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Farrell's plane crash devastated community 50 years ago

See Page 4

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Chalk It Up! festival showcases works of local chalk artists

By Lance Armstrong
vcneditor@gmail.com

Sacramento's Labor Day weekend festival, Chalk It Up!, returned to the sidewalks of Fremont Park for all three days of the Labor Day weekend, from Sept. 3-5.

For the 32nd annual year, this event gave artists of various levels the opportunity to showcase their talents on sidewalks, using the medium of chalk.

Dozens of artists made sure to arrive at this downtown Sacramento park, at 15th and P streets, during the early morning hours of each of those days in anticipation of the expected high temperatures that would consistently surpass the century mark.

But the heat did not deter these artists from spending the long weekend dedicating themselves to creating a variety of colorful images on the park's concrete sidewalks.

Both artists and spectators from throughout the capital city and beyond congregated for the chalk art experience, as well as live music, interactive art activities, local crafts, and food.

John Nelson, the publicity director for Chalk It Up!, referred to the festival as the only free, three-day, family event during Labor Day weekend in Sacramento.

Nelson mentioned that Chalk It Up! is a nonprofit, which supports and promotes local artists.

"What we're doing is we're raising money for the programs that support Sacramento artists," he said. "Every single (concrete sidewalk) square that you see around the perimeter of the park is sponsored. About $300 is coming into Chalk It Up! for each of these squares.

"We take the money, we hosted an awesome party over Labor Day weekend, and throughout the year, we give microgrants to youth art educators and the organizations that support young people who are trying to do art in the Sacramento community."

During this paper's tour of the event on the morning of Sept. 3, the participating artists were in various stages of the early portions of their works.

Among the veteran Chalk It Up! artists is Arden area resident Elena Perez.

"I've been doing this (event) since 1998," she said. "My sponsor is (a restaurant) named Frog & Slim, and I like to find out (who) my sponsor is and then I kind of get inspiration from that. So, I decided with a name like that I wanted to do (chalk art of) a frog."

Perez mentioned that she believes this event continuously improves.

"The festival has just gotten bigger and better every year, and you'll see some people, they will come every year," she said.

Gregory Berger, who also lives in the Arden area, noted that he has been a Chalk It Up! artist since about 2012.

"I love this festival," he said. "It's one of my favorite things to do."

Berger mentioned that this year he created two art pieces: one for Sacramento radio station, KISS 107.9 FM, and one for the Sacramento Children's Museum.

Another longtime artist of this event is Scott Clark.

"I've done chalk art for 11 years here at Chalk It Up!," he said. "It's a great event. I'm sponsored by a local orthodontist office, Giannetti & Booms. So, basically, every year I try to do something interactive.

"What I try to do is (create pieces) to have someone stop by and do a puzzle or game or something. So, this year, we've got a puzzle (to) solve, to find a forward answer to why don't trees need braces? If you want to know the answer, it's 'All bark, no bite.'"

Carmichael resident Nestor Mendoza spoke about his artistic contribution to this event.

"I am going to be drawing Mylar balloon lettering for my sponsor, North Natomas Jibe, and it will be a piece that hopefully inspires people to walk

See CHALK IT UP! on page 3

LAND PARK NEWS
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Chalk It Up!:

Continued from page 2

more, ride their bikes more and use public transit," he said.

Mendoza added that he loves this festival, because it inspires new artists to "do what they love, make decisions, to grow as people, as artists."

At the time he was interviewed by this publication, Shawn Asberry was busy working on an artistic image of a character who is known by people young, old and in between.

"I chose Oscar (of 'Sesame Street')," he said. "I've been seeing the image a lot. Other artists do it and I really wanted to make my own version of it. No specific meaning. I just wanted a cool image. I'm kind of giving him a happy vibe, instead of a grouchy vibe."

Alice Bourdykina-Jelobniouk, who lives in the Antelope area, mentioned that she was working on chalk art for Sacramento's Bob Dreizler.

"He has sponsored a Chalk It Up! square for 32 years, so the entire time," she said. "He's been around since the beginning. He lets me do whatever (chalk) art I would like."

Bourdykina-Jelobniouk spoke about her chalk art piece for this year.

"I'm drawing a belted kingfisher and a great blue heron from Mather Lake, which is a local lake down near Rancho Cordova," she said. "It's a local fishing spot, but it also has lots of birds. I (also) decided to go with sunrises, because they always look good with chalk."

Art is only a hobby for Bourdykina-Jelobniouk, who works as a political analyst. However, she noted that she is part of a long line of artists in her family.

Another artist, Natomas resident Andrea Johnston, explained why she decided to create a large image of a bee.

"For a couple of reasons," she said. "One, it was bright and colorful, (and) bees are kind of an issue these days. And also, it wasn't too complicated with the heat, and being able to get it done in time."

Johnston's daughter, Mia, said that she was working on an image of a dog that would take her the entire three-day festival to complete.

Mia added that she enjoys creating art with chalk.



Photo by Lance Armstrong

Laurel Shen, left, and her daughters, Alyssa, center, and Brianna, work on their chalk art at the Chalk It Up! festival on Sept. 3.

"I think that chalk art is really cool, because of just how temporary it is," she said. "It's something that will maybe be there for only a couple of days and then it's gone. Everything you put into it is for the moment, and it's nothing permanent beyond like a photo."

Working collaboratively on one chalk art piece was Laurel Shen and her daughters, Alyssa, 19, and Brianna, 16.

Laurel described her Roseville family's chalk art project for an East Sacramento nonprofit organization.

"Our sponsor is The Silver Orange," she said. "They're an organization that helps kids (through) art and stuff like that. And so, this is whimsical, a little bunny, and eventually he'll be hanging stars in the sky. And then we're going to try and do the moon. So, The Silver Orange. It's silver and then we're going to try and add a little orange to it."

Brianna mentioned that her family is building a tradition as participants in this festival.

"This is our fourth year doing Chalk It Up!, so it's been a lot of fun coming out here and doing chalk art," she said. "I think (the festival) is (for) a really good cause and it's a lot of fun, and people can join in and come and see. And kids can draw chalk art, too, so they can be a part of it."



Photo by Scott Clark

Shown above is a portion of the chalk art project completed by Scott Clark on Sept. 5.

Although he was not creating art, Pocket area resident Casey McCarthy attended the event in support of second-year Chalk It Up! artist Sarah Ledesma, of Sacramento.

Ledesma, who is 17, contributed an art piece featuring characters from the computer-animated film, 'Zootopia,' to the festival.

McCarthy mentioned that he was very impressed with the event.

"I think it's amazing," he said. "It is some of the best kind of free art you will see, and it's very expressive, and it's very independent, and it's all done by people who are local and who want to come out and do this every year on their own. There's no major commitment. They just kind of do it, because it's a great will of expression."



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Farrell's restaurant tragedy reaches 50th anniversary

Firefighters Burn Institute to hold memorial event Sept. 24

By Lance Armstrong
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It has been 50 years since that infamous, horrific day in Sacramento history when an F-86 Sabre jet aircraft crashed into Farrell's Ice Cream Parlour at 5770 Freeport Blvd., opposite the northwest corner of the Sacramento Executive Airport.

The day – Sunday, Sept. 24, 1972 – began as a joyous time for many people, as crowds gathered at the airport to view the third annual Golden West Sport Aviation Air Show.

West of the airport, Farrell's was experiencing a successful business day of serving a wide variety of ice cream dishes and other offerings.

At about 4:25 p.m., at the end of the air show, more than 100 people sat inside the less than 2-year-old ice cream parlor in The Crossroads shopping center. Farrell's was one of only two of the center's businesses that were then opened during the afternoon on that day.

It was then that a 36-year-old pilot, named Richard Bingham, attempted to take off in the F-86 Sabre jet from the 3,000-foot-long Runway 30 on the west side of the airport.

Overrunning the runway, the jet skidded across Freeport Boulevard and crashed into the packed restaurant, which was well known for its entertaining atmosphere.

Although Bingham, who was a resident of the Marin County city of Novato, survived the crash, 22 others in the restaurant, including 12 children, were not as fortunate. Additionally, an entire family lost their lives and about 30 people were injured in the accident.

Those killed inside Farrell's as a result of the crash were: Walter Warren Krier, a 32-year-old account executive with the brokerage firm, Mitchum, Jones & Templeton; Sandra Ann Krier, Walter's 28-year-old wife; Walter and Sandra's 8-year-old daughter, Jennifer Ann, and their 2-year-old son, Brandon; Leon C. Warram, a 49-year-old electronics technician at McClellan Air Force Base; Leon's 50-year-old wife, Ellen; Louis "Bud" Jugum, a 43-year-old systems analyst for the California Western States Life Insurance Co.; Louis' 10-year-old daughter, Elaine; Nancy Keys, a 12-year-old student at Arden School; Nancy's 14-year-old sister, Sally, who was a student at El Camino High School; 29-year-old Anthony Martin, who owned Morey's Letterman emblem shop at 5434 14th Ave.; Anthony's 28-year-old wife, Susan; Anthony and Susan's children, Gregory, 6, Jeanene, 4, and Shawn, 3; Susan's 43-year-old father, Gene LaVine; Susan's 46-year-old mother, Margaret LaVine; Anthony and Susan's nephews, Jeff Nash, 5, and Gary Nash, 2; 3-year-old Kristin "Kristi" Francis; 29-year-old Joan Bacci; and 8-year-old Nancy Rodriguez.

Also killed were a couple whose car was struck by the plane while they were commuting along Freeport Boulevard, and Billie Gertrude Irwin, who was hit by a car while she was crossing the boulevard toward the accident scene.

The Farrell's tragedy raised awareness of the need for a specialized burn unit in Sacramento.

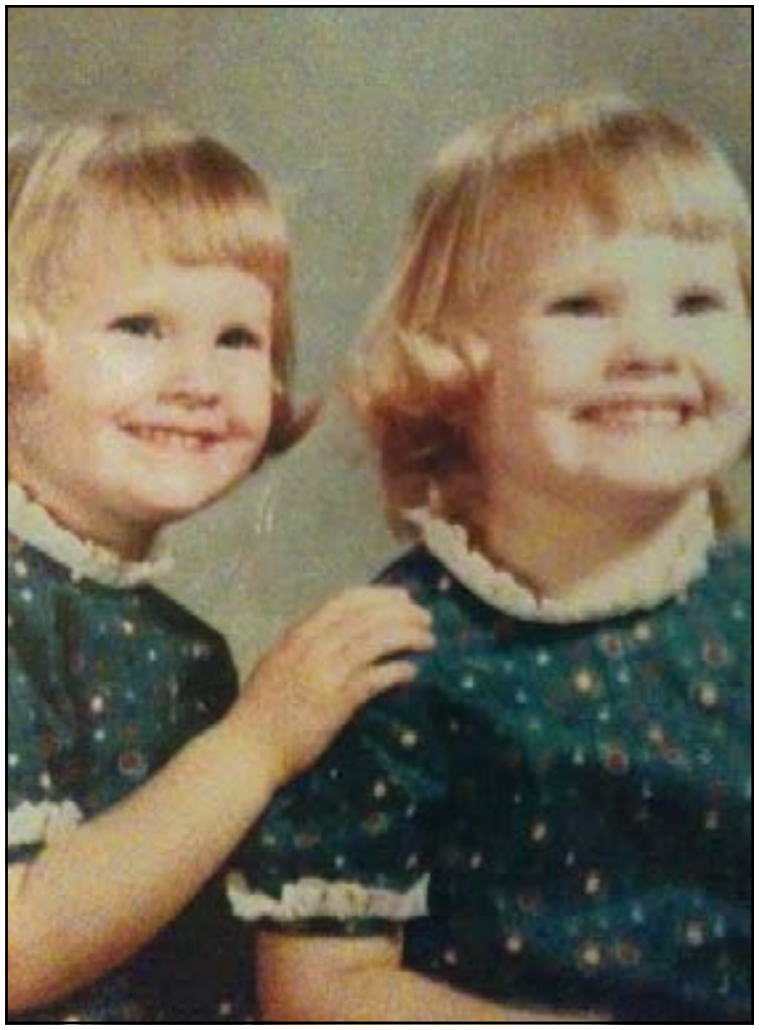


Photo courtesy of the McCluskey family

Identical twins, Kristi and Kerri Francis, shown left to right, were among the children inside Farrell's Ice Cream Parlour on Freeport Boulevard when a jet crashed into the crowded restaurant on Sept. 24, 1972. Kerri survived the tragedy, but her sister was not so fortunate. Kristi died 46 years later at the age of 50.

Acting on his desire to have such a unit established, Cliff Haskell (1931-2013), a fire captain with the Sacramento Fire Department, led a drive that resulted in the 1973 founding of the Firefighters Burn Institute.

Sacramento's first burn unit opened in 1974 at the University of California, Davis Medical Center in Sacramento. A burn unit is an isolated area reserved solely for the care of burn patients, and aided by a "burn team," which includes such medical staff as specially trained nurses, surgeons and anesthesiologists.

In 2002, Kerri (Francis) McCluskey, a survivor of the Farrell's tragedy and the identical twin sister of Kristi Francis, learned that plans were being made to renovate the building at the crash site for a police and fire public safety headquarters.

McCluskey, who suffered a broken leg in the crash, said that this news caused her to take action in the attempt to either halt the project or have the use of the old Runway 30 discontinued.

Although McCluskey was not successful in these efforts, her perseverance led to the establishment of a memorial at the crash site. The memorial was dedicated on Saturday, March 15, 2003.

Featured in the memorial is a 5-foot-tall, granite fountain that spreads water across the inscribed names of 23 victims of the tragedy.

Behind the fountain is a plaque that describes the incident that happened at the site on Sept. 24, 1972, and on the south side of the memorial is another plaque recognizing those who

See FARRELL'S on page 6

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Broadway International Festival celebrates city's cultural diversity

By Lance Armstrong
vcneditor@gmail.com

The annual Broadway International Festival, on Sept. 4, returned for its second year of celebrating cultural diversity and local small businesses.

This free, daylong event, which was held during Labor Day weekend, closed Broadway to automotive traffic from 16th to 19th streets. Despite temperatures that exceeded the century mark during the recent heat wave, people from various areas arrived to enjoy this festival's many attractions.

Zion Taddese, the festival's founder, and the owner of Queen Sheba Ethiopian Cuisine restaurant at 1704 Broadway, spoke about the importance of supporting the small, "mom and pop"-type businesses.

"Small businesses, women businesses, black businesses, we've got to support that," she said. "We can't just support the big corporates that we pay, but we're not supporting the mamas and the papas' shops. If we don't do that, we're not supporting our community. The small businesses are the backbone of the American economy."

Also in attendance at the event was Stevante Clark, whose brother, Stephon, was fatally shot in 2018 by Sacramento police officers who allegedly mistook his cellphone for a gun. Sacramento County's district attorney later announced that no criminal charges would be filed against the officers who shot and killed Clark.

Stevante told this paper that the I am SAC Foundation, which he formed in honor of his brother's legacy, played a role in the festival.

"This is our second annual Broadway International Festival, hosted by (Queen) Sheeba and I Am SAC Foundation," he said. "What we do is we bring people together free. This is a free event. Everywhere else they're charging. (The) festival connects communities, culture, arts, ethnicities, different vendors and really bringing back unity in the community.

"I believe this is a great way to celebrate unity in the community, especially when it comes to honoring the life and legacy of my dear brother, Stephon Clark, who was brutally assassinated in March 2018. We fight for justice still, but this is another way of commemorating life and legacy in a positive light."

This year's edition of the festival was divided into six sections, including the cultural stage, which featured musicians playing music from different countries. Another section was the community stage. It was the site of presentations of the community's talents, including poetry readings, comedy shows, and live music performances.

The remaining sections presented health and wellness, networking, a kids' zone and an information center.

Following the festival, a community block party, featuring live music, was held on Broadway. Taddese described the scene at this year's festival.

"Look at all this street," she

See BROADWAY on page 7

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Farrell's:

Continued from page 4

contributed to the establishment of the memorial.

Eleven rose bushes that were donated by Capital Nursery were planted as part of the memorial to represent each family who lost a loved one or loved ones during the Farrell's tragedy.

Although Kerri died three days after her 50th birthday in 2019, six years earlier, she spoke to this paper about how she had coped with the loss of her identical twin sister.

"You never get over losing someone," she said. "You learn how to keep going. You can live two ways. For one, when you go through a tragedy, you can just give up and mope and go through life and think everything is awful.

"Going through the accident was horrific. I'm not going to downplay that, but you get to a point where you have to make something good come out of something bad. That's how I've gotten through it, and through counseling with other kids and through the Firefighters Burn Institute, (which is) like the living memorial. I still have a hole in my heart without (Kristi), but it's a heart-shaped hole."

In memory of the Farrell's tragedy of 1972, a ceremony will be held at the Farrell's Ice Cream Parlour Memorial site – the City of Sacramento Public Safety Center – at 5770 Freeport Blvd. on Sunday, Sept. 24 at 10 a.m.

Hosted by the Firefighters Burn Institute, the event will honor those who died in the Farrell's tragedy.

For additional information or to RSVP for this event, call (916) 739-8525.



Photo by Lance Armstrong

The city's Public Safety Center now occupies the site of the old shopping center, The Crossroads, where Farrell's Ice Cream Parlour was located.



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Broadway:

Continued from page 5

said. "It just makes me happy to see the people walking around and the musicians performing. It makes me feel so happy, because once the community gets together, nothing is going to stop us."

Brooks Hillian, who was operating a booth at the festival with his wife, Vanessa, noted that he and his wife's combined presence at this event was two-fold.

"What we're doing is helping, first of all, Zion celebrate and patronize what she's trying to do, because no matter how you look at it, this is bringing money into the city of Sacramento," said Brooks, who is a resident of Elk Grove.

"Secondly, what we chose to do as far as patronizing Miss Zion is bring one of our businesses out – which we've been doing for over 20 years now – and that's selling art from all around the world. The name of our business is All World Imports, and we try to represent everybody."

While visiting a clothing booth at the festival, Alex Lopez, mentioned that she was impressed by its variety of stylish clothes.

"The colors stand out and there are different styles," she said. "There's something for everybody. I actually did just get a dress, and then it's my grandma's birthday, so we bought her a dress, also."

Lopez, who lives in downtown Sacramento, added that she enjoys that California's very diverse capital city has an international festival.

"You always see the same kind of festivals, so it's nice to see something different," she said. "I think (the event) is really, really nice. They chose different kinds of culture here, especially ones I didn't grow up (with), I didn't see a lot of. But it's nice to see all of them coming together and welcoming everybody from different backgrounds. You see a lot of difference."



Shirley Goodspeed, owner of the Sacramento business, All Weather Fashions, shows off two of the items for sale at her festival booth.

James Chen, a Gold River resident, also expressed appreciation for the festival's theme.

"I think it's a wonderful thing," he said. "I think it's great to celebrate all cultures and diversities, and it's great to see so much of that here in Sacramento. We're from Chicago, so we're used to being in a very diverse area, and that's part of why we chose Sacramento when we moved out here (to California). And it's wonderful to see it."

Also speaking on the topic of the city's diversity was a woman who identified herself only as Jalay.

"This is so wonderful for Sacramento, just to represent all the beautiful cultures that we have in Sacramento," said Jalay, who was attending the event with her daughter, Grace, and another child named Mia.

"(Sacramento) truly is like a melting pot, and it still does have a small town feel to it, even though we're growing and expanding. There are people from all over the world here. But it's really nice to come to events like this and just see the diversity and the culture that we have in this city."

Kyle Cuaresma, an Elk Grove resident who was one of the operators of a New York Life Insurance Company booth providing free ID cards for children, recognized Sacramento as a great place for an international festival.

"Sacramento is just a huge melting pot of all cultures, but I'm really happy about this international festival (being located in the capital city). What I really like about it is it promotes diversity and inclusion, and that's something that we really need to focus on nowadays, just because there's a lot of division.

"I'm sure that we can agree on that one way or another, but it's just kind of a way to bring everyone together, and that's my favorite part about it. It brings everyone together, all cultures."

While standing inside his Squeeze Play Lemonade booth, Marcus Benjamin, a 1999 graduate of C.K. McClatchy High School, told this paper that he enjoys how the festival "gives everybody a taste of each other's culture."



Photos by Lance Armstrong

Left to right are Zion Taddese, the festival's founder, and her friends, Yusef Ali, Grace Rule Ali, Tanya Hill-Shareef and Omar Shareef.



The New York Life Insurance Company booth offered free ID cards for children at the event.

South Sacramento resident Cherie Davis also stressed the importance of celebrating cultural diversity.

"It's everything, because there are various cultures amongst us," she said. "It's important for us to not only see the similarities that we have, but the different things we can all kind of celebrate, enjoy and learn about each other. And it's always good to be culturally diverse, because in life you're going to meet people from all walks of life."

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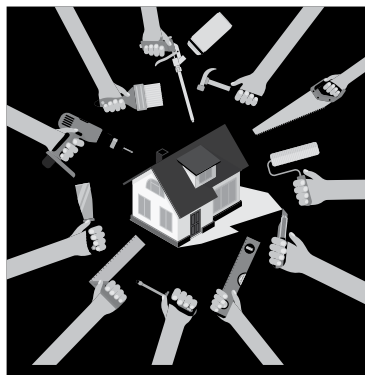
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United Farm Workers complete 335-mile trek to state Capitol

March made its way through Curtis Park neighborhood

By Lance Armstrong
vcneditor@gmail.com

The United Farm Workers (UFW) labor union and their supporters arrived in Sacramento on Aug. 26, after marching more than 300 miles from Delano, a city located about 30 miles northeast of Bakersfield.

Following the historic Delano-Sacramento route made famous by civil rights activist and National Farm Workers Association (today's UFW) co-founder Cesar Chavez in 1966, the group left Delano on Aug. 3.

The original 1966 march was designed to draw attention to difficult working conditions in the fields and to demand rights and freedoms for farmworkers.

The recent journey, titled, "March for the Governor's Signature," was held with the purpose of urging Gov. Gavin Newsom to sign Assembly Bill (AB) 2183 – the Agricultural Labor Relations Voting Choice Act.

Authored by Mark Stone, D-Monterey Bay, and others, the bill calls for the right of farmworkers to vote by mail in union representation elections.

According to a United Farm Workers statement, this measure makes it "easier for farmworkers to vote in a union, free from intimidation and deportation by grower foremen, supervisors and farm labor contractors."

UFW spokesperson Marc Grossman, a former personal aide to Chavez, spoke about AB 2183.

"This bill would allow farmworkers the same voting choices that all California political voters have enjoyed for years – that is you can vote from the comfort and security of your home by mail, you can drop off ballots at certain locations," he said. "So, these were the voting choices that Gov. Newsom used to fend off the Republican recall nearly a year ago."

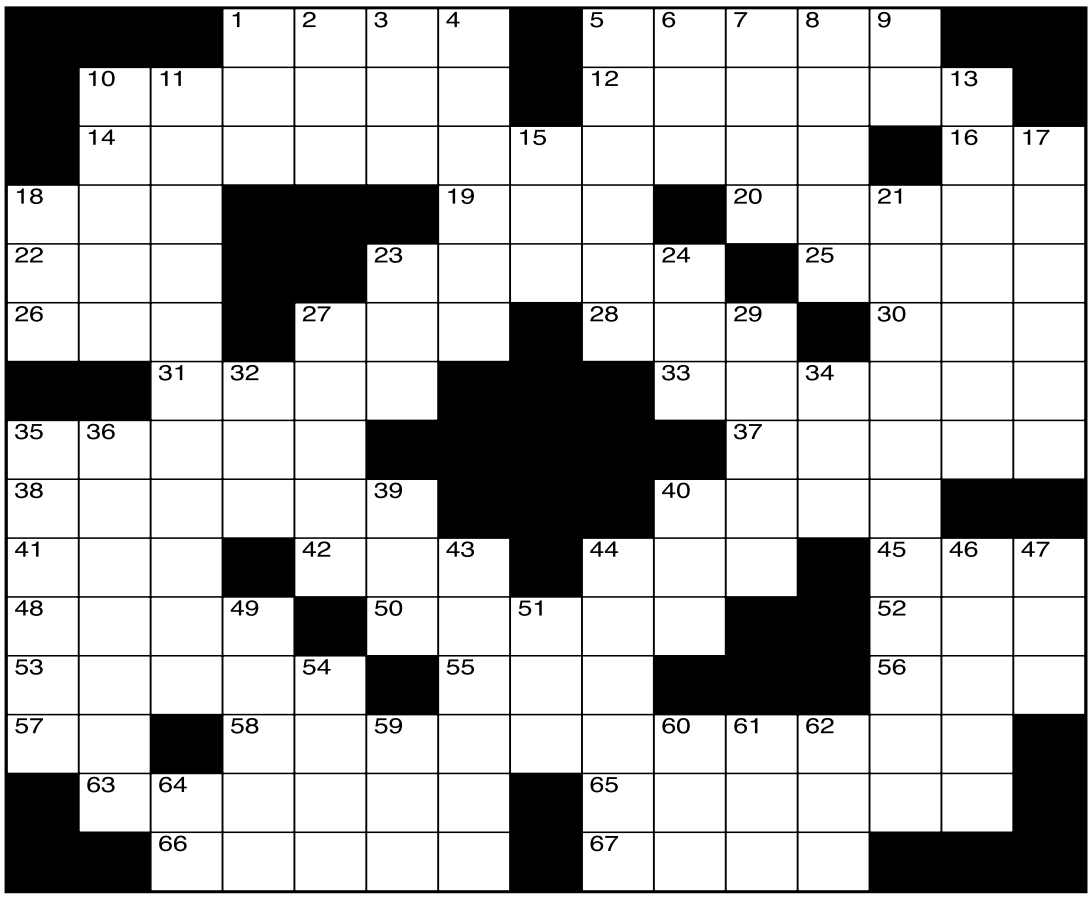
Opposition to the bill includes claims that it would force farmworkers to vote for unionization and take away their rights to vote privately.

As of press time, AB 2183 had not been signed or vetoed by Newsom. However, it was passed by the California Legislature on Aug. 29, and was sent to the governor's desk.

Candlelight vigils were set up in four California cities: Sacra-

See FARMWORKERS on page 11

CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS
1. Crops sown in winter in India
5. Nursemaids in East Asia
10. Investigates
12. Treated like a child
14. About religious belief
16. Widely used exclamation
18. Car mechanics group
19. Not good
20. Indigenous people of Alberta
22. Everyone has one
23. Fencing sword
25. Soaks
26. The human foot
27. Of she
28. Erythrocyte (abbr.)
30. Soldiers
31. Energy, style and enthusiasm
33. Playwright O'Neill
35. Stone parsley
37. Small stones
38. Gas descriptor
40. Monetary unit of Samoa
41. Jeans manufacturer
42. NHL great Bobby
44. Cool!
45. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
48. Winged
50. Partner to "oohed"
52. Defensive nuclear weapon
53. Coated
55. Furry household friend
56. Chinese principle underlying the universe
57. Prefix meaning "within"
58. Makes easier
63. Transferred property
65. Branched
66. Hillsides
67. Abba __, Israeli diplomat

CLUES DOWN
1. Eggs in a female fish
2. Military mailbox
3. Unit to compare power levels
4. Line on a map connecting similar points
5. One who accepts
6. Partner to cheese
7. Ancient Greek sophist
8. About hilus
9. Southeast
10. Where actors ply their trade
11. Beloved Philly sandwich
13. Intend
15. Talk excessively
17. Bronx cheers
18. Drain
21. Renews
23. Monetary unit in Asia
24. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
27. Carthaginian statesman
29. Aged
32. Mauna __, Hawaiian volcano
34. Firearm
35. Consolation
36. An island in the north Atlantic
39. Pitching statistic
40. Disconsolate
43. A part of a river where the current is very fast
44. Call it a career
46. Behave in a way that degrades someone
47. Health insurance
49. Recommend
51. Baltic peninsula
54. Father
59. After B
60. Bar bill
61. Doctors' group
62. 2,000 lbs.
64. Equal to one quintillion bytes

Farmworkers:

Continued from page 10

mento, Fresno, San Francisco, and Los Angeles.

The vigil in Sacramento, at 11th and N streets, near the state Capitol, as well as the other three vigils, are intended to remain in place until the governor either signs or vetoes the bill.

Included in the Sacramento vigil is an elaborate altar adorned with iconic UFW black eagle flags, religious objects, and the well-worn shoes of a marcher who completed the entire trek.

Grossman noted that Newsom has 30 days to sign or veto this measure.

As one who can give a firsthand account of the recent UFW march, Grossman was one of about 30 people who walked the entire 335 miles.

"(There were also) daily marchers," he said. "People would join the march for a day or two days. And when it got into a town, a lot of (people) would join – sometime hundreds of people in mostly farming communities."

Altogether, about 5,000 people joined the farmworkers' march.

Grossman recalled Chavez's longest and least known march, which came to Sacramento 47 years ago.

"I worked with (Chavez) on his longest peaceful march in 1975," he said. "(It was) 1,000 miles in 59 days, and we went from the Mexican border at San Ysidro, north along the coast to Salinas and drove to Sacramento, and marched south through the Central Valley to our headquarters on the other side of Bakersfield.

In the UFW's most recent march, on Aug. 26, marchers made their way along Sutterville Road and the Curtis Park neighborhood before arriving at Southside Park, where they were joined by about 3,000 supporters en route to a rally at the Capitol.

During that rally, thousands of people chanted, "Sign that bill" and "Si, se puede (Spanish for 'Yes, it can be done')," the UFW slogan coined by Dolores Huerta, the union's other co-founder.

The rally also included a speech by Huerta, who explained that she seeks more than Newsom's signature on AB 2183.

"I want to ask the governor, not only to sign the bill, but to get the growers together and tell them they don't get any more legislation unless they recognize the farmworkers' union, OK?" she said. "This march is not in vain. Your sacrifice is not going to go unrewarded. We're going to step it up. We're going to demand more."



Photos courtesy of The United Farm Workers

The United Farm Workers march heads to the California state Capitol on Aug. 26.



A crowd of about 5,000 people assembled near the state Captiol on Aug. 26 in support of Assembly Bill 2183.

Puzzle Solutions

			R	A	B	I	■	A	M	A	H	S	■	■
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