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Land Park News

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see page 2

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The Land Park News is published on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month in the area bounded by Broadway to the north, Interstate 5 on the west, Florin Road on the south and Freeport Boulevard/21st Street on the east.

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Cover by:
George Young

Faces and Places: Riverside Boulevard community mural project



Photos by George Young
Article by George Young and Monica Stark

On the walls of Planet Gymnastics, the community was invited to join muralist Maren Conrad in painting a mural on the wall of Planet Gymnastics. In honor of local plant and wildlife photographer Jackie Anderson, the mural is one of two mural projects commissioned by her husband to honor her life. The mural on Riverside Boulevard in Land Park features the plants and flowers she liked. There are a few hidden images are tucked in certain pictures, like the one across the street will have her two dogs. In Redding, California is a wishing wall that honors Jackie, an example of which is located on 19th Street in midtown that features a dandelion in the wind, promoting passersby to stand next to it, pretending they're making a wish.

see Mural page 3

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Tremendous Location



3 Beds | 3.5 Baths | 2,679 SqFt
This Palomar model is a beautiful example of modern living, attractive granite, upgraded cabinets and flooring. Living Room with gas fireplace, expansive entry way leads to inviting Family Room also with a gas fireplace, which joins the Dining Room and well-appointed Kitchen. Patio, lawn and planter boxes give the back yard depth and functionality, gather and celebrate.
8313 Sienna Sand Dr $639,000



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Lovingly maintained from generation to generation this 3-4 bdrm, 2 bath home shares a commanding view and deep connection with Curtis Park. Step out of your door and enjoy the lush expanse of grass and trees and the gentle rhythm of park life. The classic lines and details of this iconic home have been well preserved and are protected by the heavy duty roof. Vintage hardwood floors flow throughout the spacious downstairs with multiple windows and full-light doors streaming glorious morning light in and providing a lovely panorama of the upper park. Generous kitchen and baths, an updated HVAC and dual pane windows make this a home of comfort.
2548 Donner Way • $875,000.

Fabulous Fair Oaks!



Spacious and open single story 3 bed, 2 bath home. Explore your inner chef in the lovely kitchen with a massive island, quartz counter tops, white soft close cabinets, pendant lighting and stainless steel appliances. Wood laminate flooring flows all throughout the house perfectly complimenting the white shutters and blinds. Beautifully updated bathrooms with quartz and tasteful tile work. Newer roof (2017), HVAC (2018), water heater (2018) and sewer (2018). Generous backyard with room for a pool and a covered patio perfect for barbequing and entertaining.
5319 Rimwood Drive • $569,990



Mural:

continued from page 2

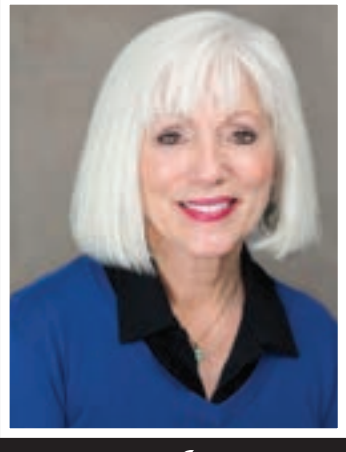




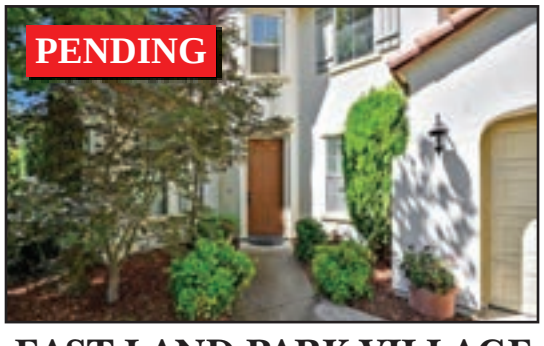








Sue Olson
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EAST LAND PARK VILLAGE

This stately home with Spanish flair sits on a large lot in a Tim Lewis development. The property features high ceilings, a tiled turret entry, living room, dining room, office / den, full bath and downstairs wood floors. The family room with fireplace opens to the kitchen featuring a large tiled island, pantry, gas cooktop, built-in oven and dishwasher, ample storage and views of the exceptionally inviting backyard. Upstairs features a sitting room in the upstairs turret, laundry room, two bedrooms and a full bath. There is a desk area at the upstairs landing which leads to the master suite complete with sitting area and large bathroom with dual sinks, large tub, shower and walk-in closet. The backyard comes with covered patios, built-in BBQ island with refrigerator, fruit trees and landscaped gardens. Home is on a street with no outlet and at the end is a small park and playground. This shows like a model home!
6318 Park Village St. $779,000



SO. LAND PARK TERRACE

Spacious 3 bedroom, 3 and one half bath home located in the hills and adorned by a beautiful magnolia tree. Large tiled entry, living and dining combo, fireplace with insert, engineered wood floors and garden windows. Remodeled kitchen has tiled floors, granite counters, custom cabinetry, skylight and pass thru window to breakfast room. Open and airy family room has a second fireplace, lots of windows and an adjacent full bathroom. First floor features two bedrooms, one with a half bath, hall laundry closet, door to private courtyard, and an additional bathroom with double sinks, shower and tub. Upstairs master suite includes full bathroom with tub, shower and walk-in closet. Backyard has built-in pool, patios and mature landscaping. **4644 Sunset Drive $910,000**



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COLDWELL BANKER
RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

Sacramento County reintroduces indoor mask mandate

Community responds to order

By LANCE ARMSTRONG

With the July 29 announcement that Sacramento County public health officials reinstated the mandate requiring people to wear face coverings in indoor, public spaces, local residents shared their thoughts on that order.

The reinstated mandate went into effect the following day and pertains to most people, regardless of whether they have been vaccinated against COVID-19. The mandate does not apply to people who are medically exempted from wearing face coverings.

Face masks are also not required for those working alone in a room or exercising.

Indoor public settings, according to the mandate, include restaurants, retail stores, movie theaters, gyms and offices.

The mandate's return occurred nearly two months after being lifted, following the end of California's color-coded tier restrictions for businesses and public buildings.

Dr. Olivia Kasirye, the county's public health officer, stated in her July 29 order that the rise in COVID-19 cases led to the reinstated order.

"Since June 15, 2021, when most restrictions from the state of California's Blueprint for a Safer Economy were lifted, the average daily incident case rate of COVID-19 in Sacramento County has increased 5.5-fold to reach the 'high-transmission' level of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's indicators for levels of community transmission," she wrote.

"The testing positivity rate in Sacramento County has also risen 4.3-fold since June 15. Hospitalizations from COVID-19 in Sacramento County have risen from 60 patients on June 15 to 175 patients on July 27."

Kasiyre additionally stated that the "significantly more transmissible" COVID-19 Delta variant is the predominant strain in the United States, and has accounted for 64.8% of positive specimens collected from county residents and genotyped, since June 15.

As of Aug. 4, the county reportedly had a COVID-19 case rate of 25.6 per 100,000 residents. In contrast, the case rate was reportedly 5.2 cases per 100,000 residents on July 1.

Kasiyre did not provide a date for when the order would be lifted.

Land Park resident Melanie Davis mentioned that she believes in following the county's mask mandate order.

"I'm all for contributing to whatever the solution is, and if that means we all have to wear masks now," she said. "I work in the medical setting, so I've had to wear one from the beginning. So, it's not much of a change for me."



Photos by Lance Armstrong

Meadowview resident Sam Gevara is among the supporters of Sacramento County's reinstated mask mandate.

Curtis Park resident Kathy Strawser also believes in following the order.

"I always wear the mask (in public)," she said. "Everyone in my family is vaccinated, so when I'm at home, I don't wear the mask. If I go to Safeway or (in a gas station), paying cash for my gas, then I put the mask on."

Former Land Park resident Lisa Santos, bartender at the XO Lounge, noted that she does not agree with the mandate's requirement for vaccinated people to wear masks indoors in public places.

"I think if you were (vaccinated), I don't think it should apply to you," she said.

"I do think that it's unfortunate that people still have to wear (face coverings). I'm not about government at all, and I think you should do what you want to do."

Stefon Love, who identified himself as a homeless man who lives in the area, believes that it was not necessary to reinstate the mandate.

"On this pandemic and things that are going around with the mask, even though the government says we don't have to wear the mask ever since June, but we have to turn back around and wear them, to me I can understand the panic," he said. "But this is something that if 1,000 people ain't dying in one city to the other to the other, I really think they overregulate.

"I understand the concern, because I'm concerned about it, but I don't think the government or the city where you live (needs) to go this far."

While sitting inside a Land Park business, Gerry Kushida shared his thoughts on the mask mandate.

"The variant is so powerful, I guess, it really effects everybody," he said. "So, we're going back to square one (with face coverings), I think. So, we've got to be careful. Hospital rates are high. I'm concerned about it. What can we do? Everybody's rebelling against wearing masks, and they don't want to get vaccinated.

"I think it's up to you. If you want to wear your mask, fine. If not, fine."

Little Pocket resident Lein Shanahan said that he is frustrated with the "flip-flopping" of the mandate.

"To me, it's like, we got vaccinated, trying to get back to normal life and you want to flip-flop and say, 'Oh, now that you're vaccinated, you've

see Mask page 7

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Welcome back to music in Curtis Park!





The Sierra Curtis Neighborhood and the Sierra 2 Center are bringing back Music in Curtis Park on Sunday, Aug. 29 from 6 to 8 p.m. The headlining band is On Air and Mister Cooper will provide the kids entertainment. At this time there will be no gathering restrictions or mask guidelines. Kado's Asian Grill will be onsite serving food for purchase.

For more information call the Sierra 2 Center at 916-452-3005. William Curtis Park is located at 3349 West Curtis Drive.

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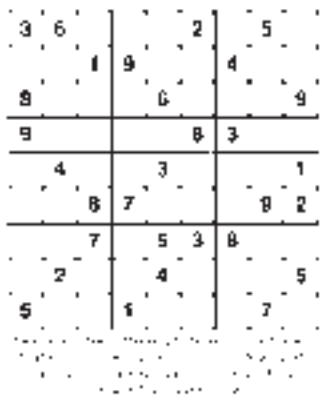
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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!



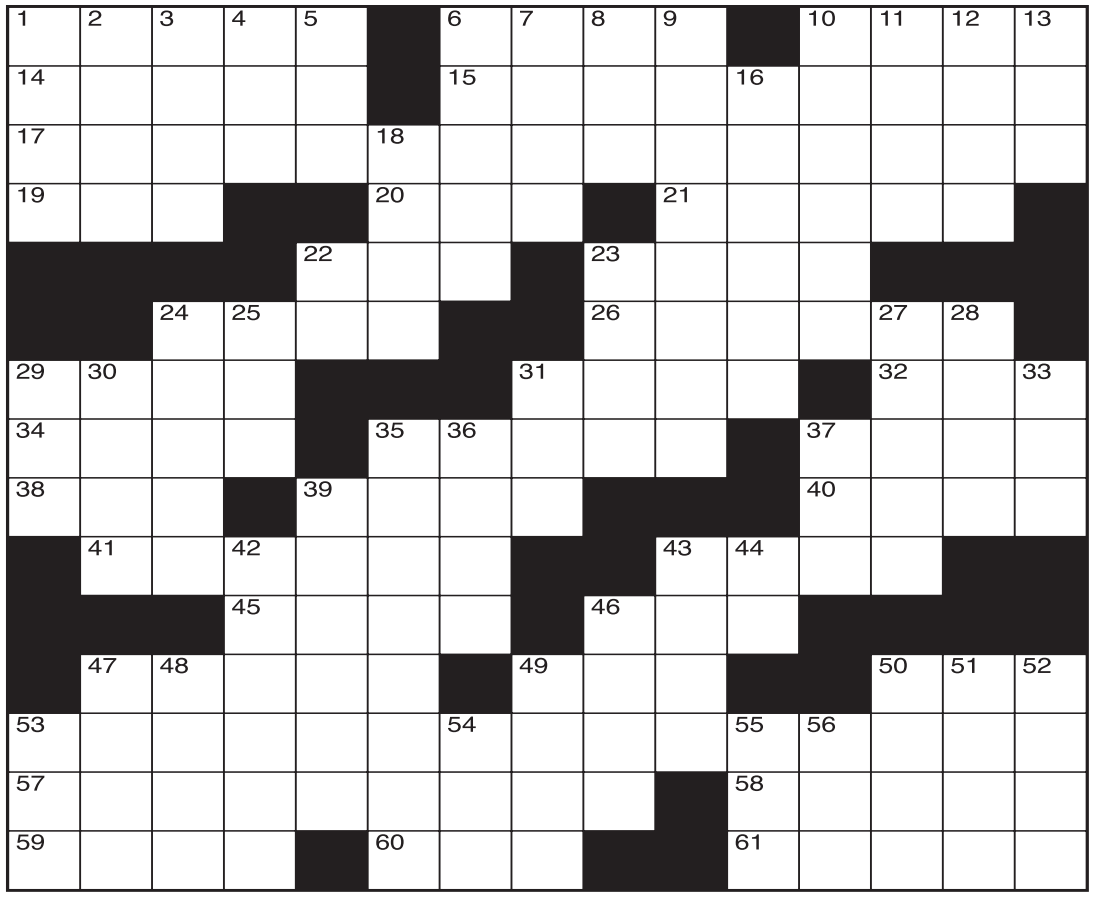
1. Who wrote and released "Suzanne"?
2. Which solo artist got a start with Humble Pie and the Herd?
3. Where did the Orlons get their name?
4. Who wrote and released "Swingtown"?
5. Name the song that contains these lyrics: "You think you're gonna take me and put me on the shelf, Girl, I'd rather die than see you with somebody else."



1. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What word represents the letter "Q" in the NATO phonetic alphabet code?
2. MOVIES: Which actress, as a child, won a Best Supporting Actress award for her role in "The Piano"?
3. ADVERTISING SLOGANS: What product is advertised with the slogan "Vermont's Finest"?
4. GEOGRAPHY: What is the English name for the country called Suomi by its people?
5. LITERATURE: Which 20th-century novel begins with the line, "All this happened, more or less"?
6. ANATOMY: What part of the brain deals with hearing and language?
7. FOOD & DRINK: What is the most expensive spice on Earth?
8. TELEVISION: The TV series "Melrose Place" was a spinoff of which earlier drama?
9. U.S. STATES: Which state is known as the Beaver State?
10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is the descriptive name for animals that are active at dusk and dawn?

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS SEE PAGE 14

CROSSWORD



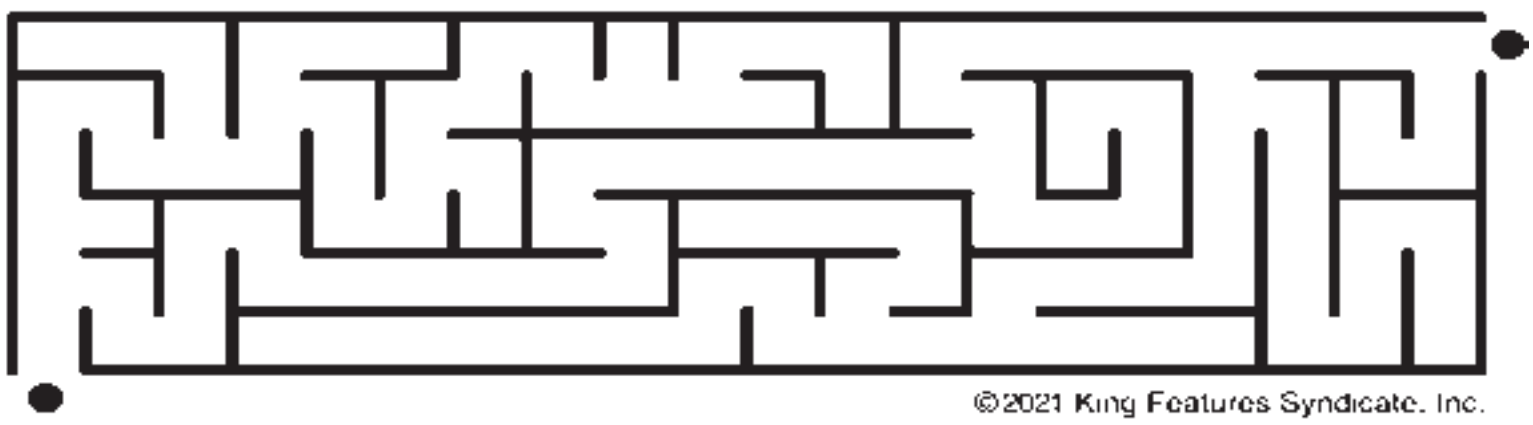
CLUES ACROSS

1. Secret clique
6. Earliest in and out
10. Ancient Egyptian symbol of life
14. Olfactory property
15. Kidnapping
17. Golf prize
19. Helps little firms
20. Cast a spell on
21. Panama is one
22. Dishonorable man
23. Sea eagle
24. Part of the healing process
26. Vin's last name
29. Wings
31. Made older
32. Political device
34. Looks like a rabbit
35. Gurus
37. Philippine Island
38. Not or
39. Hindu model of ideal man
40. Exam
41. Making less difficult
43. Without
45. Dravidian ethnic group
46. A baglike structure
47. Buenos Aires capital La __
49. Dab
50. Singers who perform together
53. Pirates' saying
57. OK to allude to
58. Somaliland diplomat
59. Has to pay back
60. Felix is one
61. Intestinal pouches

CLUES DOWN

1. Harsh cries of a crow
2. Type of horse
3. __ fide: authentic
4. Doctors' group
5. Fugitives are on it
6. Forged
7. Wild goat
8. Influential American president
9. Calls for help
10. Repents
11. Palm tree with creeping roots
12. Black powder used in makeup
13. Happy New Year
16. Stretched out one's neck
18. Whale ship captain
22. Atomic #20
23. Border
24. River that borders India and Nepal
25. After B
27. Fencing swords
28. Where researchers work
29. Expression of satisfaction
30. Broadway actor Nathan
31. Heavy, heat-retaining stove
33. A way to eliminate
35. Type of tree resin
36. Russian river
37. Children's TV network
39. Troublemaker
42. Averts or delays
43. Self-immolation by fire ritual
44. It cools your home
46. Satisfy to the fullest
47. Stinks!
48. Popular board game
49. Attack by hurling
50. A vale
51. Type of acid
52. Tasmania's highest mountain
53. No seats available
54. Licensed for Wall Street
55. Family of genes
56. Constrictor snake

Kids' Maze



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Oak Park First Fridays featuring "Dinorah"



The Brickhouse Gallery & Art Complex returns with their first "Oak Park First Friday event since the pandemic, featuring "DINORAH" in the outdoor patio with J Beezy Stage Truck providing the sound and stage for all First Friday events. This is a free event from 6 to 9 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 3.

Acclaimed multi-award winning singer, songwriter and musician, Dinorah has performed for audiences throughout the U.S. and Mexico for over 25 years.

Born and raised in Mexico City, Dinorah started her musical education at age of eight years old when she learned to play guitar and quickly developed a passion for Flamenco, Salsa, Bolero, and Ballads.

Dinorah has performed with legendary artists such as Stevie Wonder, Mariachi Vargas, Mariachi Sol de Mexico, Patti Labelle, Celia Cruz, and many more.

Based locally, she manages a traditional Latin American and Spanish group, Las Brujas; a salsa and blues band, Crosswinds; and performs music from all over the world as a soloist with her inseparable guitar.

Dinorah is also involved in the production of shows and festivals, including Sacramento's own Annual Mariachi Festival.

The Brickhouse is located at 2837 36th St. in Oak Park.

Mask:

continued from page 4

got to go (back) and wear masks.'"

Steven Quarles, a 1975 graduate of John F. Kennedy High School, mentioned that he questions the recent mask mandate.

"I don't give (an expletive) what the government thinks," he said. "I'll be damned if I'm going to follow anything they say. I've always felt suspect. You know, conspiracy theorist."

Asked about the mandate, Meadowview resident Sam Gevara noted that he has grown frustrated with Gov. Gavin Newsom.

"We should have (continued to wear) masks before the second opening," he said. "Our governor. He don't care. He would rather have us get sick and die. So, I would rather have people inside the stores or buildings have masks on, because you don't know who got sick, who's not.

"Personally, I think (the mandate) is a good idea, but most people, they don't realize that. It's really stupid all these people sitting around not wearing a mask. It's dumb. I believe the real-life science. I don't believe the fake news stuff."

Oak Park resident John Williams told this paper that he supports the reinstated mask mandate.

However, he noted that although he is very concerned about the spreading of COVID-19, he does not attempt to promote his view with others.

"A grown man or woman has to make their (own) choice," he said. "I don't judge. Just don't give (the virus) to me."

Katie, a nurse in the community who did not want to share her last name, supports the reinstated mask mandate.

"I'm all for the mask mandate," Katie said. "Our hospitals are being overflowed again. We don't have the means to keep up with the rate that it's going up, and if masks can help cut that down even a little bit, I think it's an easy concession to make for the betterment of everyone around you."

She also commented on the COVID-19 variant.

"We're already seeing it mutate so far, and we're already seeing it become smarter than us at this point," she said. "So, I think wearing masks can keep us smarter than mutations. If wearing masks cuts down the ability for it to further mutate, so our vaccine might not even work anymore, I think we've got to do our part."

West Sacramento resident Melissa Gomez mentioned that she especially supports the mask mandate, due to her medical issue that prevents her from getting vaccinated.

"I think the mask mandate is a good thing to do, and I think we should be wearing them," she said. "I haven't gotten sick since we had to (wear them)."

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National Nonprofit Day: Sacramento Local Serves as Director of U.S. Philanthropy for Global Nonprofit



On August 17th, National Nonprofit Day recognizes the positive impact that nonprofit organizations have on our local communities and around the world.

Through nonprofits, awareness, research, and aid reach the people who need it most. Nonprofits also produce tremendous benefits to their surrounding communities and the broader world.

In honor of this holiday, global nonprofit, Operation Smile is highlighting a Sacramento local that has been fundamental in helping the organization succeed. California native, Amber Leonti, is the Director of US Philanthropy at Operation Smile and has offered to share about the importance of nonprofits locally and around the globe.

Amber Leonti was born in Southern California and spent her formative years in the foothills of Northern California. Now living in Sacramento, Amber serves as the Director of US Philanthropy for global nonprofit, Operation Smile which provides free reconstructive cleft surgery and related care to areas of the world where it's need most.

see Nonprofit page 9

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Nonprofit:

continued from page 8

"I have been a career fundraiser and when the opportunity came up to work with Operation Smile, I couldn't say no to the amazing mission, history and impact," said Amber. "We work with an extensive network of volunteers, location healthcare providers, and ministries of health to not only treat patients with cleft conditions but raise the standard of healthcare around the world."

Amber completed her undergraduate studies at UC Santa Cruz, and her graduate work in Leadership in Education at UMass Boston. Professionally she has over 19 years of experience building strong community relationships within profit and non-profit sectors. For nonprofits like Operation Smile, it is through the dedication of volunteers and the generosity of supporters, that the organization can fulfill their mission.

"All of our work begins and ends with our patients in mind. This is simply not possible without the support of individual donors, family foundation, corporations and other likeminded organizations," Amber explained. "The more awareness and funds we can raise, the more lives, families and communities we can help."

Amber is currently working with key supporters in a seven-state region, as well as the Director of US Development Officers. She has volunteered on missions in Ghana, Dominican Republic, and Mexico for Operation Smile. For Amber, this position is an absolute joy as it brings together health, various cultures, and the ability to travel to see first-hand the lives that donors and volunteers have changed.

When asked about what National Nonprofit Day means to her, Amber replied "Nonprofit Day represents all that is good in the world; we truly are a force for good when we work together."

Operation Smile revolutionized cleft surgery globally in 1982. With nearly four decades of experience as one of the largest surgical volunteer-based nonprofits, Operation Smile staff, its private-public partnerships and thousands of volunteers have improved the health and dignity of patients with cleft conditions, helping them to better breathe, eat, speak and live lives of greater quality and confidence.

While one cleft surgery can bring immediate transformation to a child's life in as little as 45 minutes, Operation Smile is committed to providing patients with health that lasts—being there to offer patients additional surgeries, dentistry, psychological services, speech therapy and other essential cleft treatments. Its training and education programs elevate local surgical standards and entire health systems to aid safe surgery and strengthen a global network to reach more people earlier in their lives. You can learn more about its transformative and healing work by visiting operationsmile.org or by following @operationsmile on social media.



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Local church extends homeless assistance to Southside area



Photos by Lance Armstrong

Michael Paschenko, middle, is shown with residents of a homeless camp in the Southside area.



This homeless camp on W Street is among many such camps with border streets in Sacramento.

By LANCE ARMSTRONG

A local church's ongoing project to assist Sacramento's homeless was recently introduced at a homeless camp along W Street, in the city's Southside area.

While wearing blue T-shirts bearing the words, "Capital Dream Team," and the acronym, CCC, a group of male members of Capital Christian Center carried bags and boxes containing food and other essential goods from their vehicles to the camp.

Capital Christian Center is a longtime operating Sacramento church, which is located in the Rosemont area, near Highway 50 and Bradshaw Road.

The church's effort to bring food, clothing and other essentials to homeless camps in Sacramento was established by the church's men's group, which is known as the Capital Men.

Michael Paschenko, one of the coordinators of the church's homeless assistance program, told this publication that this group's deliveries are an extension of the church's larger food assistance program for the homeless.

"We put together about 200 bags of food for people to just drive through – and as they come through, we would be COVID(-19) compliant and have our masks on and such – and (the volunteers) hand over two bags of food to each car that came through. And that was (held on) Sundays. And now we're continuing it and increasing the number of bags."

The group recently handed out 200 bags of essentials at their church grounds and then distributed additional bags of food and other items directly to homeless camps.

"Tent city" deliveries are made by the Capital Men on the fourth Sunday of every month.

Although the area for these deliveries currently extends from the Rosemont area to the homeless camp across from Southside Park, Paschenko noted that the church hopes to eventually expand its deliveries into other nearby areas.

"As long as we (have) grocery bags to hand out, time on our hands," he said.

The bags of food and other essentials are supplemented with any available clothing, shoes and toiletries, Paschenko said.

In addition to delivering food and other essentials to people experiencing homelessness, Capital Men members also pray with them and listen to their personal stories.

In speaking about people who live on the streets, Paschenco said that among the top things that they desire are an address, which will allow them to apply for jobs, and a home where they can comfortably lay their heads at night.

He also mentioned that many homeless are sick, have dependencies and have no way of obtaining professional assistance.

"They're on the streets and they're just surviving," Paschenko said.

Paschenko noted that the church's efforts to help the city's homeless is not new.

"It started with the (church's) Winter Sanctuary (in 2012)," he said. "It allowed the homeless to be bused to our church for a week or two at a time as an overflow when (Sacramento) County had run out of spaces to house them during the winter months."

As part of that program, during those winter evenings, the church's gymnasium was opened with sleeping quarters, and tables were set up for feeding the homeless. Many were shown movies, while others played games, prior to going to sleep for the night.

Each morning, the group was awakened at 5 a.m., provided with breakfast-to-go, and then they were transported back to Loaves and Fishes, a longtime provider for the homeless, on North C Street.

At the time of the church's beginnings with its food distribution program, CCC Senior Pastor Rick Cole was part of that county program, which united more than 30 churches to assist local homeless people.

Cole spent two weeks living with homeless people in Sacramento in 2014 to raise awareness and funds for the Winter Sanctuary program.

Capital Christian Center's involvement with the Winter Sanctuary continued for several years, until funding became an issue.

Paschenko told this paper that although the possibility of reintroducing that program is contemplated, it is not currently an option due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

He added that almost every homeless person aided by his church is very appreciative of that assistance.

"They are so appreciative," he said. "They feel like they're invisible. Nobody sees them, they just walk by them. They don't stop and talk to them. They cross paths by going across the street to avoid them. They don't look at them.

"So, they're everyday people, just like you and I. They've gone through some difficulties and some of them are brand new on the streets and they're learning (about that lifestyle)."

Paschenko mentioned that some of the homeless people who the Capital Men served expressed astonishment with the kindness of these volunteers.

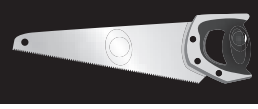
"(They are impressed with) the fact that we would take our time to go to a desolate area where they have their tents set up, and the fact that we took our time to over there and recognize them and help them with food and clothing and such. We find areas that are so desolate that we were the first ones to ever come (visit) them.

"I can't even describe how much they appreciate that we come to them and recognize them and let them know that they're valued and that we love them. And that's why we're here."

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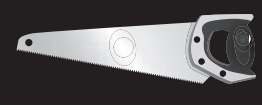
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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

Answers

1. Quebec
2. Anna Paquin
3. Ben & Jerry's ice cream
4. Finland
5. "Slaughterhouse-Five," Kurt Vonnegut
6. The left hemisphere
7. Saffron
8. "Beverly Hills, 90210"
9. Oregon
10. Crepuscular

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Answers

1. Leonard Cohen, in 1967. Cohen eventually lost the rights to the song because of signing a document he didn't read.
2. Peter Frampton. His material and master tapes were lost in the Universal Studios fire in 2008, along with hundreds of other artists.
3. It was a nod to a competitor, the Cashmeres.
4. Steve Miller of the Steve Miller Band. The song is the basis for a particularly controversial chant at the University of Wisconsin-Madison between sections O and P in the stadium during football games. The college has been unable to curtail use of the song or the chant.
5. "Never Give You Up," by Jerry Butler in 1968. The song stayed on the Hot 20 for 14 weeks and was later covered by numerous artists, including Rod Stewart in 2009.

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Sacramento Play Summit returns virtually on Sept. 11



Play is the most important work of childhood, setting the foundation for a child's physical, emotional and cognitive well-being. Yet there are growing threats and limitations placed on the time, resources and spaces devoted to play.

Presented by Fairytale Town and Sacramento Public Library, the Sacramento Play Summit will be held online this year on Saturday, Sept. 11 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. It aims to highlight the importance of play, the many types of play, ways to incorporate play into daily and school life, and more. This conference is ideal for adults who work with children: preschool and elementary educators, early childhood education specialists, childcare providers, after-school program administrators and practitioners, parks and recreation professionals, physical education professionals, parents and grandparents.

Presented by Fairytale Town and the Sacramento Public Library, this conference highlights the importance of play, ways to incorporate play, and more. The conference also qualifies for seven hours of professional growth credit.

The following is a question and answer with event spokesperson Sacramento Public Library Youth Services Manager Christie Hamm and Valley Community Newspapers.

Valley Community Newspapers: Who are the speakers? Why were they chosen for the summit?

Christie Hamm: This year we have an amazing lineup of speakers. The virtual nature of the Summit this year allowed us to bring some much needed expertise that might not be possible if we were in person.

Our morning speakers Dr. Corliss Outley and Dr. Harrison Pinckney will highlight the experiences, concerns and opportunities that families raising Black children consider when engaging in play. Attention will be given to lessons learned through play and its impact on identity development and self-esteem. Tips will be provided for providing positive play experiences for families raising Black children.

Our afternoon will close with a presentation from Dr. Ariana Blazer and Juli Blazer, two play educators on sustaining cultural identity through play, promoting play as an avenue to celebrate, learn, and be in relationship with one another across all spectrums of life. And in between we have breakout sessions from local experts on a variety of topics – playing with books, outdoor play, play for children with special needs, weapon and fantasy play, and more.

VCN: How many years has this event gone on? How has it changed over the years?

Hamm: This is the 9th year Sacramento Public Library and Fairytale Town have presented the Play Summit. The Summit has changed some over the years. While we missed being together in person, we were able to pivot very successfully in 2020 to a virtual environment, which we will do again this year.

VCN: What do you hope attendees get out of the event? What are you looking forward to most?

Hamm: Since its inception, it has brought together members of the community for a combination of practical hands on sessions, inspiring keynotes, some silliness, and networking, all with the aim of making sure Sacramento has access to the very best resources to support our community's children.

VCN: What role does the library play in putting together the play summit? Tell us about the partnership between Fairytale Town and the library in getting the summit underway.

Hamm: Sacramento Public Library is committed to making sure children and families have the supports they need to be ready to learn.

There are five early learning practices which help prepare children for learning – Talking, Singing, Reading, Writing, and Playing. The Play Summit is a way to help develop this important learning practice.

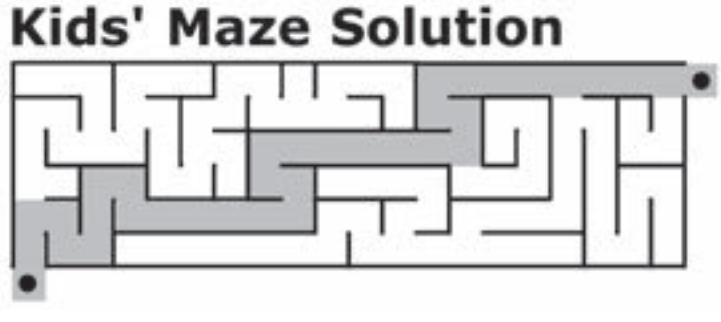
The Play Summit began in 2013 because of Library Director Rivkah Sass, and Fairytale Town's former director Kathy Fleming. The two of them saw the need in our community for this kind of discu ssion and celebration and learning opportunity. It was clear that first year that this was something much needed, and it has attracted a sell out crowd every year since. The good part about the virtual space is there's room for everyone!

For more information, visit: https://www.fairytaletown.org/calendar/sacramento-play-summit/

Puzzle Solutions

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Kids' Maze Solution



Cathay Bank Foundation announces 2021 scholarship recipients



By Monica Stark

Cathay Bank Foundation held a virtual award ceremony on Aug. 12 to recognize the high school senior recipients of the 2021 Cathay Bank Foundation Scholarship. Each recipient will receive a $1,000 scholarship used to cover tuition costs for attending a college or university as a full-time student this fall.

"Cathay Bank Foundation is happy to invest in these outstanding young adults and see them achieve their dream of furthering their education," said Bill Becker, SVP, Director of Community Development of Cathay Bank. "We received applications from many talented young people who already exhibit great leadership skills with an appreciation for community service. We are excited to see what the future holds for them."

On behalf of the Cathay Bank Foundation, Co-Chair Deborah Ching thanked the Asian Pacific Community Fund (APCF) for its assistance. APCF is the program administrator for the Cathay Bank Foundation Scholarship and has been so for the past three years. Chun-Yen Chen, Executive Director of APCF, attended the award ceremony and extended congratulatory messages to the scholarship recipients.

The award ceremony was held virtually for the second year in a row, for the health and safety of the attendees. Each scholarship recipient gave an acceptance speech, expressing their gratitude towards the Cathay Bank Foundation and shared their plans for college life and goals after graduation.

This year, Cathay Bank Foundation received 438 scholarship applications from California, New York, Washington, Illinois, Texas, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Nevada. Cathay Bank engaged 87 employees nationwide who volunteered to review and score the application essays. The APCF analyzed the scores and selected the scholarship recipients.

The scholarship recipients are as follows:

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
- Reena Dadrah
- Daniella Giron
- Grace Corinne Karanick
- Joanna Lov Ngo
- Saya Seraj
- Amy Tran

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
- Benjamin Leong
- Veronica Liu
- Juliana Zeng

ILLINOIS
Julian Kristopher Cole

MARYLAND
- Laila Ananda Flores

MASSACHUSETTS
- Julie Leung

NEVADA
- Reina De La Paz Castaneda

NEW JERSEY
- Travis Anane

NEW YORK
- Jennifer Chen
- Madison Spanodemos

TEXAS
- Nao Misan Pongrog
- Ranjita Roka

WASHINGTON
- Alexis Sorm
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