dream Scholarships – approximately $20,000 in annual college scholarships for deserving women; and, Dream Grants – support for community organizations aligned with the Soroptimist mission. Recipients for 2020 include Single Mom Strong Empowerment Center (Citrus Heights) serving single mothers and Court Appointed Special Advocate's (CASA) program for adolescent girls in the juvenile justice system. Early Bird Tickets are $65; Prices increase February 14th to $70. Tickets can be purchased at www.crabfiestasac.org. The ticket includes a margarita, chips & salsa and a delicious salad, pasta and crab dinner.

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

SAKURA MATSURI: 3RD ANNUAL FOOD & SHOPPING FAIRE: Do you like to eat and shop? Then you will not want to miss the 3rd Annual Sakura Matsuri Food & Shopping Faire on Sunday, March 15, 2020 at the Buddhist Church of Sacramento, 2401 Riverside Boulevard, Sacramento. The Shopping Faire will be held in the indoor gym from 10:00 am-3:00 pm and the Food Faire will be held from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm (or until sold out) in the outdoor courtyard. The shopping faire features a variety of vendors (handcrafted items, jewelry, clothing, and more), as well as a food court of Asian cuisine (teriyaki beef sandwiches, chicken bento boxes, spam musubi, tuna poke, vegetable bowl, somen salad, "Japanese Hot Dogs",and more). To guarantee your order, some food items can be ordered in advance before March 1st. Limited quantities of these and other food and products will be available at the Faire as well. Pre-order forms can be obtained at: www.buddhistchurch.org under the Special Events section. For further information, contact the Buddhist Church at (916) 446-0121.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10

20TH ANNUAL DIVERSITY EMPLOYMENT DAY CAREER FAIR AND ROUNTABLES: From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the O'Club at The Lions Gate Hotel Conference Center, 3410 Westover St., McClellan. The ongoing mission is to provide the most candidates from the city, county and state's diverse communities. With the understanding that diversity is a good business strategy, the opportunities for employer and candidates are endless. The diversity event is the most significant career fair presented today. Its outreach includes multicultural, veterans, women, LGBTQ, mature workers and people with disabilities. Each employer is actively committed to getting America back to work, diversity and equality in the workplace. The event features the "The Diversity Spirit Achievement Award" presented by the Diversity Recruiters Network and The Diversity Practitioners Roundtables. For more information, visit facebook.com/citycareerfair and www.citycareerfair.com

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ACC FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP: Are you caring for a loved one? We understand that caregiving comes with the joy of giving back but many challenges as well. Please join us in our support group meeting and share informational/emotional support and guidance with other caregivers and staff. Meetings are held on the second Wednesdays from 12:00p-1:30p and the 4th Thursdays from 6:30p-8:00p at ACC Senior Services 7334 Park City Drive. For more information, please contact Soojin Yoo, MSW at (916) 393-9026 ext 336 or www.syoo@accsv.org. .accsv.org.

ACC FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP: Are you caring for a loved one? We understand that caregiving comes with the joy of giving back but many challenges as well. Please join us in our support group meeting and share informational/emotional support and guidance with other caregivers and staff. Meetings are held on the second Wednesdays from 12:00p-1:30p and the 4th Thursdays from 6:30p-8:00p at ACC Senior Services 7334 Park City Drive. For more information, please contact Soojin Yoo, MSW at (916) 393-9026 ext 336 or www.syoo@accsv.org. .accsv.org.

INTRODUCTION TO SUNYATA MEDITATION: Meditation has been proven to improve a person's mental and physical well-being. This introductory workshop will show you some simple meditation techniques which will enable you to obtain the benefits of meditation. A few Qi Gong exercises will supplement and enhance the meditation session. No prior experience or knowledge required. Bring a yoga mat. Classes are held the third Thursday of each month. Preregistration required. $18 for three classes or $8 drop-in fee at the door. Class will be held the third Thursday of each month from 4:15p-5:45pm at ACC Senior Services 7334 Park City Drive. For more information, call Susan Sarinas (916) 393-9026 ext 339 or www.accsv.org

PARKINSON ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA South Sacramento Support Group: Every second Thursday of the month from 1 to 2:15 p.m., Location: Asian Community Center (ACC), 7334 Park City Drive, Sacramento, CA 95831. This support group is free to those who are living with Parkinson's Disease, their family and caregivers. The group shares information to help each other and provide guest speakers who can assist with physical and mental challenges in daily living.





What's happening, Land Park?

ADULT AND TWEEN/TEEN BOOK CLUBS AT CRAWFORD'S BOOKS: Crawford's Books is hosting a monthly adult book club on the first Thursday of the month from 6:30- 7:30 p.m. They also host a tween/teen book club every other month. This group convenes on the 1st Saturday of EVEN months from 4 to 5 p.m. Light refreshments are provided. For more information and the list of books that will be discussed, please visit crawfordbooks.net. Crawford's Books is located at 5301 Freeport Blvd., #200, Sacramento. For more information, call 916-731-8001.

AUTO MUSEUM DEBUTS ALL-NEW EXHIBIT: HITTING THE ROAD: ROAD TRIPPIN' THROUGH THE YEARS: The California Automobile Museum is proud to present a new exhibit titled Hitting the Road: Road Trippin' Through the Years" that is on display until Feb. 25, 2019. The exhibit allows guests an opportunity to explore the historic American pastime of traveling with family and friends. Depending on age, race, and financial status, experiences and memories of road trips differ dramatically. The goal of this exhibit is to explore these differences along with how the automobile and road trips changed American culture, and also helped to shape entire industries. The exhibit will showcase the heyday of road trips in the '50s, '60s and '70s as well as take a look at how the experience has changed over time. Museum guests will learn how different Americans experienced life on the road. For instance, the exhibit demonstrates how some families were squished into a station wagon on the way to the lake while others traveled in a cozy camper bound for Yosemite.
As part of this nostalgic exhibit, a number of iconic cars will be on special display, including: a 1952 Dodge 2-door Sedan, 1964 Ford Falcon Deluxe Wagon, 1953 Kaiser Traveler, 1956 Chevy Bel Air Wagon, 1959 Shasta Airflyte trailer, Custom 1972 Toronado RV, 1972 Oldsmobile Vista Cruiser Wagon, 1966 VW EZ Camper with tent canopy, 1955 Harley-Davidson Panhead, 1976 BMW R100/7, 1930s home-built tear-drop trailer and 1962 Ford Falcon Squire Wagon.
The Hitting the Road exhibit is free with Museum admission: $10 for adults; $5 for youth ages 5 to 17) and free for children ages 4 and under. For more information about the special exhibit or the California Automobile Museum in general, please call 916-442-6802 or visit www.calautomusem.org.

YOGA MOVES US CLASSES – Free indoor community yoga classes on Thursday evenings. Classes are 60 minute vinyasa style all-level yoga classes taught by local registered yoga teachers. Bring a mat, a water bottle, and a friend! Every Thursday from 6 to 7 p.m. at Ella K. McClatchy Library, 2112 22nd St., Sacramento.

KLASSY TALKERS TOASTMASTERS provides a supportive, positive and fun learning environment in which every member has the opportunity to develop communication and leadership skills. The club welcomes the public to check out the club on Mondays (except holidays) from 7:15 – 8:30 p.m. at Eskaton Monroe Lodge, 3225 Freeport Blvd.

SOL KIDS DAY! EVERY SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH: From 2 to 4 p.m., families are welcome to enjoy a day of cultural arts, crafts, and music., Sol Kids Day provides different hands-on arts and health activities every Second Sunday like nature creation labs, healthy snack assembly stations, yoga for kids and everyone's favorite, slime-making. Engaging performances for kids include hip hop theatre production, beat-making workshops, and guest appearances from some local unicorns and magicians. Sol Kids Day also hosts a gently used toy/clothing exchange every month as well! Sliding scale donations. No one ever turned away for lack of funds. Funded in part by the Cultural Arts Award Program of the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission with support from the City and County of Sacramento. Sol Collective is located at 2574 21st St, Sacramento, California 95818.

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

MUSIC AND MOTION AT BELLE COOLEDGE LIBRARY: Rowena Alverto brings exercise classes for seniors with a combination of yoga, tai chi, zumba, for seniors on Wednesdays from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. $5. 5600 South Land Park Drive.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF SURVIVORS SUPPORT GROUP: Every first Monday of the month from 6 to 7 p.m. Location: Sacramento. Call 916-428-3271 for exact location. Description: Is your friend or family member in a domestic violence, sexual assault, or human trafficking situation? This free, drop-in group is for you. Learn how to support your loved one, and receive some support yourself among people who are in the same situation. Feel free to call My Sister's House for more information: 916-428-3271.

#METOO SUPPORT GROUP: Every third Monday of the month from 6 to 7 p.m. Location: Sacramento. Call 916-428-3271 for exact location. Description: This drop-in support group is free, confidential, open to all genders, and available to sexual assault survivors at any point in their healing. Feel free to call My Sister's House for more information: 916-428-3271.

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.

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.









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