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Land Park News

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The end of an era for treasured Land Park pony rides?

See page 2



Photo by Lance Armstrong

Lynn Hagemann has operated Land Park Pony Rides in William Land Park since 1986. She will retire after offering rides for children at the park for the final time on May 30.

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The end of an era for treasured Land Park pony rides?

Generations of people cherished this local amenity

By Lance Armstrong

William Land Park's pony rides, one of this park's most cherished and long-lasting amenities, may permantly cease to exist after May 30.

After 37 years of carrying on this much older tradition, the rides' current owner, Lincoln resident Lynn Hagemann, will retire from this business on that date.

Hagemann, 71, told the Land Park News last week that she does not know if these pony rides for children will ever be offered in the park again.

"To be honest with you, I don't know," she said.

Hagemann added that the city employee in charge of the contract for the pony rides did not leave her feeling confident that another person will take over where she will leave off.

"I wanted to give the man – Sean Arnold – in charge of my contract plenty of time (for the city) to try to find somebody new, and when I did tell him I was going to retire, I (asked), 'Are you going to look for someone new?'" she said. "He said, 'Hmm, I don't know. I'll have to see what the city wants to do with that piece of land.'

"And then I told him about a man that I know in West Sacramento that has a lot of ponies that gives pony rides, and I gave him the name (of that man), and he said, 'Well, maybe I'll check into that.' So, I really don't know if they even want to (have pony rides at the park after her retirement) or not."

Arnold, who serves as the city parks' director of the convention and cultural services department, confirmed with this paper that no decision has been made on the future of the park's pony rides.

"We're aware that she's shutting that (pony rides) operation down and we're still considering everything, I think, is where we're at," he told the Land Park News last week.

Hagemann mentioned that among the reasons she decided to retire was the increased cost of ponies.

"Ponies go for around $3,500 now, (and) that's a lot of rides at $7 a ride to get your money back," she said. "I (would need to maintain) 14 ponies. I (would) have to replace around six of them."

Hagemann noted that it is necessary to have that many ponies for her business, so that none of them get overworked.

Also impacting her business has been COVID-19 restrictions and the rising cost of hay.

"It's just kind of time (to retire)," she said.



Photo courtesy of Lynn Hagemann

Guests enjoy a visit at the pony rides at William Land Park last week.

Hagemann added that she plans to spend her retirement with her family, participating in such activities as camping, fishing, horseback riding, and riding four-wheel, all-terrain vehicles.

Although Hagemann looks forward to her retirement, she mentioned that she will miss operating the pony rides.

"I'm really going to miss the ponies big time," she said. "I love giving pony rides, (with) the cute kids (and) having all the little ponies. And that location was ideal, practically all shade and it was like the perfect spot. Most of the people came in all relaxed and happy. They're just there to have a fun day, and most of the kids love it.

"Once in a while, you get one (kid) that's a little scared or cries a little or whatever. You get a lot of the same people over and over and over. And now we're getting third generations coming back."

Hagemann mentioned that with news of the upcoming closure of her pony ride business beginning to spread, she has received many positive email and text messages, thanking her for her many years of running this park amenity.

"(They are) thanking me for all the nice memories," she said. "Their grandpa used to bring them or the parents brought them when they were young."

See RIDES on page 3



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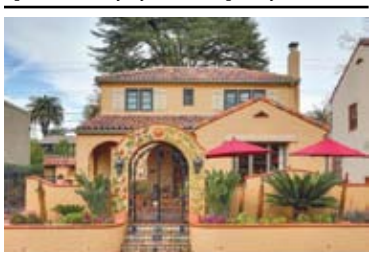

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1109 Markham Way
Sacramento,
CA 95818
t: (916) 429-9901
f: (916) 429-9906

Cover by: Lance Armstrong

Rides:

Continued from page 2

Hagemann's pony ride operation predates her years at William Land Park

During her recent interview with this paper, Hagemann also spoke about how she became involved with giving pony rides.

"When I was 14 years old, a friend that had ponies and horses started a pony ride business (in Hayward)," she said. "I have a twin sister. They asked if we wanted to run the pony rides for them on weekends, and that's how we got started."

Hagemann noted that her involvement with that operation lasted for about a year, in about 1978.

She later worked as a driver for the United Parcel Service.

After learning that the company would not let her transfer to a new location, Hagemann quit her job and moved to Esparto.

While living in that city, she decided to become involved with operating pony rides again, this time with her husband.

"We were given the pony rides for 10 years at the Nut Tree (in Vacaville), and then somebody from the city (of Sacramento) saw us at the Nut Tree (in 1986)," Hagemann said.

"They asked if we would be interested (in running the pony rides at William Land Park). And we said, 'Sure.' And that's what got us started."



Photo courtesy of Lynn Hagemann

A family is shown at the Land Park Pony Rides concession last week.



Photo courtesy of the Fernandes family

Eddie Fernandes leads a line of ponies to William Land Park in this c. 1950 photograph.

Park's pony rides began decades before Hagemann's tenure

While building her own tradition at William Land Park, Hagemann also carried on an earlier established tradition of pony rides at this park.

Hagemann mentioned that she was told that the park's pony rides are nearly as old as the Sacramento Zoo, which opened in the same park on June 2, 1927.

"We've had people come into the pony rides and they were very old and they brought pictures of themselves as babies, and they said the pony rides started one year after the zoo (opened)," she said.

Although research for this article did not support or disprove the pony rides' existence at William Land Park in the late 1920s, it was discovered that the rides were offered at this park under the proprietorship of Rocklin native Martin Zender Bryant (1893-1953) as early as 1938.

Martin previously ran a pony ride concession at McKinley Park, in at least 1925 and 1926.

California voter registration records for 1928 and 1930 refer to him as a "concession dealer."

The 1930 U.S. census lists Bryant as the pony rides' operator, and he and his son, Billy, are each listed in the 1940 U.S. census as a "horseman laborer" who was operating a "Shetland pony concession."

Bryant, who also had a wife and daughter, was a member of Sacramento Aerie No. 9, Fraternal Order of Eagles.

William Land Park's pony rides, which follow a scenic trail in the shade of many large trees, were under the direction of the Fernandes family for 32 years, beginning in 1948, when Eddie Fernandes took over the reins of the business.

During the earlier years of the business, the horses were boarded outside the park and would be walked to the park each day in single-file lines down such streets as Riverside Boulevard, South Land Park Drive and Rio Lane.

In about the mid-1960s, the city had a barn built for the ponies in the park about a quarter-mile from the site of the pony rides.

Eddie died of a heart attack at the age of 48, on July 4, 1969, while on the job doing something he truly loved – working with the ponies and the public.

For the following decade, Eddie's widow, Evelyn, operated the pony rides.

Since the end of the Fernandes family's era with the pony rides, besides a few years when the pony ride concessions were owned by Norma Ryon, Hagemann has been in charge of the rides' operations.

The final rides?

In what could be the last of the historic pony rides at William Land Park, children can ride this concession's ponies on Saturdays and Sundays through May 29 from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m., and on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30, during the same hours.

Land Park Pony Rides are located near the entrance of Funderland amusement park, on 17th Avenue, between 16th Avenue and Sutterville Road.

For additional information about this business, write to Hagemann at lynhagemann@gmail.com.



Sue Olson
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sue@sueolson.net
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Farm and Flavor: How green is your spring cleaning?

By Kerin Gould

The first buds are popping, sparrows are nesting under my eaves again, and the last frost will be over soon, so thoughts turn to freshening up the house and tidying up the garden. The (battery-powered) weed-whacker is going to be used to death, and I'll be mixing some white vinegar and orange peels for window cleaning. For myself, I aim to garden with other living beings in mind, and I only use non-toxic products, because otherwise, what does "clean" really mean? Is shiny orderliness worth the negative effects of poisonous products and destructive practices?

First, if you can leave the leaves alone a little longer, leaf debris is a great place for birds to forage, for beetles to break down organic matter, and for earthworms to aerate. Some critters are dormant in there, so please don't disturb them. Perhaps the mower deck can be raised, too. The time for pruning ends soon, as trees leaf out and birds nest and raise their young. I desperately need to thin the oleanders, but I'll wait until September. The scrub jays, towhees, and brewer's blackbirds are already installed for the season. Also, when you prune, keep an eye out for praying mantis egg cases attached to branches. In each one-inch cocoon-like case, there are 50-200 individuals who will hatch and immediately get to work on managing your garden pests. As you lift tarps, boards, or what have you, please look out for lizards, too. They are trying to stay warm but may be sluggish when temperatures are low. They'll be ready to patrol your garden soon enough.

Most of all, I implore you not to use toxic sprays, such as the one whose manufacturer had to pay $10 billion in a class-action lawsuit to folks whose lymphoma was attributed to this product. Maybe you think you'll never get cancer or think that it will be worth it if you can glimpse your perfect lawn as you slough off your mortal coil and ascend (or wherever you are going), but think about your pets (with their bare feet and curious noses constantly in the grass) or your kids. Ken Cook, EWG president and co-founder, commented on a 2015 Harvard study that connected pesticides to childhood cancers: "The findings confirm parents' worst fears that they could be unknowingly exposing their children to harmful chemicals that can lead to serious, even life-threatening, illnesses.". Products with the OMRI label are certified organic, so please try those or home remedies such as vinegar.

Indoors, we can also make our cleaning deeply clean, rather than surface-clean but ugly in terms of chemical and vapor exposure. Try certified green cleaners (Green Seal or EcoLogo) without lots of dyes and scents. Open windows when cleaning. Avoid "anti-bacterial chemicals and air fresheners. Dilute products, and use no more than needed. If you are spiffing the place up, try paint with "low VOC" (less off-gassing); cabinets and carpets are notorious off-gassers; even some upholstery can bring unwanted toxins into your home. Get the EWG's healthy home checklist at https://www.ewg.org/healthy-homeguide.

Inside our bodies, it's also a good time for cleansing and detoxing, turning to fresh, spring foods that are full of fiber (picture tiny brooms going through your system), and energizing nutrients. Strawberries are reputed to support heart health and boost red blood cells, cilantro sequesters heavy metals and helps them exit your body, dandelion greens clean your urinary tract, artichokes and cardoons support the liver, and asparagus is considered a kidney cleanser.



Try this recipe that features asparagus!

Asparagus Mousse

Ingredients

1 cup thick cashew milk or other neutral-flavored "cream"

1 bunch fresh asparagus, steamed with a splash of olive oil and cut into small pieces

3 eggs (ideally pastured, organic eggs) or a vegan substitute

1 tbsp corn starch or arrowroot

olive oil

salt and pepper

Fine bread crumbs (or panko, gluten-free varieties do exist!)

(Vegan) Parmesan-style 'cheese'

Directions

• Preheat the oven to 355.

• Place the milk, asparagus, eggs, corn starch in the blender and puree the ingredients until the mix is very fine. Salt and pepper to taste. Mix in the parmesan if desired. Optionally, you can mix in ¾ of the asparagus and later add the remaining pieces in to add texture.

• Lightly oil a loaf pan or custard cups, then coat well with the bread crumbs.

• Pour in the egg mixture.

• Set the loaf pan or custard cups in a roasting pan and set them on the oven rack. Pour hot water into the pan, avoiding the mousse containers, to come up halfway up the sides of the dish(es).

• Bake until a knife inserted halfway between edge and center comes out clean, about 45 minutes for the loaf size, less for the smaller cups. The mousse should be firm, with light cracking on the surface, but not dry or hard.

• When done, remove from the oven and let cool on a rack. You can serve in the custard dishes, slice the flan from the loaf pan, or un-mold the mousse (at your peril) by running a very thin knife around the edge before inverting it.

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Local author JaNay Brown-Wood has 10 children's books coming out this year

By Monica Stark

When writing for children, local author JaNay Brown-Wood likes to include elements of diversity because she believes all children should be able to find those books in meaningful, non-stereotypical ways.

What she considers "casual diversity", or for instance "a young Black kid just being a Black kid in America." She argues the story doesn't have to be tied to the race of the kid. Like Miguel, a young, Hispanic boy with two dads; or, Amara, a young African American girl being raised by her grandparents, or Logan, a young white male in a wheelchair, elements of diversity are in many of Brown-Wood's children's books.

A selection of books from her 10 children's books coming out this year fit this objective.

Additionally, two of the 10 upcoming titles include board books with animal characters who demonstrate budding social emotional learning skills. Lastly, Brown-Wood is releasing her first nonfiction Little Golden Book, a biography of Harriet Tubman, which was a new challenge because she had never written children's nonfiction before.

A professor of Early Childhood Education at Folsom Lake Community College, Brown-Wood can't help but have child development in the back of her mind when she writes. "You know, if I'm writing a character, I'll ask myself, does this sound like a four-year-old? Is the word choice correct? Etcetera."

For the Tubman book that meant finding all the different sources and learning more about her, and then really deciding what are the nuggets, the pieces she wanted to include in this story that would be meaningful for readers, and young children.

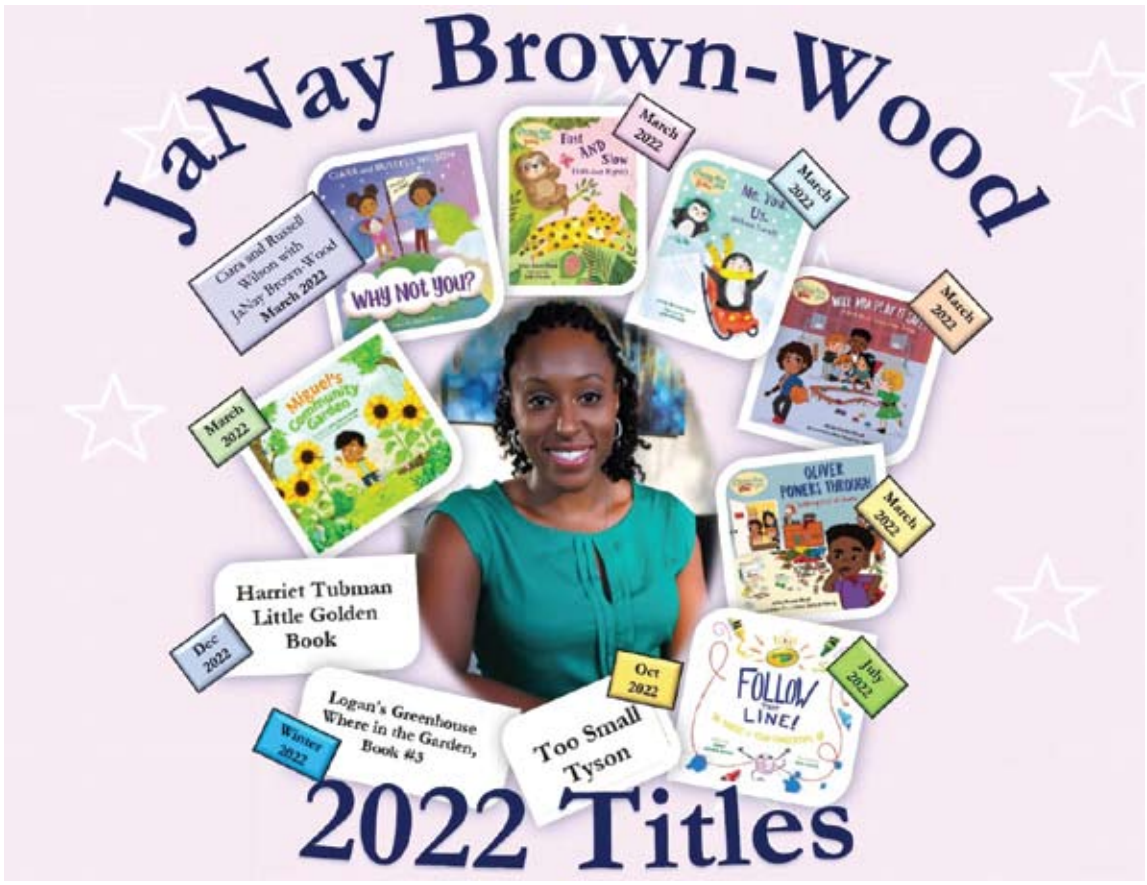
During the Covid-19 pandemic, Brown-Wood also worked on her first collaboration with celebrities Grammy-winning R&B singer Ciara and NFL Seattle Seahawks Quarterback Russell Wilson, called "Why Not You?"

The book encourages children to follow their dreams no matter how outlandish they may be and to really shoot for the stars. "It's all about youth empowerment and… it's just really cool to be a part of that collaboration," she said.

Under the cover, Brown-Wood dedicated her collaborative work on the book to her loved ones. She writes: "To my parents, Marci and Lee, who taught me to believe in myself. And to my husband, Catrayel, and my daughter, Vivian, who push me to be better every day. I am because of you."

Brown-Wood's first book Imani's Moon, about a young Maasai girl who strived to reach for the moon, despite being bullied by her peers over what they thought was an impossible feat, was published in 2014. The book was honored by the Brown Bookshelf for Black History Month in celebration of children's literature. Brown-Wood's book also won the 2013 Children's Book Contest sponsored by the National Association of Elementary School Principals and was featured on Stephen Colbert's The Late Show and Storytime with the Metropolitan Museum of Art in 2021. It also made it onto the infamous Central York School District of Pennsylvania's banned anti-racist book list, which has been overturned. When she heard about the list, Brown-Wood was curious as to the books on it and came to find, Imani's Moon was included. "I was listed under 'author of color'...so you're telling me the reason why I'm on this list is because I'm out there as a person of color."

The community pushed back; the school board rescinded the list, but as Brown-Wood stated: "That is not the case for a lot of these authors of color or diverse authors, whose books are being banned from schools across the country," she said.



Cover image courtesy of Janay Brown-Wood

In 2016, Brown-Wood met children's author Jacqueline Woodson, awardee of The Hans Christian Andersen Award, the highest international recognition given to an

See AUTHOR on page 6

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Continued from page 5

author of children's books. Brown-Wood asked her what advice she would give to budding writers, and she said: Be prolific. Fast forward to a recent meeting with a student, who asks Brown-Wood: How are you so prolific?

"I just made that, you know, connection. Like, yes, I guess I must be doing something right. The students are interested in it [writing for children] and they often want to know tips and things of how they can get published," she said.

Previously, Brown-Wood sold poetry to Highlights Kids and to High Five. Published by

Brown-Wood's books will be available online on Barnes and Noble, Amazon, the publisher's website, local bookstores and libraries. Brown-Wood recommends readers ask the libraries or local bookstores to order them if they don't have them in stock. "Those are things that are helpful for authors to get their books out there, and have people share their work with others."

About the first three books being released, followed by the titles of the later release dates

1)Why Not You: Ciara and Russell Wilson with JaNay Brown-Wood, March 2022

Published by Random House Books for Young Readers

From Grammy-winning pop star Ciara and Super Bowl champion quarterback Russell Wilson comes a picture book to inspire young readers to see the value in themselves, be brave, and go after their biggest dreams!

Source:www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/669041/why-not-you-by-ciara-and-russell-wilson-with-janay-brown-wood-illustrated-by-jessica-gibson/

2)Miguel's Community Garden, Where in the Garden Book 2: March 2022

Published by Peachtree Publishing Company Inc.

Miguel searches for sunflowers to take to his community garden party in this vibrant, diverse exploration of gardening and healthy eating. The second book from Janay Brown-Wood and Samara Hardy's Where in the Garden? series, "Miguel's Community Garden" stars an adorable young Latino exploring his garden while comparing, contrasting, and hunting for sunflowers among a multitude of warm-weather fruits and vegetables like apricots, artichokes, asparagus, mushrooms, spinach, and more. Back matter includes a delicious recipe. Also available from JaNay Brown-Wood and Samara Hardy: Amara's Farm.

Source: www.peachtreebooks.com/book/miguels-community-garden/

3)Chicken Soup for the Soul Babies: Fast and Slow (Both Just Right!): April 2022

Published by Penguin Random House

Chicken Soup for the Soul Babies combines sweet stories with humorous lessons to bring out little one's best behavior! Jaguar likes to go fast, but Sloth likes to go slow; Jaguar and Sloth both try out each other's speeds, and learn something new about themselves and one another. We accept one another's differences when we understand that we come from different walks of life, and some walks are just slower than others.

https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/678736/chicken-soup-for-the-soul-babies-fast-and-slow-both-just-right-by-janay-brown-wood-author-jade-orlando-illustrator/

Me, You, Us: April 2022

Will Mia Play It Safe: June 2022

Oliver Powers Through: June 2022

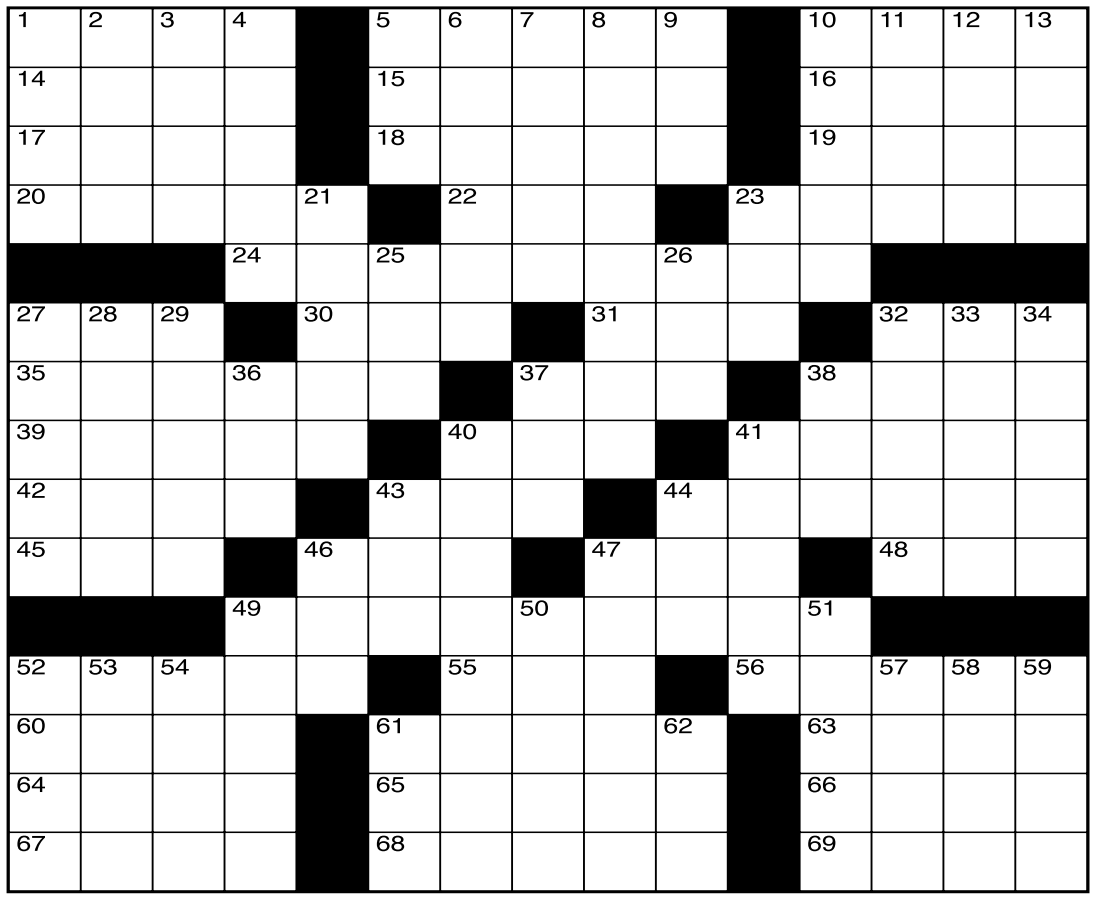
Follow that Line!: July 2022

Too Small Tyson: Oct. 2022

Harriet Tubman Little Golden Book: Dec. 2022

Logan's Greenhouse Where in the Garden Book No. 3, Winter 2022

CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

1. Type of footwear
5. Studies a lot all at once
10. Adventure story
14. Hundred thousand
15. Former U.S. Vice President
16. Ruler
17. Indian city
18. Similar
19. Ship as cargo
20. Volcanic craters
22. Boxing's "GOAT"
23. Bullfighting maneuvers
24. London soccer team
27. Score perfectly
30. No (Scottish)
31. SoCal hoops team (abbr.)
32. Woman (French)
35. Unwanted attic "decor"
37. Peter Griffin's daughter
38. Broad, shallow crater
39. Large instruments
40. Low bank or reef
41. __ and Venzetti
42. Oil group
43. Father
44. Aggressive men
45. Pairs well with green
46. Travelers need it
47. Digital audiotape
48. Midway between northeast and east
49. Chemistry descriptor
52. S. China seaport
55. Sound unit
56. Heavy cavalry sword
60. Thick piece of something
61. Spa town in Austria
63. Boyfriend
64. Norse personification of old age
65. Type of box
66. Tie together
67. Fiber from the coconut
68. Chicago mayor
69. Old English letters

CLUES DOWN

1. Type of sauce
2. Pattern of notes
3. Plant with long seedpods
4. Map out
5. Numbers cruncher
6. Make a mental connection
7. Italian tenor
8. N. America's highest mountain peak
9. Witness
10. Arabic given name
11. Music awards
12. " The Immoralist" author
13. Area units
21. Units of loudness
23. Political action committee
25. Bar bill
26. Witch
27. A theatrical performer
28. 2-door car
29. __ and flowed
32. Papier-__, art medium
33. City in Georgia
34. Irregular
36. College sports conference
37. Angry
38. Partner to cheese
40. S. American mammal
41. Self-immolation by fire rituals
43. Split pulses
44. Disfigure
46. Cow noise
47. Erase
49. Chadic language
50. Reward for doing well
51. Paid TV
52. Millisecond
53. Other
54. Colombian city
57. Necklace part
58. Every one of two or more people
59. Regrets
61. They come after "A"
62. Horse noise







Land Park Volunteer Corps cleaned up 11th Avenue

Courtesy of Art Taylor

Art Taylor, Land Park Volunteer Corps Team #6 Captain, said that on March 5, about 75 volunteers came together to work on island trimming on 11th Avenue. "It was an excellent day, excellent food," he said. To get involved with the Land Park Volunteer Corps, visit www.landpark.org/get-involved/land-park-volunteer-corps/ or contact Craig Powell, Lead Coordinator, at ckpinsacto@aol.com or by phone at 916-718-3030.

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Community Briefs

C.K. McClatchy VAPA Art Immersion: April 2 from 12:30 to 5 p.m.

The CKM VAPA Art Immersion is an arts event presented by the CKM VAPA department and VAPA students to celebrate the arts at CK McClatchy High School. Students have spent the year planning, rehearsing, and creating in every discipline of the arts. The Art Immersion will include theater and dance performances, senior art galleries, a Visual Art Auction, Stand Up 4 Arts Education visual art video, and a music concert. Save the date for this annual event! April 2, 12:30-5 p.m. at the new CKM WOW Mural.

Doggy Dash 2022- Saturday, April 23, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

https://www.sspca.org/doggy-dash

The Sacramento SPCA is excited to announce that this year's Doggy Dash will be BACK IN-PERSON at William Land Park on Saturday, April 23rd.

Registration will go live to the community on Monday, January 10th with early bird rates open the entire month of January. Individual registration ($25) and Team registration ($35). Prices increase by $10 starting February 1st.

This will be in-person for the largest 2k/5k dog walk and pet festival in Northern California!

Root Down, Rise Up 2022, April 28, 6 to 9 pm.

3514 Broadway, Sacramento, CA 95817-2825, United States

Tickets · $45 - $70

www.eventbrite.com/e/root-down-rise-up-fundraiser-tickets-227395926337

A #SacBeerWeek fundraiser for Alchemist CDC in partnership with Oak Park Brewing Co. featuring limited release beer, dinner, and live music.

Enjoy a delicious Spring evening while supporting the work to make Sacramento the Farm to Every Fork Capital. This fundraiser event will include:

- Limited release kettle sour beer and limited release non-alcoholic seltzer made with juice from fruit gleaned in Sacramento
- Dinner, with unique appetizer, entree, and dessert options that incorporate ingredients made by local Alchemist Kitchen Incubator food entrepreneurs, grown in nearby gardens, and sourced from local farmers' markets (vegan options available)
- The chance to meet Alchemist Kitchen entrepreneurs
- Live music
- Raffle and silent auction

A laid-back evening of great local flavors and support our work connecting communities to land, food, and opportunity.

Buy tickets at: https://www.eventbrite.com/.../root-down-rise-up...

Interested in sponsoring the event? Write sam@alchemistcdc.org for more info.

Library Updates

Genealogy: Breathe Life into Your Genealogy with the Power of Story

Saturday, March 26: 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Genealogy is much more than facts and figures. You'll learn how to craft stories with practical tips you can immediately use to breathe life into your genealogy! This program will take place on Zoom. Register in advance for this meeting by clicking on the link below. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwof--gqz0vGt0NXXLqhMYS-bmvdttu41BO

For more information, contact Bill Cole at (916) 264-2920 and contact@saclibrary.org.

Monday Virtual Zumba Series from 5:30 to 6:30 (through March 28)

Virtual Zumba, led by local instructor, Lisa Harris, takes the "work" out of workout, by mixing low-intensity and high-intensity moves for an interval-style, calorie-burning dance fitness party. Once the Latin and World rhythms take over, you'll see why Zumba® Fitness classes are often called "exercise in disguise." Please wear comfortable clothing and sneakers and be sure to have a water bottle nearby.

Register for each weekly Zumba class at: https://bit.ly/SacLib-Zumba2022.

Virtual Piñata Making Workshop with Patty Botello - Día 2022

April 30 from 2 to 3 p.m.

Sacramento Public Library is excited to welcome back artist and piñata maker Patty Botello for our 2022 Día de los niños / Día de los libros series.

We will be creating a mini fruit piñata sculpture using various piñata making techniques. This workshop will also focus on using recyclable items like cardboard and newspaper and giving these ordinary objects a new purpose.

Piñata making kits available at your local library branch while supplies last. This event will be hosted on zoom and streamed live to Youtube.

Register here to attend Zoom workshop: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIld-ihpzksHtL5cZ7aPt5zfDHdeeX_l8nF.

About Patty Botello: "Growing up as a kid in Los Angeles there were fruit vendor carts at gas stations, freeway exits and at every corner in downtown LA. I remember the excitement of seeing the frutero and begging my dad to stop the car so we could get fruit. My sister and I would watch in awe as the fruit vendor sliced the fruit for our order like a fruit ninja. My dad would always chat with the vendor about how business was for them that day, ask them where they were born and how life as a vendor was for them. I think those questions came naturally to him as a fellow immigrant. My dad would thank the vendor by name after we received our fruit pouches and always overpay and tell them to keep the change. It's that nostalgia that makes me want to help to tell the story of our local fruit vendors so that we might also get to know them by name and know their stories and struggles."

Patty Botello was born in Los Ángeles, California. At the age of three, she learned how Piñatas were created from her next-door neighbor and babysitter. She studied art at San Jose State University where she earned her Bachelor of Arts, Concentration in Studio Practice. While being immersed in studio art classes she fell in love with the creation of three-dimensional art. Before graduating, she began Fuzzy Lollipop, a small online business in 2009 where she sells her piñata sculptures.

Genealogy: Splitsville: Divorce Records and the Hidden Gold Within

Saturday, April 23: 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Not all marriages have ended in happily ever after. Don't despair though! Searching for a divorce record should be part of your research plan. An overview of the records and examples of how to locate divorce records will be presented. Learn how to analyze the information and the importance of these records for genealogical research.

This program will take place on Zoom. Register in advance for this meeting by clicking on the link below. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEkdOCvqzwpGNLkyY4TvAdmDGV_0wyq3oEp

For more information, contact Stephanie K. West at (916) 264-2920; contact@saclibrary.org

A History of Sacramento's Cycling Community

Saturday, April 23, from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Sacramento's pioneer bicyclists rode without helmets, bike lanes, or spandex. They included record-breaking members of the Capitol City Wheelman, an early bicycling group. Learn how bicyclists helped spur the development of the modern highway system, forced overdue changes in women's clothing, and led progress in the emerging motorcycle industry. Presented by historian Eric Bradner and the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery Committee.

This will be a Zoom event and is facilitated by the Sacramento Room:

https://zoom.us/j/91207735949?pwd=QStXYzRqSU1DR2V3MlFuVkJONExOdz09

Meeting ID: 912 0773 5949

Passcode: bike

Presenter: Eric Bradner

James Scott; (916) 264-2795

jscott@saclibrary.org

Virtual Children's Programming

Enjoy virtual storytimes featuring popular childrens' books and activities to grow your child's vocabulary. Follow us on Facebook(Opens in a new window) and catch our live storytimes(Opens in a new window) every Tuesday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m. www.saclibrary.org/Event/Special-Events/Virtual-Programs

Play and Rhyme

Join librarians on Facebook every Thursday at 10:30 a.m., starting July 8, for Virtual Play and Rhyme! This program unites playful elements of storytime with play activities and prompts that encourage families to move, bond, learn, and play. Join us for this wonderful opportunity to bring developmentally appropriate early learning ideas home. https://www.saclibrary.org/Event/Special-Events/Virtual-Programs

Dial-A-Story

Call to hear children's stories read in English and Spanish. Stories are available 24/7 and change every few days. Call (916) 441-1234 or (866) 241-7490. https://www.saclibrary.org/Event/Special-Events/Virtual-Programs

Puzzle Solutions

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L	A	K	H	■	P	E	N	C	E	■	A	M	I	R
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River's Edge Church welcomes new pastor

By Monica Stark

River's Edge Church has welcomed a seasoned Southern California pastor named Dave Johnson. Having served in ministry for 20 years, felt that in the fall of 2020 that "God was leading (him) to experience something new."

He felt the tug to leave where he was serving and at the time and in January of 2021 got a call from the search committee at River's Edge asking him to apply.

"Over the course of about a month of interviews it became obvious to my wife and I that God was calling us to move to Sacramento and lead REC. We felt our hearts being pulled to Sacramento because of this church community," Johnson said.

When he was in college, in 2002, he was asked to be an intern at a church to help lead a skateboarding outreach. This involved skateboarding with kids and teaching Bible studies, and quickly was asked to be the Youth Pastor. Around that same time, he felt "the call" to be in ministry full time, so he went to seminary at Azusa Pacific University and was ordained in the Wesleyan Church. In 2012, he became a Senior Pastor at Neighborhood Christian Fellowship in Covina, California, where he served until June of 2021.

Since serving in the Pocket area, Johnson said he has met many of the other area pastors. "They are wonderful and creative people with a huge heart for the community. It is really an honor to serve alongside them. I think that if someone were to sit under my teaching for any length of time, they would hear me talk about the availability of the life of God to each person right now," he said.

His favorite thing to do as a pastor is to study and teach and wishes he could spend all his time doing that. "However, one of the most fun things about being a pastor is the multidisciplinary aspect of pastoral work. Pastors need to be leaders, counselors, teachers, facility managers, decision makers, strategists, wedding officiants, mediators and much more. I have often described pastoral work as a process of frequently changing professions throughout the day," he said.

Every new leader brings changes to any organization, and Johnson said he is certain in the six months that he has been leading that there have been changes. He wants to see REC successfully multiply other churches into the Sacramento area and beyond. "I believe that healthy churches are designed to multiply. I don't simply mean exponential growth; I mean that healthy churches start new healthy churches…Doing this means we need to shift all that we do to make more disciples, leaders and churches," he said.

As a pastor one of the things he has learned to expect is the unknown. " I never know how God will use something that is said on a Sunday to impact a life. Over the years of pastoral ministry, God has surprised me multiple times. I believe that God is always working, so it is exciting to me when we see the fruit of ministry in people's lives," he said.

The public is invited to the return of the Helicopter Egg Drop on Saturday, April 9 at 10 a.m., in celebration of Easter this year. The church will be dropping thousands of plastic Easter eggs filled with candy from a Helicopter and the kids in our community will gather them up out on our back lawn of our church River's Edge. Suffice to say, there will be candy, crafts, snacks, inflatables, games and more! Plus watch thousands of eggs dropped from a helicopter. The Children's Director Heather Huffman and her team have organized this annual event at River's Edge Church.

River's Edge is located at 6449 Riverside Blvd.



Dave Johnson/Lead Pastor

Dave Johnson with wife Desiree, and kids: Emma, Lucy, and Jacob

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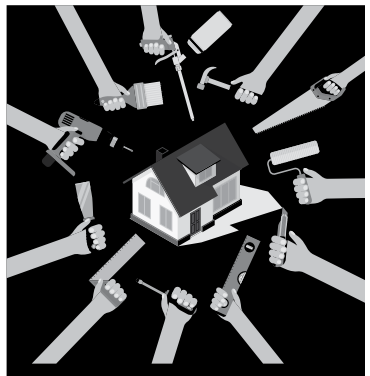

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