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Land Park News

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PEOPLE COME TOGETHER FOR PEACEFUL BLM PROTESTS AFTER THE GEORGE FLOYD HOMICIDE

SEE PHOTOS STARTING ON PAGE 2

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Faces and Places: Black Lives Matter protest



Photos by Monica Stark

After a week of worldwide protests and acts of rebellion against police brutality in the aftermath of the homicide of George Floyd and all victims of police violence, on Saturday, June 6 there was a march that began at the Golden 1 Center, ending at the capitol. Here are photos from the end of the march.













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Editor ..... Monica Stark
Art Director ..... Annin Piper
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Advertising Executives ..... Linda Pohl, Melissa Andrews

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1109 Markham Way
Sacramento,
CA 95818
t: (916) 429-9901
f: (916) 429-9906

Cover by:
Monica Stark



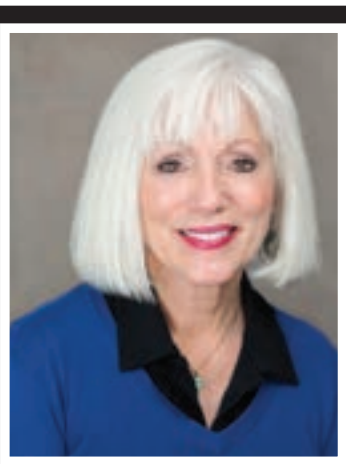












Sue Olson
916-601-8834
sue@sueolson.net
CalBRE# 00784986
landparkhomes.com



SO. LAND PARK TERRACE

This large tiled entry opens to a Formal Living Room with fireplace and a large picture window that views the Backyard. Kitchen amenities include built in oven, microwave, electric cook top, tiled counters and a breakfast bar. Dining space is adjacent to the kitchen with a sliding door that opens to a patio and the backyard. Other features include three bedrooms, two baths, central HVAC, partial dual pane windows, and plantation shutters. Spacious yard has a pool, covered patio and garden areas. As the area model home, this garage was featured as a game room with a built- in bar. It now is a garage with a large laundry and storage including a pull-down ladder to a photographer's dark room in the attic. All visitors to the property are to sign the CAR PEAD form and the Coldwell Banker Realty COVID-19 Prevention Plan.
1120 26thAvenue $479,000



LAND PARK

This One of a Kind Tudor features a mix of old-world charm and new construction. Vaulted ceiling in L/R w/ hand hewn beams, original crafted artisan stained glass, leaded windows, brick fireplace and rich dark wood floors. Custom quality abounds in the wonderful Chef's kitchen with quartz counters, over-sized quartz island, breakfast bar, farm sink, six burner stainless cook-top / oven, microwave and built-in stainless refrigerator. Formal D/R opens to the kitchen, with adjacent F/R. Downstairs offers a master suite, laundry / mud room, 1/2 bath and 1/4 bsmt. Upstairs boasts three more bedrooms, one is an additional Master Suite w/ large bathroom, double sinks, marble floor / shower, walk-in closet and balcony. The other two bedrooms have hardwood floors and many windows. There is also a full bath w/ double sinks and a bonus study / sewing room. Backyard captures a beautiful Heritage Oak tree, patio and lawn area. Single car garage w/ attic storage and charming guest cottage. **2964 Govan Way**



Teresa Olson
916-494-1452
teressa.olson@cbnorcal.com
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Solidarity March with Black Lives Matter Movement



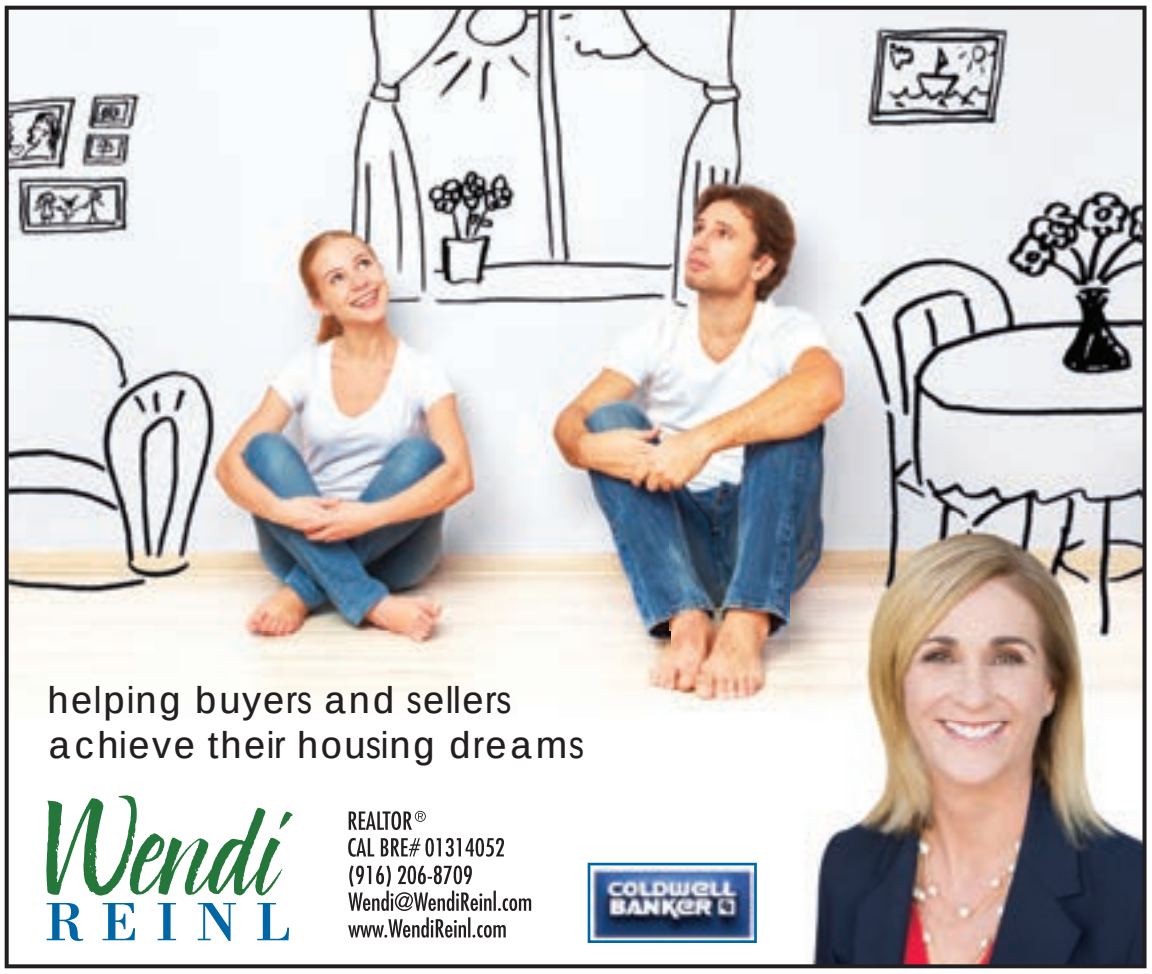








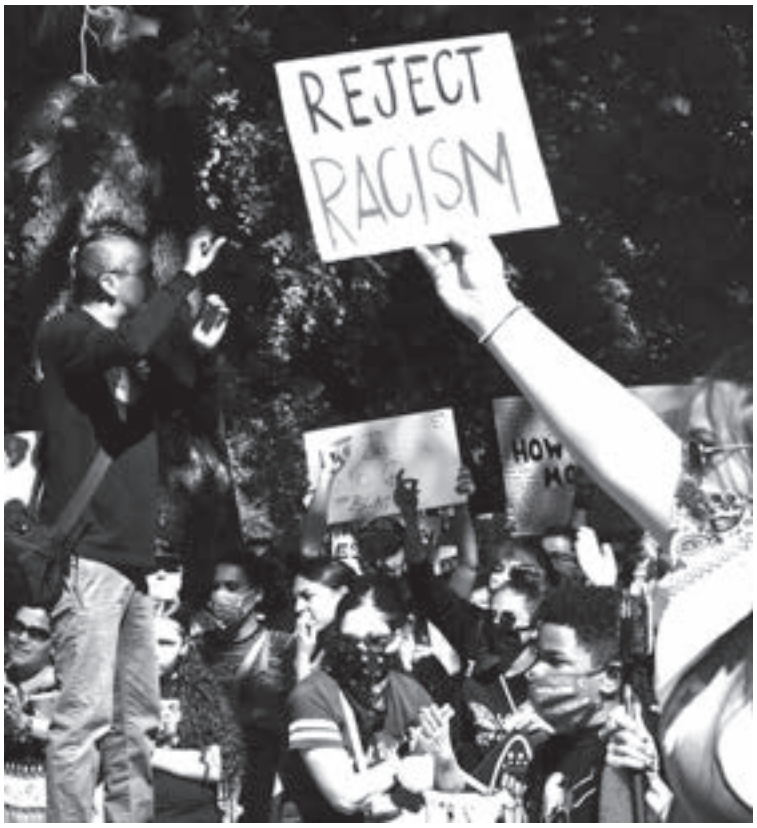








see SOLIDARITY page 5





Solidarity:

continued from page 4

Photos by Monica Stark

On Sunday, June 7 held a solidarity march from Sacramento's Southside Park to Cesar Chavez Park. This march was an act of solidarity between Black and Brown communities, highlighting the mutual struggles with systemic racism, police brutality, prison and detention centers, poverty, and lack of access to healthcare and quality education. All community members that stand in solidarity with us are welcome.

#BlackBrownShutItDown is a coalition of self-identified Brown community members who stand in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement.

From the press release: "We recognize the disproportionate impact of police violence against our Black communities and demand that City and County elected officials, including the Sacramento Mayor, City Council, Board of Supervisors, and District Attorney, immediately abolish curfews, withdraw the National Guard's occupation of our city, release and drop all charges of arrested protestors, and reallocate police funding to community based programs for youth, outdoors, education, healthcare, the arts, and community enrichment.

"The time to end massive policing budgets, and the militarization of local police, is now. Local budgets face a looming shortfall due to COVID 19. We urge city and county leaders to grasp this historic opportunity to change our local budget priorities in order to center the health and well-being of all Sacramentans. To further this end, we demand city leaders cut police funding, which currently represents approximately 45% of the general budget, to 20% or less. We expect to see CARES Act funds used to protect our most vulnerable communities, rather than to increase the militarization of local police. And finally, we demand that the 2020/21 Measure U funds allocated to funding police activities, $41,727,000 (52% of the budget) be reallocated to youth, parks, and community enrichment.

Everyone deserves the right to be safe in their community. Militarized police, behaving as an occupying force, do not make us safer. Sacramento police and sheriffs must be demilitarized. They must stop killing and brutalizing our Black and Brown communities. And they must be held accountable for acts of violence perpetrated under guise of law. Officers who have engaged in violence against members of the community must be removed immediately. City and county officials have a responsibility to stop capitulating to the demands of law enforcement unions, and ensure that officers can be swiftly removed when they engage in egregious acts. The rights of officers should not trump the rights of victims of police violence."

"We expect that Sacramento police, National Guard, and other law enforcement agencies will respect our freedom to assemble and freedom of speech, and will not react to this lawful gathering by disbursal orders, use of rubber bullets, or use of teargas and other dangerous chemical weapons.

"We will continue to protest and fight for the lives of our Black and Brown communities and to defund police, prison systems and abolish all systems of oppression."

Sponsored by: Norcal Resist, Sol Collective, The Decolonization Project, Anti Police-Terror Project Sacramento, Coalition of Labor Union Women - CA Capital Chapter, LCLAA - Sacramento, Peach House Presents, Sacramento Poor People's Campaign, Sac Black QT, Clothing and Food For Everyone (CAFFE), Sacramento Homeless Union, National Lawyers Guild Sacramento Chapter, SEIU USWW Sacramento, The Godmothers of Northern California-Las Madrinas, Los Rios College Federation of Teachers, ANSWER Coalition Sacramento, Decarcerate Sacramento, Familia: Trans Queer Liberation Movement, CAIR Sacramento.



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THIS 'n' THAT

by Carol Bogart

Closing Down the Stress Valve

There are times I'm glad I'm not a street reporter anymore. This is one of them. It's all gotten to be just too much, hasn't it? A pandemic like we've never seen in the last 100 years. Pandemonium in our streets. Heat waves and curfews that make us stay inside, just when we thought we might get out a little.

I'm on stress overload and maybe you are, too.

So this week, I'm taking a break from all of that, because, well, because I need to. Instead, I'll share with you my possum stories (opossums, to be accurate, although growing up, everyone I knew just called 'em possums).

So, anyway, if you'll forgive the shorthand, I first learned about 'possums when, looking under the hedge for a lost ball, I found, instead, a long-dead kitten. The neighbor kid (who'd thrown the ball), exclaimed, "Possum!" "Possums," Tommy, 7, said with certainty, "will kill a kitten."

Well, being 5-years-old and gullible, I took that statement to be fact. For 30 years, I hated possums. When I was driving and spotted something lying in the road, I'd stop if I thought it could be saved. Even saved a stunned fox once. But, if, when I got close, the pile of grayish fur turned out not to be a cat, I'd swerve, while thinking to myself, "just a 'possum," and keep on going.

(Truth be told, a possum is a different animal. Cuter. Looks a bit like a koala. Lives in Australia.)

My antipathy toward opossums softened when I met 'Marcie.'

I was freelancing for a Cleveland TV station. The assignment desk needed a story for me to do. I said, "How about I do a feature on the Nature Center?"

Most such places love free publicity and the Nature Center was no exception. It's wildlife guide introduced us (me and my shooter) to long-time residents of the center: a crippled hawk, and Marcie. Each had had an unfortunate encounter with a car couldn't survive in the wild. Instead, the two educated and entertained grade school kids. And clueless reporters who knew squat about opossums except that they killed kittens.

That day, I learned that opossums are the only 'marsupial' in North America. "Marsupial" means that, like a kangaroo, opossums have a pouch. In that pouch, again like the kangaroo, the female opossum carries, and suckles, offspring. They do NOT eat kittens. They gorge on ticks, thus protecting dogs from heartworm.

"Okay," I thought. "Not such horrid creatures after all."

I asked the center's wildlife guide if he'd stand with me with Marcie as I did my liveshot. He said, "Wouldn't you like to hold her?"

Masking my reluctance, I said, "I'll need a chair." (I didn't want to drop her or otherwise upset her.) Involved standups were popular, I knew. Viewers like it when you DO something.

So, I cradled Marcie in one elbow and we went live. As I was explaining about opossums being North America's only marsupial, I looked down to smile at Marcie.

Her face split open in a big wide yawn. Teeth. All I saw was teeth. LOTS of teeth. I shrieked. The nature center guy retrieved Marcie, the producer cut back to the anchors, and they wrapped things up.

I went back to the station to rework the piece into an anchor voiceover for a later show. The minute I walked in, the news director said, "Let's go in my office." "Oh boy," I thought. "Here we go." With his back to me, he cued my liveshot. With Marcie and I facing each other, our mouths wide open, he turned, laughing, and told me, "Best standup in the show!"

Forever after, I've been a true fan of 'possums.

I love that there are wildlife rescue and rehabilitators in Northern California who specialize in raising joeys. They look for mama opossums on the road. If the mama doesn't make it, the rehabilitators remove the tiny joeys from the pouch and then hand-raise them. Amazing, given that they look like newborn hamsters. Or maybe popcorn shrimp. Anyway, they SAVE THEM! Only such rehabilitators, with permission from the state, are allowed to release them when they're grown. And regular people, like you and me, are not allowed to own one as a pet. However nice they might prove to be.

So, I hope you haven't minded my not writing about virus deaths and looting. I needed to share something that brings me joy. Like 'possums and their little joeys.

Carol Bogart hopes, if you ever see an opossum in the road when you're driving, you'll try not to hit it. It may only be stunned, plus opossums really do 'play dead' when they're really scared. Given a few minutes, the opossum might get up and amble off, saving herself – and her babies. Questions, comments? Contact Carol at carol@bogartonline.com.



PHOTO COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

An opossum has 50 teeth but, if cornered, is more likely to feign a heart attack than try to bite you.

Sacramento Zoo set to reopen to the public on June 15



Sacramento County recently approved the Sacramento Zoo's reopening plan which follows a carefully phased approach that strictly limits attendance.

The Sacramento Zoo will reopen on June 15 with enhanced protocols and procedures in place to ensure the health and safety of zoo guests, staff and animals including:

All tickets must be purchased and reserved in advance online. Timed tickets will be available for specific dates to ensure that appropriate visitor capacities and physical distancing are maintained throughout the day.

Zoo members must reserve tickets in advance online as well. Ticket price included in membership.

Timed tickets will be available for reservation beginning on June 10 at noon. Visit the zoo's website at "Plan Your Visit" to reserve tickets.

Face masks are required for all staff and zoo visitors over two years old.

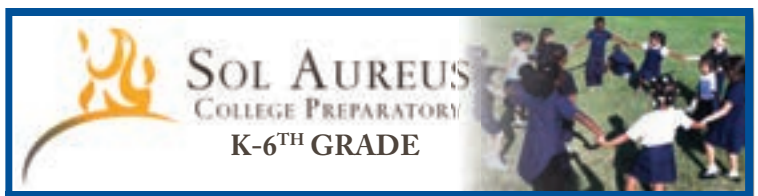
Guests will be asked to maintain a six-foot distance between your group and others when visiting. Physical distancing signage will be placed throughout the zoo.

The zoo is instituting a paperless system – both for transactions and zoo maps.

Sacramento Zoo has consulted with experts at zoos across the country as well as with local health and government officials to develop a comprehensive reopening plan designed to ensure the health and safety of zoo visitors, staff and animals. Details and timed tickets will be available on the zoo's website in the "Plan Your Visit" section beginning on June 10 at noon.

"We are happy to provide a safe outdoor recreation opportunity," stated Sacramento Zoo Executive Director, Jason Jacobs. "As a nonprofit organization, the Sacramento Zoo relies on admission and membership revenue to operate the zoo and to care for the nearly 500 animals that call the zoo home. Since early March, we have added several new animals to the zoo including ostrich, alligators and a new female giraffe. We look forward to sharing these and other amazing animals with our community beginning June 15."

While the Sacramento Zoo works to reopen, the community can help the nonprofit zoo to continue to provide outstanding care for the nearly 500 animals that call the zoo home by donating to the zoo's Emergency Fund.



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Hair salons, barbershops reopen



Photo courtesy of Jay Burster

Briana Burster, owner of Details Salon, reopened her Alhambra Boulevard business on May 27.

By Lance Armstrong
Valley Commnity Newspapers Staff writer

Hair salons and barbershops began reopening throughout Sacramento County on May 27, following impacts of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the government stay-at-home orders on local businesses.

A day earlier, Gov. Gavin Newsom announced that these types of businesses could reopen in most of the state's counties.

Sacramento County revised its health order on the same day to allow for those openings, effective May 26 at 11:59 p.m.

Those reopenings come with various requirements, including that both workers and clients must wear face coverings.

Clients will be screened at the door and will have their appointments canceled or rescheduled, if they show any symptoms of COVID-19. Workers showing the same signs must also stay home.

A new smock or cape will be given to each customer, and working stations and high-traffic areas will be sanitized on a regular basis.

To avoid congregations of people, customers will not be allowed to wait for their appointments inside of the places of business, and workers will not be allowed to serve more than one client at a time.

Additionally, magazines and books will no longer be placed in areas for clients to read, and coffee and other beverage dispensers must be removed from the public areas.

With the reopening or scheduled reopenings of many of these businesses within the coverage areas of Valley Community Newspapers – East Sacramento, Pocket, Land Park, Arden and Carmichael – this publication spoke with representatives of some of those businesses on May 27.

East Sacramento

Briana Burster, owner of Details Salon, at 1675 Alhambra Blvd., has grown accustomed to big changes with her business.

"My larger salon is actually under construction, because a car drove through it in East Sac on 32nd (Street) and Folsom (Boulevard)," she said. "So, that's been under construction for a year."

Burster described the emotions she experienced in returning to work on May 27.

"I had a little, minor breakdown this morning – a little emotional, because you're excited, you want to see your clients, but there's just a lot of this underlying stress," she said.

Burster noted that she is well prepared for protecting her clients against the spread of this coronavirus, noting that she has plenty of masks, hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes.

Burster added that in terms of financial stability, she is fortunate that her husband, Jay, works in real estate.

"He's also taken a hit in his business, but we're fine," she said. "It's good to get back to work and get some income rolling and be as safe and careful and cautious as possible," she said.

Michele Scarberry, owner of Hair to Eternity, at 729 56th St., told this paper that some of the hairstylists at her business were able to obtain unemployment checks.

Scarberry mentioned that she is currently figuring out the most effective ways to operate under the new guidelines.

"(The guidelines) will certainly make our business different than it was," she said. "We just can't have people just sitting in there reading magazines, having coffee, sitting at our community table. It's one client at a time in a chair 6 feet apart from the other workers. Everything has got to be sanitized in between clients.

"So, trying to even make the money that we would normally be making is going to be more difficult, unless we work much longer days, like 12- to 14-hour days. So, that will just take some time getting back into the scheduling and getting everyone back on to a regular schedule., and just hoping that we don't see a phase two of this."

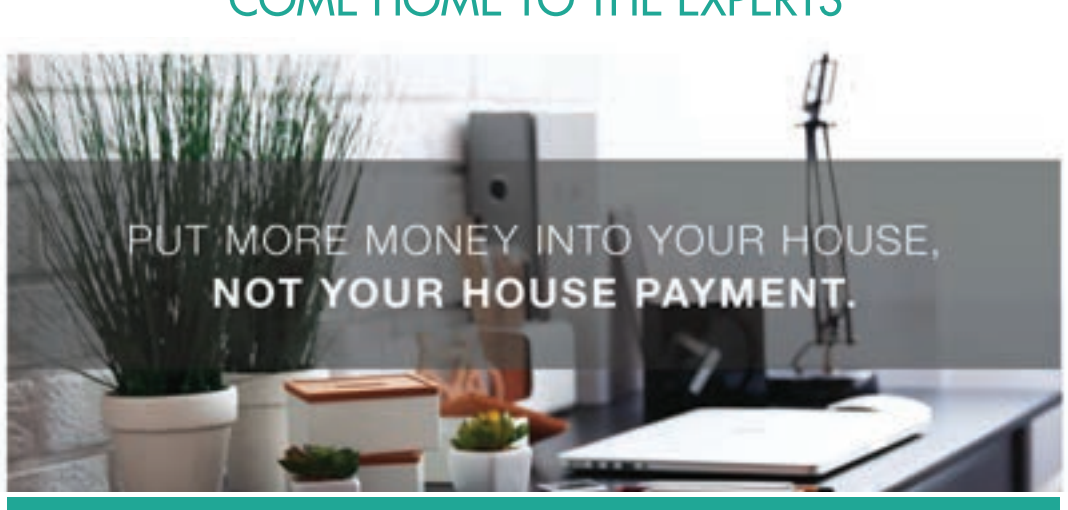
Pocket-Greenhaven

Sandy Huand, owner of Simone Salon & Spa, at 1024 Florin Road in the Lake Crest Village Shopping Center, said that the temporary closure of her business was a challenging situation.

"(Being closed) was very difficult, because we stopped (working) for two and a half months," she said. "It was pretty hard. I can't get away from paying

see SALONS page 9

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Salons:

continued from page 8

my rent. I still have to pay the rent. I can't (pay the rent), because we (were not) working, so I don't have money to pay. Now they can't kick me out (due to the city's tenant eviction moratorium)."

Although Huand, who opened her business in 2014, applied for financial assistance, she said that she was unable to obtain that aid.

Sophia Tran, manager of Artistry Salon & Spa, at 6405 Riverside Blvd., said that she was happy to return to work.

"I'm really happy to see all the regular customers," she said.

Tran mentioned that this salon is also behind on their rent payments, yet protected by the city's tenant eviction moratorium.

She added that her business's future is uncertain.

"We actually don't know, because we just (re-)opened," Tran said. "That's why we actually don't know. Maybe in a couple months we will know. By that time, we will see if we can stay long enough or not."

Land Park

Tracy Kwong, owner of Shear Beauty Hair Salon, at 1049 Broadway, said that she delayed the reopening of her business until June 1.

"Because we have to make everything distant (with 6 feet separations), we have to rearrange the salon," she said. "I just want to make sure everything is the right way."

Kwong shared her frustrations with having her business temporarily shut down.

"It was really hard and frustrating," she said. "I tried to get a loan and was not approved. It's really tough."

Kwong, who has worked as a hairdresser for more than 30 years, noted that she is in a position in which she owes rent that she cannot currently pay.

"I'm just getting an email (message) from the landlord (for) two months rent," she said. "You know, I don't even open the business, right? How can I have income to pay rent? I don't even have any help. If I could get some loans from the bank. Pretty much, small businesses, they don't get much help.

"I don't know. We might have to raise the price a little bit on the haircuts, whatever to try to make up for it to pay rent. So, it's very tough."

Jessica Alyse, owner of Jessica Alyse Studio, at 2416 18th St., said that she is glad to be back in business.

"It's very exciting," she said. "It's honestly something that kind of looked like it wasn't going to happen for a while. So, we're taking what we can right now, but we are excited to start making money, and pay for all the rent that has been accumulating."

Alyse noted that her business is surviving despite her lack of success in obtaining grants and unemployment benefits.

She has instead been spending part of her savings that she had set aside for a second location of her business in Elk Grove.

"I just opened my salon last year, and so my savings I had started, I wanted to have a second salon in Elk Grove as of the year anniversary, which would be at the end of August," Alyse said.

Alyse added that the temporary shutdown of her business delayed that plan.

"The idea of a second salon, which is where my business was going, is not going to happen for a while," she said.

Arden, Carmichael

Libbee's Hair Salon, at 6916 Fair Oaks Blvd. in Carmichael, reopened on May 30.

Linola "Lynn" Frandrup, owner of Libbee's, said that she would have liked to receive more advanced notice that she could reopen her business.

"How they handled it that all of a sudden one day (to) say we're going to be weeks out, and then, 'Oh, you can open tomorrow,'" she said. "No warning, no preplanning. They could have gave us a heads up. That really messed up a lot of people."

Frandrup also addressed the new requirements for salons and barbershops.

"They are good rules," she said. "They are stepping up to make sure we keep people safe. We have to implement. We've always been sanitary, but this is just stepping up the game more."

Hang Pham, manager of Hair Pros Beauty Salon, at 3075 Arden Way, returned to work at this business on June 2.



Photo by Jordon Harris/Will Model 4 Toyz

Jessica Alyse cuts her client's hair on her first day back on the job at Jessica Alyse Salon, on May 27.

Pham acknowledged the changes that had to be made to reopen the business.

"(There are) a lot of guidelines we have to follow," she said.

She additionally commented on the financial struggles that this salon has experienced due to the stay-at-home order.

"It's the small business," Pham said. "We don't get any loans. I applied for a loan, but I don't get approved for it. It's a payroll (issue) and I don't have any employees. I work for myself. (The bills) had to be delayed until I go back to work.

"We've been away for a long time and now we want to go back to work."





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Photos by Stephen Crowley

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see CONGRATULATIONS page 14





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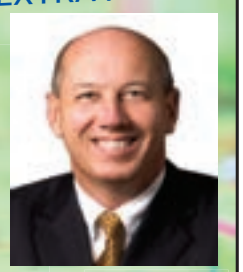






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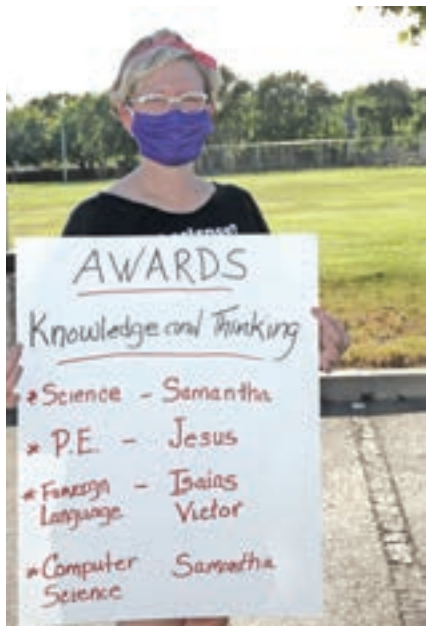
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continued from page 17









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Door to Door

Perfect storm

By Pat Lynch

Commenting on the stark divisions in this country, someone on Facebook noted, "I haven't lost friends over politics. I've lost friends over morals." I wish I could identify this person to credit him or her for a precise observation.

On our block, a microcosm of urban Northern California, we make moral choices daily. Most of us avoid crowds, not only for our own safety, but because we don't want to endanger others. Most of us wear the masks. We don't care if the president mocks us. We know the virus did not observe the shutdown and is as potent and patient as ever. We know we could have it with no symptoms, but pass it on to someone who could be dead in a week. So we mask up.

When restrictions were lifted, chiefly for economic reasons, I watched a news show featuring a crowded beach extravaganza somewhere in the South. A prodigious mass of humans squished together, few observing the distance requirements. A reporter tromped across the sand to a young woman applying tanning lotion and asked if she was afraid of violating requirements and getting Covid. "I hope I don't get it, and I wash my hands a lot," she said. She bestowed a sweet, wide smile on the reporter. "But if God wants me He'll take me."

So I ended up talking to the TV again. "Hey, what if the guy next to you doesn't want to go to God right now? What if he wants to live to 96 so he can learn what Mars is like?

What did this girl not understand? Her religion seemed small and personal, and didn't appear to include a concept of responsibility for others. A more humane value system was needed on that beach, and in all the overcrowded beaches, bars, and gathering places in this opened-up, infected country.

Then, propelled by sorrow and fury, came protests for the death of George Floyd. Unlike the armed, white protesters who stormed state capitols with guns, Nazi and Confederate flags, these African American protesters were unarmed. Many unarmed white supporters joined them. These initial demonstrators provided another feast for the virus. Then came right-wingers like Boogaloo Bois and Proud Boys (two of current white nationalist and anarchist groups who infiltrate demonstrations to turn the public against them), to provoke arson and mayhem. And then the random looters arrived. And then the police and National Guard, all massed together in smoky cities in the dark. Covid doesn't care who's right or wrong. But it knows a banquet when it sees one.

On the Sunday, May 31, Johns Hopkins reported a Covid increase of 20, 000 cases. Minnesota governor Walz said, "I am deeply concerned about a super-spreader type of incident. We're going to see a spike. It's inevitable." One sad irony is that African-Americans are a uniquely vulnerable population for this virus, and some demonstrators may re-

see DOOR TO DOOR page 19



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Photo by Lance Armstrong

Pat Melarkey, dressed in clothes similar to those that were worn by George Gust "Goat Man" Zwikis, stands alongside two goats, in 2013.

Remembering the 'Goat Man'

Greek immigrant was Arden area character of days gone by

By LANCE ARMSTRONG

It has been many years since the Arden area was labeled as a rural area. But those who remember this section of the county some 70-plus years ago likely recognize one of this area's all-time characters: The "Goat Man."

Born in Greece, the Goat Man – whose real name was George Gust Zoutsos (Americanized, Zwikis, also Zwerkis) – was a legendary figure in this area.

Although Zwikis died 65 years ago this month, his legend continues through people who recall his days of frequently standing on his undeveloped property in the area of today's Country Club Centre.

In the 1920s, Zwikis purchased 26 acres at the northwest corner of Watt Avenue and Cottage Way. It was in that area that he acquired his nickname, as he was known as the recluse man who passed his days with his goats, while having little interest in communicating with people.

His lack of desire to mingle with others is well known by those who remember him.

Zwikis once told The Sacramento Bee, "It is a fine country, this America. The only trouble is the people in it are no good."

Assisting Zwikis with his goat herding were several dogs.

His Arden area property also included about 50 black and English walnut trees and a small vineyard. He also grew fava beans and onions.

Evidence of the Goat Man's longtime post-mortem legacy was revealed just last week, when 82-year-old Bob Hart shared his memories about Zwikis.

"You could drive out in the area where the (Country Club) Centre is now and he had acres and acres and acres of (land) with these goats and a little, tiny shack out there," he said. "He would bring them in at night and he would stay in his little shack, and it was small.

"He was an old man. I never went up close to him, but driving by you would see him. He had maybe two dozen goats. Some of them I think had bells on them, and he had a couple dogs as I remember to help keep them going.

"I don't know whether he milked (the goats). I don't know what he was doing with them. But every time you went out there, he was there."

Hart, who graduated from El Camino High School in 1955, added that eventually the Goat Man was gone, and then the area drastically changed.

"My goodness, that whole property started bouncing up with all kinds of stuff," he said.

The initial unit of Country Club Centre on the southwest corner of Watt and El Camino avenues opened during the summer of 1952.

Research for this article revealed that prior to purchasing his Arden area property, Zwikis came to the United States in about 1917, then worked for several years as a sheepherder for the Swanstons – the well-known, local landowners who operated a ranch and meat packing plant near Arden Way and the railroad.

After acquiring his Arden area property, the Goat Man lived in an environment that suited his desire to live a life of seclusion.

With plenty of open land around his property, he could also be seen with his goats on grasslands along Arden Way, Eastern Avenue and at a site at Marconi and Watt avenues.

Being that Zwikis was Greek, Terry Kastanis, parish librarian of Sacramento's Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation, recalled other local Greeks mentioning the Goat Man many years ago.

"I remember that story (about the Goat Man)," he said. "I heard about him being out there at (the site of today's) Country Club Centre, but I never knew (other details) about him."

Kastanis added that he unfortunately did not find any information about Zwikis in the parish library.

Several years prior to his death, which occurred earlier this year, former Sacramento County Supervisor Pat Melarkey recalled seeing Zwikis in the 1940s.

"I would see George herding goats, and, of course, I was there many times when traffic stopped and he was driving them across Watt Avenue or El Camino (Avenue)," he said. "It was all open and he would just take them over (to different properties) to keep the grass down."

Melarkey also remembered seeing as many as 75 goats on Zwikis' property.

"He had a minimum of 25 goats, but sometimes he had 75," he said. "And he had them kept in pens and a lot of those little ones he kept in the shack with him. He was really into husbandry."

A classified advertisement in the April 17, 1946 edition of The Bee refers to Zwikis' offering of about 200 goats for sale. His address is given as Route 9, Box 1980.

Because there were no landmarks in the area such as Country Club Centre and Country Club Plaza at that time, another classified advertisement during that era describes Zwikis' property during that era as being located a mile south of Del Paso Country Club.

An article in that paper's March 5, 1948 edition mentions that Zwikis had report-

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Door to Door:

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turn it to a community beset by the health susceptibilities linked to structural racism. And, as noted by the American Academy of Pediatrics, "racism is a public health issue." It is a public enemy that, unlike flood and blizzard, does not go away.

In this country we haven't been able to unite against this common enemy for the public good. We haven't been able to unite against Covid 19 either. This is a demonstrable failure of national leadership, but also shows flawed moral choices on our part. We haven't made this a safe country for everybody. Driving while black, walking down the street while black, jogging while black--these can still be deadly hazards in racialized America. And today in the USA we have 109,580 Covid deaths and nearly two million total cases. There will be more tomorrow, of course, and in two weeks we'll learn if super spreaders will have triggered skyrocketing numbers of highly contagious infected.

Some people, like the girl on the beach, trace their morals to religious belief. Others say moral practice derives from reciprocal altruism, which in evolutionary biology is a supposition that nature has programmed us, for the survival of our species, to sometimes behave unselfishly, and to presume fellow sapiens will reciprocate. That's how we learn to count on one another. "If I weren't for this Corona disease, I'd be out there protesting the other disease," neighbor Marie said. "And I'd resent the hell out of those looters and provocateurs who tried to make us look bad."

It reminded me of what I seen on TV. A tall, muscular man in dark clothing, including complete head covering so you couldn't identify him, used tools to break through a shop door. Two female protesters ran to him, shouted to him to stop. He grabbed the first young woman and brutally flung her to the sidewalk. She scrambled up, and by then others had run over and the man merged into the crowd. It was a perfect moral snapshot of depravity and courage. And of course Covid saw it all.

Then came Trump and his use of American troops to rout peacefully assembled American citizens so he could take a theatrical stroll to a church where he smirked and waved a bible. This was creepy because we don't so far have a state religion in this country. Or do we? Or was the spectacle supposed to make us forget that we endure this administration's multiple failures, first to recognize the disease threat (remember the "hoax?"), and then to combat it with a national testing and tracing program? Or was the bible display supposed to make us forget that Trump refused to apologize for the full-page ads he took out in '89 calling for the death of the innocent Central Park Five (one Latino kid and four African American kids wrongly imprisoned for rape)?

I don't know. But I know we are plagued. The whole world is plagued with these diseases. As I write the White House is barricaded like a palace in an authoritarian state, and troops without insignia formed around protesters. No insignia means no identification and no identification means no accountability. I don't know how secret police fit in a free country.

I do know this: race hatred is a mental deficiency that retards humanity. I know the USA has 4% of the world's population and 24% of its Covid 19 (Johns Hopkins/Washington Post). I know we should trust science. I know our constitutional freedoms need protection. I know our burdens are ancient and complex. I know if some of us get Covid, we die. I know black lives matter.

Goat Man:

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ed a stolen nanny goat to the authorities.

But when Deputy Sheriff George Louderback paid a visit to his residence to investigate that report, he could not find Zwikis.

The article notes: "The officer said after failing to bring any response by tooting his car horn and rapping on the door of the house, he opened the door and was greeted by a goat standing inside. He said there were two goats on the table. He left when he could not find (the Goat Man)."

It is also mentioned in the article that Zwikis later revealed that his nanny goat was killed and someone dumped its body over a fence on his property.

With the postwar building boom in the Arden area, Zwikis was approached various times about selling his Watt Avenue and Cottage Way property before finally accepting a $165,000 offer.

Following that sale, Zwikis moved with his goats to Elk Grove, where he purchased a 20-acre ranch on Sheldon Road, near Stockton Boulevard (now West Stockton Boulevard). The address of his residence was Route 2, Box 2472.

Zwikis' life in Elk Grove was fairly short-lived, as he died at the age of 72 on May 17, 1955. He was found dead in his property's goat corral.

In his bedroom, the coroner's deputies discovered a newborn goat that Zwikis had apparently been caring for in his bedroom.

Included in the June 9, 1955 edition of the Elk Grove Citizen is an article, titled "Goat Man widow located in Greece."

In that article it is mentioned that Zwikis had only one surviving next of kin, 70-year-old Maria Zoutsos, who he left behind in his native homeland.

Despite not having seen her husband in more than four decades, Maria would ultimately inherit $140,000 of his estate, which was valued at nearly $180,000. The estate included his ranch and $18,200 in cash.

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