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Land Park News

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Sisters of Mercy

see page 3

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Elks honor member in a special presentation

By Stephen B. Clazie

Jan Wilson, who has been a member of Elks Lodge 6 for five years, was honored as Elk of the Month (EOTM) in a special presentation before the Elks meeting on April 19th. When Jan found out she was going to be honored, she had a special request. She wanted her 87-year-old mother, Barbara Wilson, and her boyfriend of eight years, Dave Enes, to be in attendance when she was presented the award.

Dave Osaki, the President of the Lodge, put out a notice to his 15 officers explaining her request and asking them to come a half-hour early. Dave told them, "Since non-members are not allowed in our lodge meeting, I've asked her to bring her mother and boyfriend. We will present her the Elk of the Month award before the Lodge business meeting begins."

The response to this request was very positive without anyone saying they could not make the effort to arrive early. They all had praise for the volunteering that Jan has done. She has volunteered for major projects and still found time to organize two French Dip Friday nights for the first hundred customers in the bar. Craig Huizar summed it up by saying, "Jan has taken a lot of pride in what she does for the Lodge and will continue to do so." Dr. Kelly Byam, one of five Elk trustees, liked the idea of the special presentation and said, "It IS a huge honor being selected as EOTM, and I love this 'outside the box' thinking."

Jan, a fourth-generation native Sacramentan, joined the Elks to use the fitness center to prepare for hip surgery as well as expedite recovery via the swimming pool. It wasn't too long after she joined that she started to think "outside the box." The Preventative Maintenance (PM) crew is where, as Don Pulitz said, Jan found herself a "home."

In the beginning, the PM crew underestimated her ability to produce a successful raffle.

After the PM crew's "Fall fling," the chairperson, Doug Kelly, told her, "I'm sorry I underestimated you. You have tenacity and no fear of cold calling people to ask for raffle item donations. I never expected to make more than $500 on the raffle, and you made $1,100!" She has been in charge of raffles for two major Lodge social events, and she is now in charge of the raffle for the Elks' Cinco de Mayo celebration.

Doug's encouragement was all she needed to collect raffle prizes for future events. She smiles and says, "I'm always working on collecting raffle prizes. I've been asking Elk members to remember me while doing spring cleaning. I'll take any of the 'free' gifts from the casinos in your closet, or bottles of liquor/wine, or maybe donated timeshare to raffle." She concluded, "It all helps the Elk Lodges general fund."

The raffle prizes might be taking a lot of her time, but to this day Jan is very grateful she joined the PM crew. She says, "My reason to join the PM crew was based solely on the desire to work on the roses." She joined the PM crew in August 2021, right in the middle of the Covid virus when the Lodge was really shut down.

The Sacramento's Elks Lodge is now starting to really open up, and one of its top priorities starting May 7 is having a Farmer's Market every Saturday morning from 8 A.M. to noon.

Jan is right in the middle of it, and says everyone at the Lodge is very confident that the Farmer's Market will be a great success. Jan claims, "I fell into being on the Future Direction Committee after volunteering to recruit vendors for our upcoming Farmer's Market."

Jan grew up in the Greenhaven/Pocket neighborhood and remembers when there were still some actual farms in the area. She graduated from JFK in 1983, and for the last 12 years, she has been her mom's caregiver. Luckily for Jan, she has a wonderful boyfriend to help her. She says, "Dave's support and help have allowed me to be more involved with the Elks. He deserves a lot of the credit for my involvement. If not for Dave and my mom's encouragement, none of this could have happened. For that, I am truly grateful."



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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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Sister Mary Katherine Doyle



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Land Park Catholic nun pens history book on local Sisters of Mercy

By Lance Armstrong

Land Park resident Sister Mary Katherine Doyle, a member of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, authored her second book, "Braided Lives: The Sisters of Mercy in Sacramento, 1857-2008."

The Sisters of Mercy is a Roman Catholic religious order of nuns dedicated to educational and charitable purposes. Founded in Ireland by Catherine McAuley in 1831, this order began their history in Sacramento in 1857, less than a decade after the founding of this city.

The mission of the Sisters of Mercy, Doyle noted, is to "bring mercy to all of God's people, with emphasis on responding to urgent needs."

"Braided Lives" tells the story of Sacramento's Sisters of Mercy and how they were a significant part of the city's history and a major factor in the social network in the pioneer days and the middle years of Sacramento.

Doyle, a Sacramento native who grew up in East Sacramento and graduated from Bishop Robert J. Armstrong High School in 1962, explained why she chose to write this book.

"Well, I always knew the story should be preserved, because being a historian, you always look to the history for abiding values and patterns," she said. "I decided to write the book a couple years ago, but then was transferred to St. Louis. So, when I came home in 2019, I decided it was time, and so, I began to write the book in January of 2020."

She also spoke about the title of her newest book, which was released on Jan. 24.

"The title came from the understanding that the lives and ministry of the sisters were integrally linked to both the city and the Catholic diocese," Doyle said. "They were braided together, each separate, but interwoven."

Enhancing the book are photographs from different eras of Sacramento's Sisters of Mercy. They were selected by Doyle, who is a Mercy archivist.

Doyle mentioned that the book documents the accomplishments of this order throughout the years. She noted that those accomplishments were made through much motivation, faith and a "tremendous vision."

"They didn't have any power, they didn't have any role, but they had tremendous vision and they had tremendous courage and faith, and being faithful to who they were, they were able to accomplish great things," she said.

Doyle added that in writing her book, it was important to her to not only tell the story of this order, but to present the "enduring" practices and beliefs associated with this story.

"If a group is going to be successful in influencing society or successful in making a difference, those values and practices have to be part of their culture," she said.

Doyle mentioned that the Sisters of Mercy arrived in San Francisco in 1854 and built a health care ministry there, and three years later, the order began an educational ministry in Sacramento.

She added that medical doctors in Sacramento later persuaded the sisters to establish their own hospital in this city. That hospital opened at 22nd and R streets in 1895.

Originally known as Mater Misericordiae ("Mother of Mercy") Hospital, that hospital was renamed Mercy Hospital in 1934.

The hospital – currently known as Mercy General Hospital – has operated at its present site at 40th and J streets in East Sacramento since 1925.

See Sisters on Page 4



Photo by Sister Marilee Howard

Land Park resident Sister Mary Katherine Doyle holds a copy of her new book, "Braided Lives: The Sisters of Mercy in Sacramento, 1857-2008."



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Classic Spanish Beauty with tiled courtyard and raised porch area that complement the entry door. Spacious living room with coffered wood ceilings, charming fireplace, built-in alcoves and newly refinished plank hardwood floors. Formal dining with wood ceiling and hardwood floors opens to a spacious kitchen with many upgrades, including granite counters, stainless-steel appliances, and access doors to outdoor brick patio, fountain and raised garden bed. Three downstairs bedrooms and two bathrooms. Upstairs room has coffered ceilings, parquet floors, another charming fireplace with original decorative tiles, bookcases and two separate balconies on south and west sides to enjoy the views of the park, two car garage with storage and partial basement. Truly a Land Park Classic. 3619 Land Park Dr.



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Sisters:

Continued from page 3

Doyle mentioned that very early in the sisters' history in Sacramento, they purchased property at 10th and L streets.

"They were going to build the convent and school there and that property was taken by the state, by eminent domain, for our Capitol," she said. "There is a statue there on the grounds, noting that that happened. It's a beautiful statue that commemorates the work of mercy here, not only in Sacramento, but in California."

That work includes the sisters' aid to victims of the great, 1861-62 flood of Sacramento, Doyle noted.

"They stayed in the city to help people," she said. "Our own convent was kind of halfway under water, up to the second floor. So, the men of the city would come in boats and pick them up. They would climb over the balcony from the second floor, get into the boats and then they would row them over to the (6th) Street pavilion to help the flood victims and then bring them home."



Photo courtesy of Sister Mary Katherine Doyle

This memorial to the Sisters of Mercy is located in Capitol Park.

Doyle also spoke about the sisters' assistance during the Spanish flu pandemic in Sacramento.

"The war was going on, so the sisters had a nursing school. So, they had already trained nurses and some of those had gone off to World War I to help," she said. "The county hospital (in Sacramento) had a huge shortage (of nurses) at the time, so the sisters volunteered their services to the county hospital.

"Six sisters volunteered and they worked there with the flu victims, because of the shortage. I remember reading (that) one sister actually had 40 patients under her care. That's a lot to try and watch out for."

The sisters also staffed the orphanage at the Stanford children's home at 8th and N streets, and established St. Joseph's Academy at 8th and G streets. The latter place provided educational training for girls and women.

Doyle mentioned that there were eventually fewer Sisters of Mercy.

"After Vatican II (in the 1960s), I think what happened (was) the emphasis was on not just sisters doing all this work or priests doing all this work, but that the work of tending the needs of all people was a discipleship job," she said.

"And that meant every Catholic or every Christian was called to feed the poor, to shelter the homeless and the sick. And so, the emphasis was on training people for lay ministry. And as more and more people were trained to take over some of the roles of the sisters, either in hospital administration or in the schools, then the sisters were able to move on to other urgent needs."

For instance, in the 1980s, the sisters established Mercy Housing, which focuses on providing affordable and transitional housing for low-income families, seniors and people with disabilities.

Also established was East Sacramento's Mercy McMahon Terrace, a 118-apartment complex that provides independent and assisted living for seniors.

Regarding the smaller number of sisters, Doyle mentioned that after Vatican II, women realized they did not have to be a sister to "be of service to God's people."

Doyle noted that there are currently more than 40 sisters living and providing service in the greater Sacramento area.

Looking back on the Sisters of Mercy's history, Doyle noted that the sisters always did their work "quietly," and that because of their commitment to their work, they also assisted others with a "certain amount of joy, because it wasn't a burden; it was a commitment."

In the preface to "Braided Lives," Doyle notes: "The Sisters of Mercy came to Sacramento over160 years ago, yet they remain a vital part of its life today."

With that book now in print, Doyle spoke about the importance of this work.

"I'm proud of it, because it is just an extraordinary story of women of courage and faith who really made a difference in the lives of the people with whom they lived," she said. "And I think because it's so awesome, it's a wonderful, wonderful story for women, but it's a wonderful story for anyone who really wants to make a difference in a community."

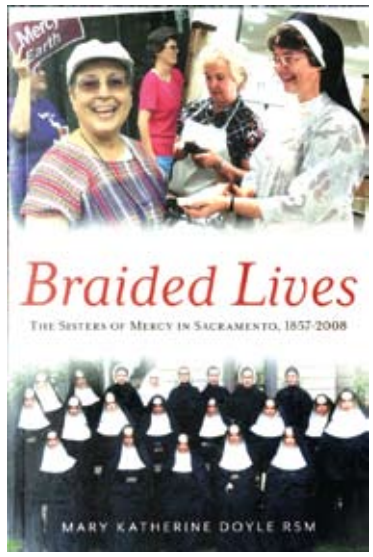

Photo by Lance Armstrong

"Braided Lives: The Sisters of Mercy in Sacramento, 1857-2008," by Sister Mary Katherine Doyle, was released on Jan. 24.

Doyle also authored "Like a Tree by Running Water: The Story of Mary Baptist Russell, California First Sister of Mercy." That book was published by Blue Dolphin Publishing in 2004.

Aiding in her work as a history writer is Doyle's background studying history at the University of San Francisco.

She also earned master's degrees in educational administration and liturgical studies from the same university, and she spent 60 years ministering at various schools and educational centers in the greater Sacramento area.

Doyle's newest book can be purchased through www.Amazon.com, Arcadia Publishing or the gift shop at Mercy Center Auburn, 535 Sacramento St. in Auburn. The book is also available at any of Doyle's presentations about this book.

Her next event – a speech and book signing – will be held at Mercy Center Auburn on Saturday, April 23 from 1 to 3 p.m. Reservations can be made in advance through

JCoffer@mercycenter.org or by calling (530) 887-2000.

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Cherry Blossom Park Coming to Sacramento

The Sacramento Tree Foundation, in partnership with the City of Sacramento, the State of California, and a host of business and private partners, will bring to Sacramento an iconic cherry blossom park — called the Hanami Line — a lovely mix of nature, art, and culture in a beautiful waterfront space.

Located along the Sacramento River at Robert T. Matsui Waterfront Park, this space is a perfect location for a park to host annual cherry blossom festivals, drawing visitors, and providing a year-round gathering place for local residents to enjoy. The future Hanami Line will combine Sacramento's love of trees with the rich cultural heritage of this region and a view of the Sacramento River. The Hanami Line is projected to open in 2023.

Sacramento's Hanami Line will be located along the waterfront within walking distance from Old Sacramento, the SMUD Museum of Science and Curiosity, and future Railyards developments.

Robert T. Matsui Waterfront Park will be located at 450 Jibboom St., next to the MOSAC. Parking is available in the MOSAC parking lot.







Trivia test by F.A. Rodriguez

1. LANGUAGE: What is the practice of chiromancy?
2. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is unusual about the date the Chinese New Year is celebrated each year?
3. ACRONYMS: What phrase does "http" stand for?
4. MUSIC: Which Beatles' song asks listeners to "take a sad song and make it better"?
5. TELEVISION: What is the name of SpongeBob Squarepants' best friend in the animated series?

Answers

1. Predicting the future by reading the lines on your palms
2. It varies between Jan. 21-Feb. 20, depending on the lunar calendar
3. HyperText Transfer Protocol
4. "Hey Jude"
5. Patrick

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Faces and Places: District 7 egg hunt



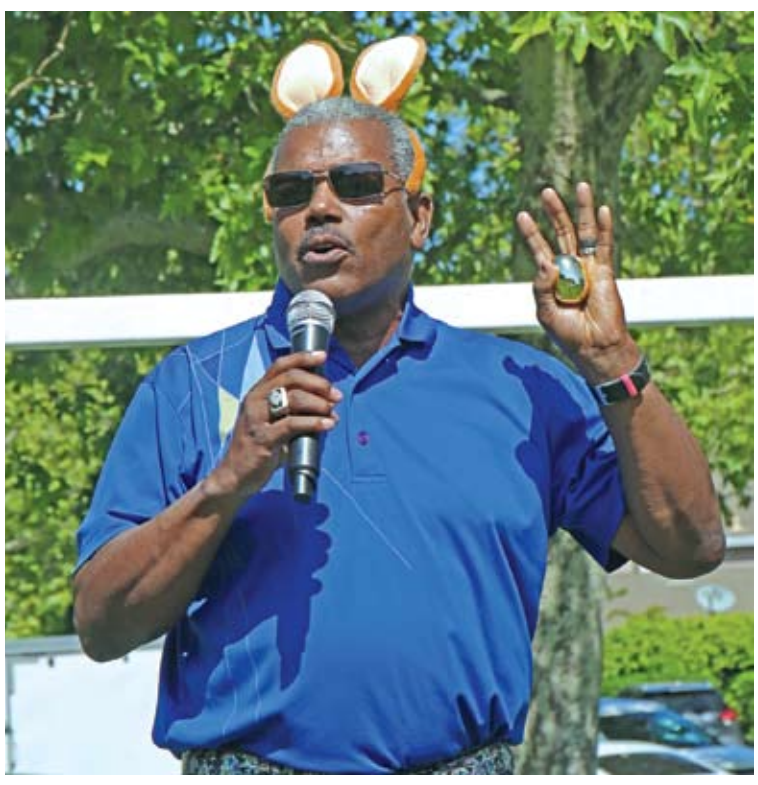




The District 7 Egg Hunt was held on Saturday, April 9 at Garcia Bend and included photos with the Easter Bunny. The hunt was open to all children through elementary school age. Special thanks to volunteers from Greenhaven Soccer, Peter Cottontail and Councilmember Rick Jennings.

(Photos by Stephen Crowley)





Faces and Places: District 7 egg hunt











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Adorned with beautiful statues, dramatic markers, and lush gardens, the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery is a 30.44 acre outdoor museum recording California history from the Gold Rush era through today. The OCCC is a group of volunteers dedicated to helping with the preservation and upkeep of the cemetery and its historical significance. The Old City Cemetery Committee was organized in 1986 by a group of concerned citizens who were appalled by the ravages of vandalism that toppled and maliciously marred many of the City Cemetery's beautiful old stones and monuments. Disquieted by the years of obvious neglect and mistreatment, they decided to become a voice of concern over the future of this important community resource. The Old City Cemetery Committee, Inc. is a public-benefit, non-profit organization devoted to the preservation, beautification, and maintenance of Sacramento's Historic Old City Cemetery. All donations go to help run our organization to bring awareness and restoration to Sacramento's historic cemetery.

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2022 Tours

May 5 - Bikes: The fascinating history of the bicycle in late 1800's, as it became a preferred mode of transportation because it was more affordable than a horse, was recreational, and allowed women to dress in more casual/ comfortable attire.

May 21 - Sibling Rivalry: Full of juicy stories about fratricide, patricide, lethal disagreements, and partnerships between siblings, this tour weaves the tangled web of local families.

June 4 - Baseball: A fun tour led by Alan O'Connor, Author of Gold On The Diamond, famous players buried in our cemetery and how they got their nicknames such as "Spider", "Spooks" & "Brick". Famous baseball players from 1886-1976.

June 18 - Love is a Many Splintered Thing: Love gone right and wrong, great tour for dating couples!

July 9 - Kids Tour: Good for the younger set, no gruesome tales just fun facts.

August 13 - Murder & Mayhem: Great juicy and gruesome stories back when Sacramento was the wild, wild West.

August 27 - Medicine Bag: Led by our infamous Dr. Bob La Perriere, this tour highlights the many doctors of River City, their practices & roles in the community that found their final resting place here in Old City Cemetery.

September 10 - A Dozen Ways to Die: Weirdest causes of death and the stories behind them!

September 24 - Victorian Symbolism: What do the symbols on a headstone mean? From religious & secular symbols, occupations, Greek Letters, lambs, fingers pointing, angels, books etc. Plus a history of mourning rituals in Victorian times.

October 1 - Drugs in the Old West: From snake oil cures, laudanum, opium, morphine and cocaine addictions, poisons and questionable pharmaceuticals, a look back at elixirs, potions & their use. We'll give you the dope on true stories of chronic misbehavior.

November 11 - Veterans Day: A general tour covering soldiers in residence from various wars, such as War of 1812, Indian Wars, Spanish American War as well as WW1.

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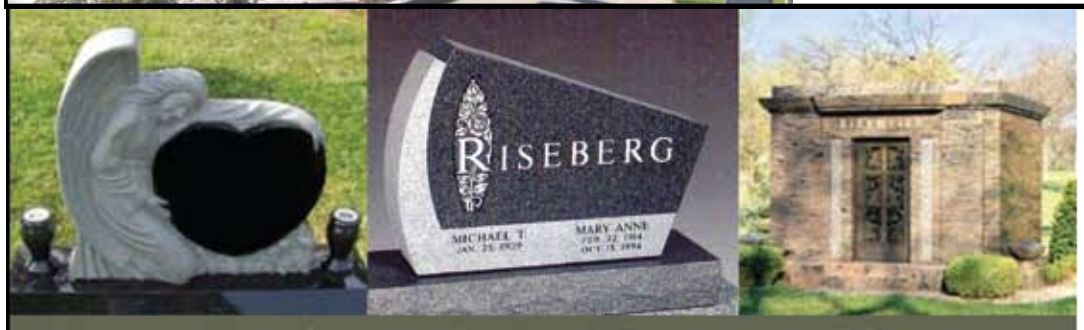

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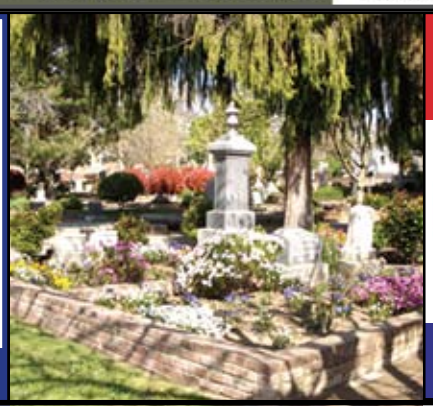

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The Unicorn Fountain ballet to feature Land Park dancer as the unicorn

Sac Civic Ballet and the Deane Dance Center will be performing its Spring ballet, The Unicorn Fountain, on Saturday, May 7 at 7pm and Sunday, May 8 at 2pm at Davis Veterans Memorial Theater, 203 E. 14th Street, Davis, California. The dancers recently went to a Regional Dance America festival in Reno, Nevada where they were selected to dance scenes from this well-received ballet.

The Unicorn Fountain is choreographed by Don Schwennesen. He and his wife, Allyson Deane, directors of Sac Civic Ballet, are both former dancers at San Francisco Ballet Company. Ms. Deane is the daughter of Barbara Crockett, who founded the Sac Civic pre-professional ballet company, as well as the Sacramento Ballet Company. The story of the Unicorn Fountain revolves around a village harvest festival, a visiting prince, a competition, and the luck a rainbow and Unicorn bring to the harvest, with some drama along the way. The cast is large, and the stunning costumes are colorful and bright. The music is especially beautiful, bringing the story together.

The Unicorn is being danced by local Land Park high school junior, Ana Konovaloff. Other lead roles are Grace Hanson of East Sacramento as Dahlia, Jaynica Dacuycuy as Charity, and David Bier as Prince Fredrick.

The ballet is suitable for all ages. Tickets are available at the door or go to deanedancecenter.com. For any information, call 916-453-0226



Photo by Linda Yun

On the left, Ana Konovaloff, the Unicorn; on the right, Jaynica Dacuycuy.

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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

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- The chance to meet Alchemist Kitchen entrepreneurs

- Live music

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

Library Updates

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

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

River City Chorale

David Vanderbout, Artistic Director

Across the Pond



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7:30 pm
Town & Country
Lutheran Church
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Sacramento

Sunday May 15
4:00 pm
St. Marks
Lutheran Church
7869 Kingswood Dr.
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(near Sunrise Mall)



As the River City embarks on our international tour to England and Scotland this summer, our Spring Concert will feature music from Great Britain and the United States. Classical, folk and popular selections will be juxtaposed throughout the concert, creating a snapshot of musical traditions of these countries.

From Benjamin Britten to Aaron Copeland, Rodgers and Hammerstein to Andrew Lloyd Webber, and the Beatles to the Beach Boys, this is a program not to be missed! We look forward to sharing music from across the pond.

https://rivercitychorale.org/

California Automobile Museum founder Dick Ryder dies at 92

By Lance Armstrong

Sacramento native Richard Clark "Dick" Ryder, whose idea it was to establish today's California Automobile Museum, died at the age of 92 on Feb. 15.

A June 1947 graduate of C.K. McClatchy High School, Ryder spent his life dedicated to his greatest hobby: working with automobiles.

His love for automobiles would lead to his efforts to open an automobile museum in Sacramento in 1987.

In an interview with this paper in 2012, Ryder spoke about his deep roots with the California Automobile Museum, which was originally known as the California Towe Ford Automobile Museum.

"People come up to me and say, 'You're one of the guys who founded the California Automobile Museum,'" Ryder said. "And I tell them, 'No, I am the founder of the museum.'"

Ryder, who owned many cars during his life, spoke about his desire to create that museum, which is located at 2200 Front St.

"After (Harrah's Reno casino owner) Bill Harrah died at the age of 66 (in 1978), his collection of 1,500-plus cars was left without plans," he said in 2012. "I figured that it was time for the creation of a California car museum located in Sacramento. We never received any cars from Harrah's collection, but Harrah's death definitely created the concept for the (Sacramento) museum in my mind, and the idea immediately caught hold."

Although Ryder referred to himself as the sole founder of the museum, he was quick to note that he had help to have his dream become a reality.

In a 2010 article for this publication, he recalled that "the movement" to create an automobile museum in the capital city began on Saturday, Oct. 2, 1982.

"The movement began with a meeting attended by 12 Sacramento auto enthusiasts at the old Del Prado restaurant (at 5500 Stockton Blvd.)," he said. "The meeting resulted in a series of monthly, Saturday breakfast programs. These programs brought car-related personalities and entertainment."



Photo by Lance Armstrong

Dick Ryder shows off his 1934 Pierce-Arrow Deluxe Eight Sedan at the museum in 2010.

At that meeting, six men, including Ryder, donated $100 each as the initial funding for the future museum.

Kay Thornburg, Ryder's only daughter, spoke about that meeting.

"Some people are calling (all of the people at that meeting) the founders, and Dick (was) very adamant about it that it was his idea," she said. "He and Mom (the now 101-year-old Irene Ryder) came up with the idea, and he did all the legwork.

"They supported him, encouraged him, met for breakfast, included people, but he was the one that made the contacts and did all the leg running and stuff."

Monday, Oct. 4, 1982 was also a special day in the history of the museum, as the California Vehicle Foundation was created and efforts began to apply for charitable foundation status through the IRS. Ryder was elected as the foundation's first president.

Subsequently, every Monday for the following several years, a core meeting was held as a planning session. Ryder mentioned, in 2010, that although these gatherings were effective toward meeting goals, sometimes the meetings were attended by as few as two people.

Information regarding the Sacramento automobile museum project eventually reached Deer Lodge, Montana resident Edward Towe (1914-2012), who had accumulated the world's largest collection of a single make of car, which included every year and model of Ford automobiles from 1903 to 1953.

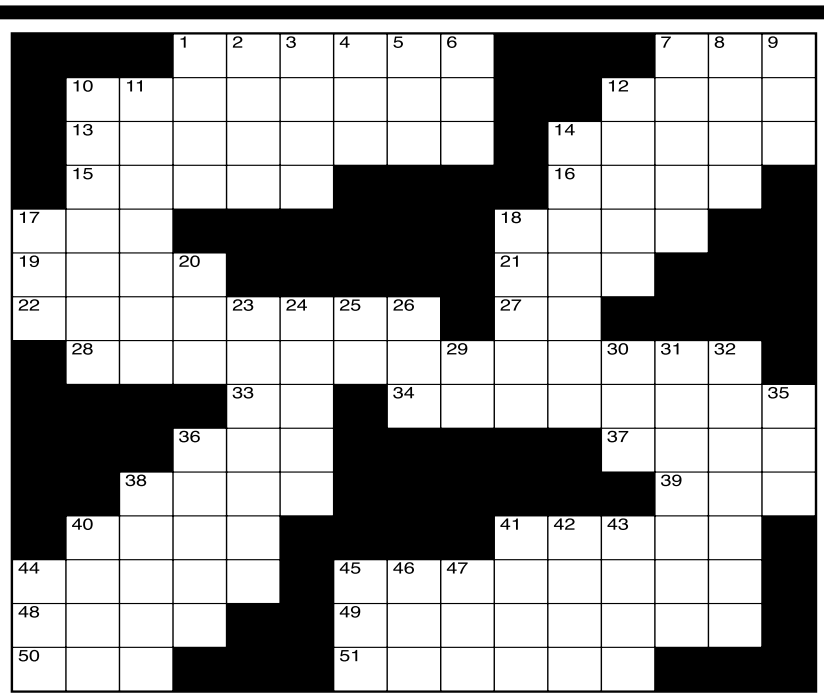
Towe corresponded with Ryder in October 1985 and expressed interest in moving his collection out of Montana.

Ryder noted, in 2010, that a 71,000-square-foot warehouse building on Front Street in Sacramento was among the places where Towe would consider moving his collection. Ryder worked with former Sacramento Mayor Joe Serna, then a council member, to secure a 20-year lease on that structure from the city for $200 per month, with the lone stipulation being that the museum's operators have the roof fixed.

"After an exchange of trips between Deer Lodge and Sacramento, an agreement was drawn to bring the collection to Sacramento (and house them in the Front Street building)," Ryder said. "We interested Bill Hadley of Hadley Automotive Transport in bringing the collection to Sacramento. Hadley provided 13 transporters and his personnel to bring approximately 100 cars from Deer Lodge to Sacramento."

See Ryder on Page 13

CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

1. A woman of refinement
7. Body part
10. One who imitates
12. Tropical Asian starlings
13. A type of delivery
14. W. Australian capital
15. Many wombs
16. Wings
17. Expression of amusement
18. Brews
19. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
21. Mild expression
22. Solitary
27. Distance to top
28. The rebirth of a soul in a new body
33. Police who investigate police (abbr.)
34. Begrudged
36. Popular sports league
37. Autonomous republic of Russia
38. Double-headed drum
39. Type of light bulb
40. Czech River
41. Male servants (Span.)
44. Previously
45. Minor
48. Metrical foot
49. Days that follow Mondays
50. Small European viper
51. News shows have one

CLUES DOWN

1. Inspiration
2. Resembling wings
3. Form of Persian
4. Consumed
5. Extinct flightless bird of New Zealand
6. Sea eagle
7. Jaguarundis
8. Poker stake
9. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
10. South American nation
11. A colorless, odorless gas
12. Disturbance
14. Artist's tool
17. Polish peninsula
18. Ottoman military leaders
20. Bird-like dinosaur
23. Drinking glass
24. Central Florida city
25. One's mother
26. To do it is human
29. Atomic #10
30. Used to write
31. The branch of medicine concerned with the ear
32. Adversaries
35. Have already done
36. One of conspicuous wealth
38. It flies over sporting events
40. Geological times
41. Net
42. Musical phrase
43. Chadic dialect
44. Private Internet Access (abbr.)
45. Lizard genus
46. Woman of the church
47. Having ten

Ryder:

Continued from page 12

About 90 of those cars arrived in a long procession to the new museum on Front Street in late September 1986, and the others were transported later. This event led to the opening of the museum on May 1, 1987.

Ryder would remain dedicated to the museum, serving as a docent for more than three decades, and regularly attending the weekly docent lunches at the museum.

A long, eventful life

Ryder, who grew up in Land Park and last resided in the city's Little Pocket area, jokingly told this publication in 2012 that he ushered in the Great Depression with his birth at the old Sutter Hospital at 28th and L streets on Sept. 6, 1929.

"I started the Depression," he said. "It's my understanding that Sept. 6, (1929) was the first day that there was any indication that the stock market was falling."



Photo courtesy of Cyndi Thornburg

Dick Ryder began playing the saxophone while growing up in his native city of Sacramento. He performed in a youth band at the World's Fair at San Francisco's Treasure Island in 1939.

In 1930, Ryder, whose parents were Clark and Mary Ryder, moved with his family into a former tract house at 2800 Regina Way, where they lived for many years.

During his youth, he witnessed the construction of the Tower Theatre and later attended Saturday kiddie matinee movies at that theater.

His childhood activities also included attending professional baseball games at Riverside Boulevard and Broadway, visiting the old Sacramento Municipal Airport (today's Sacramento Executive Airport), and swimming in the American River.

After he nearly drowned in the river, his father had a pool built in the family's backyard in about 1938.

He would eventually collect a 5-cent per person admission fee to the pool from neighborhood kids. Ryder also earned money during his youth through his newspaper delivery routes with The Sacramento Union and The Sacramento Bee.

Among his other jobs during his youth was working in a Sacramento cannery and at the Tahoe Tavern as a busboy. He would hitchhike to and from Tahoe City for the latter job.

One of Ryder's favorite childhood memories was playing the saxophone in a youth band at the World's Fair at San Francisco's Treasure Island in 1939.

Also notable was Ryder's distinction of being one of the customers of Land Park's Vic's Ice Cream during its grand opening on Feb. 2, 1947 – a fact that he often boasted throughout his life.

After graduating from McClatchy High, Ryder served his country in Guam during the Korean War and attended the institution known today as Sacramento City College, and the University of Colorado, where he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration in June 1952.

Ryder chose that university due to his love for skiing. He also worked on both the Rocky Mountain and Squaw Valley ski patrols.

From 1956 to 1982, Ryder worked in the insurance industry. He established the Insurance Protection Analyst company at Arden Way and Howe Avenue and then he served as the president of Howe-Ryder Insurance Service at 2613 24th St.

During the early 1970s, Ryder was one of about 10 people who owned the DC-7 aircraft that appeared in the 1973 film, "American Graffiti." Other activities in Ryder's life included traveling to many places throughout the world, his work as a certified appraiser of collector cars, and his dedication to the Sacramento Rotary Club and the Fremont Presbyterian Church.

Ryder, who was married to the former Irene McIntyre on March 21, 1959, had two children, 14 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren and eight great-great-grandchildren.

Friends, family fondly remember Ryder

In addition to Thornburg, other family and friends of Ryder shared their thoughts about him.

Gabriel Ionica, communications coordinator with the California Automobile Museum, expressed his gratitude for Ryder's role in the museum's history.

"Dick was one of the reasons that we're all here today, and words cannot express our gratitude for the contributions he made to our museum and to the automotive community as a whole," he wrote in a statement sent to associates of the museum.

Bob Daloia, a docent with the museum since 2007, recalled Ryder's introductions at the museum's docent luncheons.

"He (would) always introduce himself as Genesis, that started the museum," he said. "He liked that (nickname). The other nickname that I gave him, we had his 88th birthday here, and I tagged him with 'Rocket 88.' The Oldsmobile, one of their models was the Rocket 88."

Cyndi Thornburg, one of Ryder's granddaughters, told this publication that her family has received many kind comments about her grandfather.

"(People said), he's a wonderful man, he loves to talk, he tells great stories, and he was the heart and soul and the driving force behind that museum," she said. "That (museum) was his baby. He put so much into that (place)."

Sacramento resident Harrington King, who was a longtime friend of Ryder and the operator of his OneManBand music, storytelling and comedy business, also fondly recalled Ryder.



Photo courtesy of Cyndi Thornburg

Dick Ryder served his country during the Korean War.

"Dick Ryder was a goldmine for any aspiring storyteller of Sacramento," he said. "But unlike mine, all his anecdotes are true.

"We shared over 1,500 weekly volunteer lunches through the years at the car museum. His real gift was the ability to make everyone feel appreciated."

Beth West, who graduated with Ryder at McClatchy High, noted that she was impressed by him throughout their more than 75 years of friendship.

"He was, without a doubt, the most honorable, kindest, trustworthy and sometimes funny man anywhere," she said. "He had a positive effect on McClatchy. He participated in anything that would help them out and help the sports children at McClatchy. He wasn't a big sports player, but he helped them."

Paul Jubb, who served on the automobile museum's original board, also shared his admiration for Ryder.

"I've been in Sacramento since 1967 and he's been a big part of it," he said. "He contributed to the community more than I could ever think of. An exceptional person is the way to describe him. I will miss him quite a bit."

A celebration of Ryder's life

A service celebrating the life of Ryder was held on March 11, 2022 at 11 a.m. at the Fremont Presbyterian Church at 5770 Carlson Drive.

Puzzle Solutions

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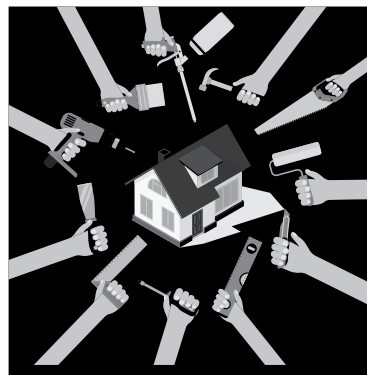

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