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East Sacramento News

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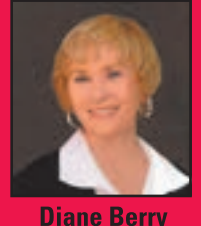
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Around The Hood
by Corky Oakes



East Sac "mini-malls" .... Have you noticed that we have a number of mini-malls in East Sac? I decided to visit one on the east corner of 56th and H streets. This mini-mall hosts a number of shops and eateries. On the particular day I visited, I was on a mission. After years of staring and salivating about The Wienery, I FINALLY stopped to enjoy a "dog." Oh boy! Oh boy! I ordered the "The Regular Dog" and was not disappointed! There's a reason this place has been in business for 45 years! If you are hungry for a hot dog, this is your place.



Photo by Corky Oakes
Red Salon Art

Bye bye Devine???? Say it ain't so! Well.... **Devine Gelateria** announced they were leaving East Sac in early April. But...the public outcry was HUGE...so they are staying....at least for a while. Here is part of the notice Devine taped to their front window: "We have had such a tremendous amount of support over the past week, that we have decided to keep the bakery open! The sales are at the minimum level needed for us to continue. It is my hope that you all will continue to come in as you have this past week so we never have to post that sign again."

Hours are Wednesday/Thursday 7a.m.- 6 p.m. and Friday-Sunday 7 a.m.- 7 p.m. Devine is closed Monday and Tuesday. Oh...nearly forgot...Devine has started a beer and wine service also!

Primavera A Taste of Wine & Beer will be held May 6, 6 p.m. at St. Mary's School. Food will also be served. For more information visit www.stmaryschool.com or call 452-1100.

Not to be outdone, the Sacramento Turn Verein is hosting its 49th Annual **Bockbierfest** May 6th and 7th. Doors open 3 p.m. on the 6th. Also--KID ALERT---Maifest, a "traditional family festival", will be held May 7th from noon to 5 p.m., featuring food, drinks, dancing arts and crafts. The Turn Verein is located at 3349 J Street. For more information and tickets visit http://sacramentoturnverein.com.

Sacramento Women's Chorus with Cris Williamson and her All-Star Band presents: **Today I Live!** The concert will be held Saturday May 13th at 7 p.m. at the Crest Theater, 1013 K St. Tickets are $30-75. The concert proceeds will go toward support of breast cancer awareness.

It's upon us...the **19th Annual East Sacramento Garden Tour** will be held May 13 & 14, 2017. This event benefits David Lubin Elementary School with "enrichment opportunities and support[s] STEAM academics critical to the children's future." Wander through private gardens in the Fab 40s....enjoy lunch at the Tea Garden of Sutter Lawn Tennis Club. Tickets and more information are available at davidlubingardentour.com.

The Sacramento Master Singers present **"How Do I Love Thee?"** May 20th and 21st at the First United Methodist Church on 21 and J streets. The Master Singers' website says the concert will include "compositions by Ralph Vaughan Williams, Eric Nelson and David Bednall, texts by William Shakespeare and Elizabeth Barrett Browning, and more." For tickets and more information visit mastersingers.org/concert-series/how-do-i-love-thee.

Mystery at 38th & J solved! Peter Gannon of **Gannon Construction** confirmed that **Red Salon Art** will be moving into the renovated building formerly occupied by House of Fashion II in early May. Red Salon Art currently has a location downtown at 920 J St. and is owned by Kayla Nguyen. Stay tuned for grand opening information.

Down river ....I recently took a pal from Chicago down the River Road (160) to Locke. He wanted to visit a museum he had read about, the Dai Loy Gambling House Museum. Never mind that I had not heard of it or that despite years of driving by Locke, on the water OR the highway, I had never, ever stopped there. My loss. Talk about stepping into another world! So...if this hasn't tripped your curiosity wire, on May 20th the Locke Asian Pacific Spring Festival will be held, 11 a.m.- 5 p.m. on Main Street in Locke. There will be raffles, music, dance, food, Lion Dance, Taiko drums and more. Admission and parking are FREE! What's stopping you? For more information visit www.locke-foundation.org or call 916-776-1684/776-1828.

Farewell Tucker. I was walking by East Portal Park the other day when I decided to visit my favorite "double tree." At the base was a box filled with heartily used tennis balls. A sign with an image of a Golden Retriever (I think), stated: "Please help yourself to a ball for your doggie to enjoy. Live life as Tucker did with unconditional love and loyalty."

Only in East Sac.

Compassion Village takes root in Sacramento

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

Because everyone in the Sacramento region plays a role in helping our community and if we all work together, in the places we work best, we really can transform lives and bring hope to our community. That is the crux behind Compassion Village, a scalable, grassroots, privately funded, tiny home community focused on temporary, interim and permanent homes for chronic homeless has its roots in Sacramento.

As churches represent a people who are called by their faith to help and are equipped to mobilize thousands of volunteers who want to serve well, Compassion Village volunteer Tammy Vallejo, the CEO of E49 Corporation (which has been around for seven years mobilizing churches to solve social issues) said, "We love seeing God at work in our region and can't wait to see how this Village becomes something Sacramento can celebrate." Tammy said E49 has joined Restoration Life Church and its pastor Dan Axtell in 2016 to start Compassion Village.

The first village will consist of 20 temporary tiny homes, 15 interim bedrooms that will house two people to a room and a one-acre lot where a permanent version of the homes will be built. Tammy expects 10-15 village sites in the Sacramento region to take root. "The focus of the village will be building community, mentoring and employment." They are asking churches to commit to building the home with their congregations and support the village with a team of five to 10 volunteers for three years. Additionally, they are asking for a financial commitment for the three years as well to insure sustainability. The cost for each home is $7,500 per home and $7,500 per person annually for services and site coordinators.

Volunteers with Compassion Village launched the project officially in February and have working meetings every Monday night at 6 p.m. at E49's co-working and incubator space, Suite 210, 2830 G St. There are teams for building, social services, fundraising, social media, admin, web/branding and land. Each team has two leads who are experts/licensed in their respective areas. This is a volunteer, grassroots effort that has gained momentum very quickly.

Pastor Dan started by asking members of his congregation to attend a meeting to see if there was interest. "There was a ton of interest. So Dan asked E49 Corporation to drive the initiative and ask churches from around the region to join in," Tammy said.





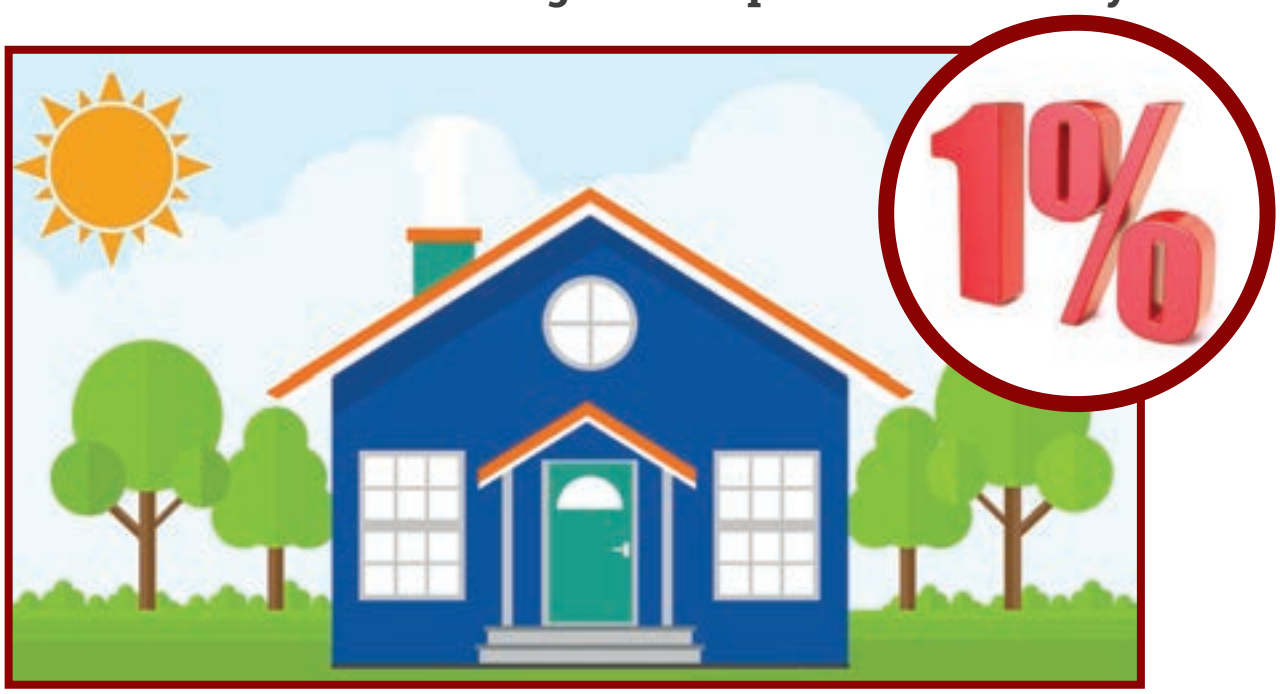
Tammy explained the potential setbacks are city, county and building departments. "But we have really done our homework and are working closely with government officials, licensed contractors, real estate professionals and social service organizations to insure success. E49 has had extensive history in working to build a model of success for homeless people ranging from chronic homeless, at risk youth, sex trafficking survivors and other underserved populations."

Although this is primarily being driven by churches at this point, the teams have grown each week and include diverse people from the community.

Tammy said the best way to get involved is to show up on Monday nights and sit in on a team. "If you can't make Mondays, we are still in need of people to help with fundraising, grant writing, people in the construction trades and social services. Once the homes are built and our member residents move in, we will need volunteers for cooking, cleaning, yard and building maintenance, small business mentors, etc." She said they have really seen the community come around this effort quickly. "We have met with City Council members (Allen) Warren and (Angelique) Ashby who are both excited about the village. We are working with several agencies who are certifying the homes and building plans, as well as funding of the project."

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Renown NASA scientist and author to speak at First Christian Church in East Sacramento

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com



Renown NASA scientist Dr. Leslie Wickman will speak at First Christian Church, 3901 Folsom Blvd., on May 21 at 7 p.m. Author of "God of the Big Bang How Modern Science Affirms the Creator," her audience will be a community of faith that believes that humanity has a lot to learn from all the disciplines of study, the humanities, all of the sciences, and certainly theology, stated Rev. Ted Firch. "There were many reasons why we wanted her to come to our church. Most importantly, we are hoping to counter the idea that many people have that Science and Christian belief are incompatible, that one must choose to believe in one or the other, and that somehow both cannot be true."

Firch says Wickman's presentations about science are easy to follow and a few copies of the book are being passed around the congregation. With a PhD from Stanford University, Wickman has a long list of accomplishments including working for NASA on the Hubble Space Telescope, as well as a Ted Talk.

Firch said if you have been taught a literal interpretation of the book of Genesis, then you will not be able to accept what modern science teaches, but, he adds Genesis 1-2 was never meant to be a literal description of "what happened." "Those chapters are the stories the Hebrew people told to understand why things are the way they are, and to answer the questions: What does it all mean? And who is behind all of this? So we hope to promote to the Sacramento community our belief that the things that Science studies can point us towards God, and that a belief in God can also encourage a rigorous curiosity about how the world works. As is written in the book of Romans, 'Ever since the creation of the world God's invisible nature, namely, his eternal power and deity, has been clearly perceived in the things that have been made.'"

In other words, First Christian Church does not require you to interpret Genesis in one particular way. "That said, our congregation promotes learning, and most of our youth go to college. I teach very much along the same lines as Dr. Wickman, that the discoveries of Science point us towards belief in a loving creator. I talk about the Big Bang, as it points to a very definite act of bringing 'something' out of what seemed like 'nothing.'"

Additionally, Firch encourages the study of science with his congregation. "If they get into discussions about issues of faith and science, they will be able to offer more than just uninformed opinions," he said.

"I believe that there is a creator God behind all that is. But the discoveries of modern science give us the timelines, and the best descriptions of how God's creating activities happened. We experience ourselves as living, thinking beings. The Bible and Christianity teach us what God's purpose is for our lives and for creation as a whole."

For someone who has traveled the world on speaking tours, Firch said First Christian Church is fortunate one of Wickman's college friends is now a member here. "Jen Jurusik played college basketball with Dr. Wickman, and was very excited when she heard that Dr. Wickman had written her book, God of the Big Bang. Jurusik called her up and asked her if she would come, and we were surprised that she said yes."

Hoping for a full house at the event, Firch encourages everyone to plan to be at the church a little early; most likely you will be parking a block or two away from the church. Childcare for children age 4 and younger will be provided. Dr. Wickman's presentation will be aimed at anyone high school age and older.





2017 Application East Sacramento Preservation Scholarship

East Sacramento Preservation offers a $500 scholarship to a college-bound public high school senior from East Sacramento. The scholarship will be awarded based on the applicant's demonstrated dedication and desire to enhance his or her community. The student's focus should be on preservation of worthy institutions, landmarks or the neighborhood's environment.

Applications are due on May 5, 2017. Winners will be notified by the end of May and the scholarship will be awarded at the East Portal Park—Pops in the Park concert on June 3, 2017.

To be eligible, you must be a college-bound public high school senior, living in East Sacramento (area code 95819 and 95816—east of 30th Street). Send your completed application to contact@eastsacpreservation.org.

Please send the following information in the body of your email:
Last name:
First name:
Street address:
City, state, ZIP:
E-mail address:
Date of birth:
Current school:
College you plan to attend:

Please send your essay as an attachment to your application or in the body of the email.

Complete an essay of no more than 500 words that addresses the following:

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All applications are due on May 5, 2017.

Send us your calendar updates

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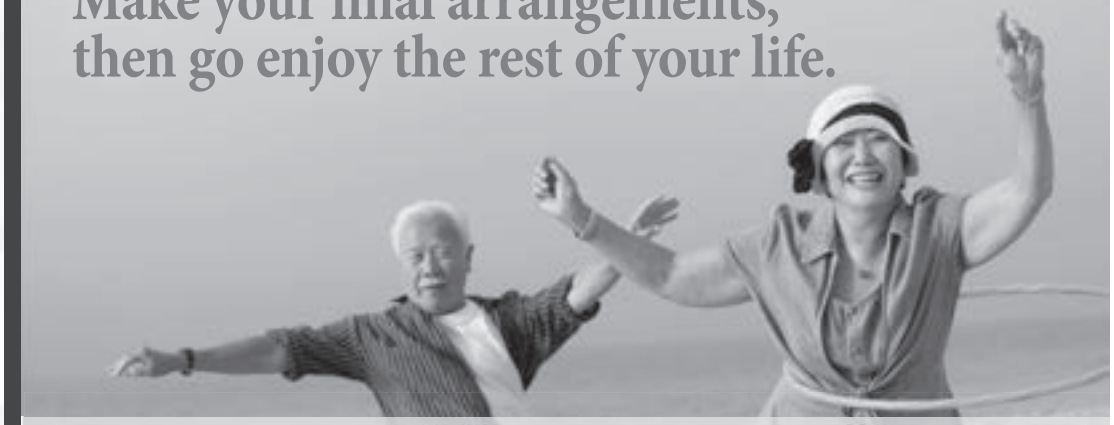
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Happy Tails had successful event at Bark in the Park

By MICHELE TOWNSEND

Dogs and Cats got along great when the Sacramento River Cats, SSPCA and Happy Tails Pet Sanctuary partnered up for their Annual Bark in the Ball Park at Raley Field, with a portion of the proceeds going to help the animals. This dog filled day, began with a Pet Parade around the ball field. People brought dogs of all shapes and sizes, and after showing them off for a bit, enjoyed a great baseball game between the Sacramento River Cats and the Las Vegas 51's. The dogs and owners that attended Bark in the Park were all given lawn seats, and the lawn area was packed! All of the dogs did very well, with no scuffles among them. Wag Hotel had very large bowls of food and water available for the dogs. You could even get a caricature done of your dog/s, or of you and your dog together for under $10.

Though many people brought their own dogs along, the primary purpose of Bark in the Ball Park was to benefit the SSPCA, and to help find some dogs, that are up for adoption, a new Forever Friend. SSPCA is located at 6201 Florin-Perkins Rd, Sacramento Ca 95828. The SSPCA is currently at capacity with furry friends that need a family to call their own. For the first time, Happy Tails Pet Sanctuary was also a part of Bark in the Ball Park. Happy Tails Pet Sanctuary, Patricia L. Holmes Adoption Center is a no kill, all volunteer, cage free, adoption center located at 6001 Folsom Blvd.. In addition to the adoption center, Happy Tails Pet Sanctuary is committed to creating a safe haven for abandoned and abused animals that also help with feral cat colonies, foster care, voicemail, grants, and special events. They also have a Junior Volunteer Program for children 12 – 17, who can earn community service credit by working with the animals. Hans Greenwald, Board Member of Happy Tails Said "Happy Tails was delighted to be invited to participate in Bark in the Ball park for the first time. We are always looking for ways to get the word out about us, all around the area. We thank Raley Field for helping us to do that." Currently all of the dogs, and kittens that Happy Tails has, are in Foster Homes, and the adoption center is only housing cats. Happy Tails had 4 dogs on site that were available for adoption. They got lots of hugs, kisses and head pats throughout the day, but they need homes!



Photo by George Young

Dog adoptions (at Happy Tails) are $90, and it includes your dog that is already spayed or neutered, current on shots and micro chipped. If a dog got adopted during Bark in the Park, Raley Field treated them like Royalty. The new family was relocated to a box suite, where they were fed amazing food and drinks while they enjoyed the game from some of the best seats in the house. What an exciting game to have seats like that! The Las Vegas 51's were up by 4 with the score 4 – 0, when the Sacramento River Cats came back and won the game in the 10th inning with a score of 7 – 6. Robert Barsanti of Raley Field, stated "Bark in the Ballpark is one of our favorite events every season at Raley Field. We had a blast coordinating with the SPCA and we couldn't be happier with the turnout from the fans. They've always been so excited about and supportive of Bark in the Ballpark – it is part of what makes the event so much fun for us. We're looking forward to Wet Nose Wednesday – which is basically Bark in the Ballpark Part Two – on Wednesday, August 30 and are already brainstorming for ways to make next year's event even better."

You can find more information on how to become a foster family to a loving pet, or perhaps adopt a new friend of your own, by visiting their websites at www.sspca.org or www.happytails.org. You can also call Happy Tails at 556-1155 or simply visit their shelter, located at the above address. They are open Wednesday – Sunday from noon – 6 p.m.

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LIFE IN THE VILLAGE

By JAN DALSKE
East Sacramento News

Fall was just around the corner. The temperatures were getting much cooler. Our mom had already put warmer blankets on our beds. Linda was turning four years old. Every year our family celebrated everybody's birthday with a cake. Linda had asked our mother to bake her a tall white cake with colored sprinkles on top. Linda's birthday cake this year was an angel food cake covered with homemade powdered sugar frosting and colored sprinkles.

Everyone in our family always looked forward to our mom baking one of her special birthday cakes. And, we had a lot of birthdays in our family. But, our dad really liked our mom's homemade pies. So, if mom did some baking during the week, she would usually make a pie. Her favorite pies to make for us were fruit pies. She covered the slices of fruit with strips of sugared pie crust and sprinkled them with cinnamon before she baked the pies.

She had a large supply of canned fruits in the garage and would pick a different jar of fruit whenever she baked. Our dad liked any and all of the canned fruits, and so did we. Peaches, apricots, cherries, and apples were all very tasty in a pie. Sometimes mom would make a lemon pie with a meringue topping that she made by whipping egg whites and sugar. Her pumpkin pies were always a wonderful treat following our annual Thanksgiving dinner.

When our dad came home from work on Linda's birthday he was carrying a large brown bag. Linda met him at the door and when she saw the bag, she smiled brightly. "Is my dolly in the bag, daddy?" she asked him. He did not answer her, and he kept walking down the hallway to our parents' bedroom. He was cleaning up after work as he always did when he got home. She waited patiently in the hallway. A few minutes later, he came out. He had taken a shower and changed his clothes. He smiled at Linda when he saw her waiting outside the bedroom door.

Then, he strutted down the hallway, in the direction of the kitchen. He did not have the brown bag anymore. Linda must have wondered where the bag was. She was probably hoping that her birthday present was in that bag. Our mom was busy fixing dinner in the kitchen and our dad walked up behind her. He kissed her on the back of her neck, while he whispered something in her ear. Linda watched them from the hallway, curious about what our dad had said to our mom. She needed to find out what was going on with her parents. They were hiding something.

She watched as our dad turned on the lamp in the living room. Then he sat down in his comfortable arm chair to read the newspaper just as he did every day when he came home from work. In the morning, he read part of the paper that was delivered on the front porch. And, after work he finished reading the stories that he had missed. Linda watched him and probably wondered how long he would be reading the paper tonight. She needed some time to tiptoe down the hallway and look for the brown bag. She headed for the bedroom as fast as she could.

But, our mom had already started going down the hallway, and she was in the bedroom before Linda could even get there. Linda waited quietly in the hallway, putting her ear up against the door to listen to what her mother was doing. I bet she thought she could hear paper rustling. She held her breath and was so quiet that she could hear her heart beating. She was taken by surprise when our mom quickly opened the door and moved briskly toward the kitchen.

Linda pretended that she was just walking by and headed for the bathroom as fast as she could. She stayed there for a few minutes. Her heart was still beating fast. Did our mom know that she was listening at the door? Of course Linda wanted to know what she had been doing in the bedroom. Linda tiptoed to the bedroom, opened the door and slowly peeked in. There was nothing on the bed, or under the bed. She checked the bathroom and found nothing.

When dinner was ready our mom called everyone to come to the table and get seated. Linda found her usual place next to her sister Janice, and tried to calm down. She was sure that her heartbeat could be heard by everyone at the table. Our dad led the family at saying grace before we ate our meal. Then our mom started filling the plates with food. Before Linda knew it, dinner was finished and our mom was passing out saucers filled with angel food cake to all of the family members. Then, we all sang Happy Birthday to Linda. Our dad handed her a present wrapped in bright pink paper. Linda grabbed it and tore the wrapping off. The doll with long blonde hair and blue eyes that closed when she went to sleep was inside. Her doll! It was the exact doll that Linda had wanted for her 4th birthday. She was so happy. She thanked our mom and dad. I was pretty sure that this birthday had been her best so far.

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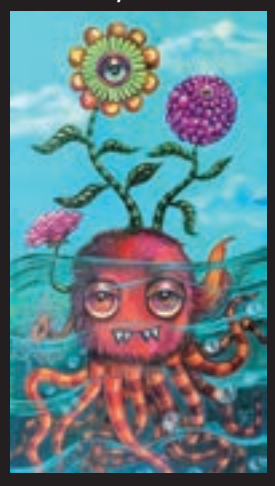
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Life on Two Rivers

Skunks

> "An adult skunk is fearless and slow. And of course, beware the lifted tail."

By ELLEN COCHRANE

Let's get right to it. Here is the recipe, and you might want to double it:

1/4 cup baking soda
1 teaspoon liquid dishwashing detergent (Dawn)
1 quart of fresh Hydrogen Peroxide 3% (the old stuff can turn to water)

Make sure you mix it in an open container and don't be shocked by the bubbling witches' brew. Wear rubber gloves and start lathering while it's still frothing, work it in and leave it on for 30 minutes. The foaming releases oxygen that attacks the sulfury smell and the detergent neutralizes the oils that help the stink stick to the fur, clothes and skin.

For Carol Walker the recipe was not enough. Carol's apex of horror came when Twinkie burst through the dog door and ran to the couch and rolled, then ran to the bedroom and rolled on the bed and then the carpet. Her house was in chaos for days—reeking, stinking, antiseptic chaos. "The dog ran to safety, but it created torture for us," said Walker.

Not only did she have to wash the dog, furniture and carpet, she also had to close all exterior windows and doors and turn off ventilation and then open all interior doors and boil vinegar for hours. Then she opened up the house and turned on the AC to eliminate the ambient smell. "The house smelled like a weird salad for days, but the vinegar did help."

Our beautiful Sacramento neighborhoods are the natural habitat for the western striped skunk. California is also identified as habitat for the spotted skunk but I've never seen one in the area. This year the rains and flooding seem to have pushed more skunks into the neighborhoods that snuggle up to wilderness. Sightings are common and the tell-tale whiff more prominent. An adult skunk is fearless and slow. And of course, beware the lifted tail.

Skunks' defense is very specialized. The anal scent glands are modified into spray sacks or papillae and have small nipple like protrusions at the base of the tail just inside the rectum. When chased by dogs the skunk usually can't see its harasser as it flees, so it sprays a mist of stink. If the animal is cornered, and has a good line of sight, the skunk can exercise precision control over the aim and can nail a target 5-9 feet away. More often that not, a skunk prefers retreat, and hisses, stomps and waves its tail to discourage contact.

Phoebe Hearst principal Nate McGill never thought he'd end up an animal wrangler, but with his trademark can-do attitude he jumped right in when skunks dug in at the elementary school. The weather and birthing season brought a higher than usual invasion to the campus this year. "In prior years there was a single family that would occasionally sneak under the portables to get out of the bad weather. This year, it was clear there were more than just a few skunks living under rooms 26 and 27. We could see three burrowed holes," said McGill.

Water can intensify the chemistry of skunk musk, and Phoebe Hearst staff and students got a giant whiff. Kids were going home with headaches and teachers needed to move classes to the library or technology room to escape. McGill soon realized the scope of the problem. "The smell was bad already and the cold and damp weather seemed to trap it—the classrooms stunk. Each time the smell got intense we'd call the trapper and we'd trap one, and hope it was the last. Well, after seven trapped skunks, it was clear we had a bigger problem." Room 27 seemed to be the favorite lair so McGill got his circular saw, drill and some wood screws and boarded up one of the holes and the smell dissipated significantly. Shortly thereafter, Sac City's maintenance crew came out to dig down fencing around the access areas. The critters did come back and tried to dig under, but gave up when they hit the buried fence.

It is possible to live in peace with skunks and they should not be destroyed needlessly. They are beneficial to neighborhood gardeners, eating snails, earwigs, mice, rats and other pests. They eat a large number of insects that damage lawns and our backyard crops. Respect is the key. Let the lumbering stink bombs move on if you see one, and never approach. Never leave food outside to attract them and make sure access to your foundation, and all little hidey-holes are sealed. Contact a local wildlife rescue center if they set up house on your property.

Darcie Wilks Patock of East Sacramento had a skunk encounter of the cutest kind. Baby skunk cute factor is about 99.99% and Wilkes experienced it first hand when she helped rescue a batch of kits. "They were at a friend's property, said Wilks. We think their mom was killed. After about three days my friend and I were able to pick them up and we brought them to the wildlife rescue center. It was easy to get them because they did not have their sprayers yet."

Stink kitty, essence-peddler, polecat, civet cat or wood pussy, skunks are part of our urban family. It has no need to camouflage and carries a heartily respected weapon. If we tiptoe around it's noxious musk and pause to consider the benefits it brings, we can coexist with this stink bomb—carefully.



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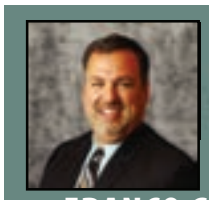
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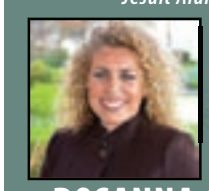
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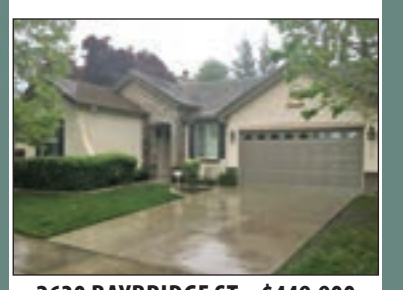
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Colonial Heights Library celebrates fruits of labor with opening of new community kitchen

Photos by STEPHEN CROWLEY
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Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency and the Sacramento Public Library together with local and state elected officials celebrated the opening of a renovated community kitchen at the Colonial Heights Library, 4799 Stockton Blvd., on Thursday, April 13. The event included a food demonstration by Yisrael Family Farms with audience participation using the professional mobile demonstration kitchen that was part of the facility remodel project.

"This kitchen is a first for Sacramento Public Library," explains Rivkah K. Sass, director of Sacramento Public Library. "We're grateful to the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency for making it possible for us to bring sustainable living and food literacy programming to the community."

SHRA provided $194,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds to support the renovation project. To complement the kitchen remodel, an outdoor storage unit has been converted to help facilitate gardening projects and community gardening classes and workshops at the library. Partners for classes include UC Master Gardeners, Yisrael Family Farms, Sacramento Natural Food Cooperative Community Kitchen, and Harvest Sacramento.





"SHRA is committed to changing lives by leveraging our funding resources to support partnerships that help fill unmet needs for residents in low income communities," said SHRA Executive Director La Shelle Dozier. "Sacramento's public libraries are excellent neighborhood gathering places where families can have access to a wide variety of programs and activities that will help them live better and thrive."





The project also included improvements to the community room such as new flooring, paint, lighting, windows and furnishings in the community room. The facility also received four new ADA parking spaces, ramps and landscaping.

The Colonial Heights Library also partners with Elk Grove Unified School District as a host site for the Summer Lunch at the Library program. Yisrael Family Farms offers gardening, cooking and homesteading classes for the community throughout the year with financial support from the Friends of the Colonial Heights Library.





What's happening East Sacramento?

SATURDAY, MAY 6

SACRAMENTO COVERED TO HOLD 17th ANNUAL HEALTHY KIDS DAY: This year, the event which runs from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., will be held at the Golden 1 Center. Families can enroll for health insurance and receive free health services. Organizers expect to serve more than 2,500 people. Families can park their cars in the Serna Parking lot and take shuttle buses to the Golden 1 Center. Visit SacramentoCovered.org/Healthy-Kids-Day for more information.

FOSTER FAMILY APPRECIATION PICNIC: From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at William Land Park, 3800 West Land Park Drive. Food, bounce house, video game truck, face-painting and more. (Presented by Uplift Family Services).

SUNDAY, MAY 7

JANE JACOBS WALKING TOUR: ALHAMBRA BOULEVARD:
11 a.m.: Alhambra Boulevard (Preservation Sacramento)
Starting point: Pureta Sausage Factory, C Street and Alhambra Boulevard
Description: Led by Preservation Sacramento board members William Burg and Patrick Stelmach, this tour will explore the architecture and social history of Sacramento's original eastern city limit. Renamed in honor of the Alhambra Theatre, this boulevard served many uses, including residential, commercial, parks, and industries, traversed by streetcars, electric freight trains, and automobiles. We'll share stories of the boulevard's historic architecture and examine some of its newest buildings from the sidewalk, and pay our respects to the last remaining portions of the theater that gave the street its name, ending at the OBO'/ KRU restaurant near Alhambra and Folsom Boulevard.

THURSDAY, MAY 11

BREATHE FEST 2017– Celebrating community and clean air in the Sacramento Region: Breathe California Sacramento Region will put a twist on their longstanding Clean Air Awards by honoring Sacramento's leaders in sustainability at a brand new event, Breathe Fest. Breathe Fest will highlight impactful changes Sacramento residents can make in their daily lives and honor five local Clean Air Champions. Breathe Fest, to be held at the exclusive Sacramento Railyards Paintshop, will feature live music from IdeaTeam, regional food and beer from SactoMoFo, a local marketplace curated by DISPLAY, tiny homes, and an electric vehicle showcase. Event emcee, Kat Maudru, will honor local clean air champions, individuals and organizations making significant strides in improving air quality in the greater Sacramento region. This year's winners include an impressive list of local leaders and businesses that have contributed to improving air quality through targeted actions. Specific contributions include decreasing water and energy usage, pioneering public school food waste recycling programs and instituting innovative business practices In addition to the awards program, music, food and beverages, Breathe Fest will feature an exciting interactive networking space where sponsors can showcase their latest programs, achievements or technological developments to attendees. Many of the region's most influential business and civic leaders as well as elected officials from all levels of government are expected to be in attendance. This year's event is sponsored by the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, Regional Transit and Capital Public Radio, among others.
Breathe Fest will be held at the Sacramento Railyards on May 11, 2017 from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. To purchase tickets, become a sponsor or learn more about Breathe Fest, visit www.sacbreathe.org/breathefest. After May 1, ticket prices will go up to $40. For more event or sponsorship information, contact Jenny Matchell at (916) 444-5900 ext. 217 or jmatchell@sacbreathe.org.

SUNDAY, MAY 21

GUITAR SOCIETY ORCHESTRA SPRING CONCERT: The Sacramento Guitar Society Orchestra will be performing a Spring concert at the Clara, 24th and O Streets, on Sunday, May 21st at 3 p.m. Also performing are some of the area's well known classical guitarists; Matthew Grasso, Sean O'Connor, the SGS Orchestra director,and Greg Williams. Donations will be accepted at the door.

ONGOING

CSUS PRESENTS THE CURATE SHAKESPEARE 'AS YOU LIKE IT': A comically inept acting company sets its sights on an impromptu performance of Shakespeare's As You like It, but being miscast, undermanned, and lacking commitment, they continuously endure countless humiliations as they make near hash of the precious holy words of Shakespeare. Eventually they perform all 33 roles with hilarious perseverance, turning torture into triumph as they tap into the beauty and integrity of Shakespeare's universe. By Don Nigro; directed by Michelle Felten. Show runs April 27 - May 6 - Studio Theatre (Behind Saigon Bay, between the Library and Capistrano Hall); 6000 J St.
Thursday, April 27: 6:30 pm; $8
Friday, April 28: 6:30 pm; $8
Saturday, April 29: 2 pm; $8
Thursday, May 4: 6:30 pm; $8
Friday, May 5: 6:30 pm; $8
Saturday, May 6: 2:00 pm; $8
Please go to www.csus.edu/HornetTickets to purchase tickets.

MCKINLEY PARK FOOD TRUCK MANIA: SactoMoFo and Sacramento City Councilman Jeff Harris present Food Truck Mania from 5 to 8 p.m. at McKinley Park, 601 Alhambra Blvd. every second Friday of the month. The beer garden benefits Friends of Front Street Shelter.

TAHOE PARK FOOD TRUCK MANIA: SactoMoFo, Councilman Eric Guerra, Sacramento County Supervisor Phil Serna and the Tahoe Park Neighborhood Association present Tahoe Park Food Truck Mania from 5 to 8 p.m. every fourth Friday of the month. The beer garden benefits Friends of Front Street Shelter.

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION IS SEEKING LOCAL HOST FAMILIES FOR HIGH SCHOOL EXCHANGE STUDENTS:
ASSE International Student Exchange Programs (ASSE), in cooperation with your community high school, is looking for local families to host boys and girls between the ages of 15 to 18 from a variety of countries: Norway, Denmark, Spain, Italy, Japan, to name a few.
ASSE students are enthusiastic and excited to experience American culture while they practice their English. They also love to share their own culture and language with their host families. Host families welcome these students into their family, not as a guest, but as a family member, giving everyone involved a rich cultural experience.
The exchange students have pocket money for personal expenses and full health, accident and liability insurance. ASSE students are selected based on academics and personality, and host families can choose their student from a wide variety of backgrounds, countries and personal interests.
To become an ASSE Host Family or to find out how to become involved with ASSE in your community, please call the ASSE Western Regional Office at 1-800-733-2773 or go to www.host.asse.com to begin your host family application. Students are eager to learn about their American host family, so begin the process of welcoming your new son or daughter today!

KNITTING CIRCLE AT MCKINLEY LIBRARY – Any adult interested in knitting — even an absolute beginner — is invited to join. Participants can learn to knit, or get help on current projects and advice from expert knitters. Don't forget to bring your knitting needles and yarn. Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at McKinley Library, 601 Alhambra Blvd, Sacramento.

TEEN SPACE AT MCKINLEY LIBRARY – Looking for something fun to do after school? Need a place where you're free to hang out with your friends and have a snack? Come to the McKinley Library Teen Space, Wednesdays from 3p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at McKinley Library, 601 Alhambra Blvd, Sacramento.

SAC STATE'S 'STORIES TO BE TOLD' PRODUCTION: The ebb and flow of human rights are explored in Sac State's production of Osvaldo Dragun's Stories to be Told. Directed by Professor Roberto Pomo and Lisa Ross, Stories to be Told is a study of human oppression in comedy, tragedy, music and dance. Performances are in Playwrights' Theatre on campus, 6000 J St. at 8 p.m. March 17-18; 6:30 p.m. March 16; and 2 p.m. March 19. Tickets are $5-$12, available at 278-4323 or www.csus.edu/hornettickets. Contact: 278-6069.



DO YOU HAVE AN UPCOMING OR MONTHLY EVENT?
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e-mail Monica: editor@valcomnews.com





Southside Park was ground-zero for Earth Day weekend events

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

As more than 500 marches organized by scientists around the world denounced the Trump Administration's disregard for science, Southside Park swelled with 18,000 to 20,000 protesters who marched to the Capitol on Saturday. Some have never seen so many scientists taking to the streets ever before, drawing families with children dressed as scientists donning goggles to elected official like Senator Dr. Richard Pan.

And, on Sunday, the annual Earth Day festival organized by the Environmental Council of Sacramento promoted environmental and climate literacy with about 150 organizations and businesses showcasing a vast array of practical information, goods and services that promote sustainability. From live music, to local artists, plant-based cuisine, educational opportunities, and kids activities, the free-admission event drew thousands of attendees throughout the day.

Entertaining passersby with her ping-pong table bike, players got to hit the ball as owner Sacramentan Karen Gale cruised through the park. Mostly staying parked, however, many folks took interest in the bike, asking questions like: "Can I play?" Responding with an excited "yes", Gale explained her inspiration behind the bike (Burning Man), the help she had making it (Sac State engineering student Andrew Broderick) and quoted Jake Wallis Simons who once said: "Some things exist just to make you happy. Table tennis is one of those things." Gale has taken the bike around to different events in Sacramento (and you can read more about her and other projects in the next issue of the Land Park News).

Event spokesperson Alexandra Reagan said Earth Day Sacramento 2017 was probably the largest the annual event has been, at least since she's worked for ECOS over the last four years and the groups being represented are less on the fringe of society than ever before. "A lot of the concepts that may have started in the '60s or '70s like population growth control and socialist groups are more mainstream now. We're really seeing that there's strength in coalition. We have a lot of the same shared principles… People are seeing the effects of pesticides, pollution, and how you can't ignore behaviors that contribute to poor air and water quality. Sacramento is one of the worst places for allergies and a lot of that has to do with pollution. It's important to see and remember that. That has a lot to do with why things are a lot less fringe. It's hard to ignore the impacts on the planet and the use on our resources at a rapid rate."

Inspired by the colorfully hippie environmental event, the Davis Whole Earth Festival (which is held every Mother's Day weekend Friday-Sunday at UC Davis), Reagan said she tries to promote Earth Day Sacramento in a similar vein. "I love the Whole Earth Festival, and I've been trying to promote that in images I use, the groups who come. I try to tell people that."

Reagan not only attended the march on Saturday, she flyered for the ECOS Earth Day celebration at the Capitol,v where she found many people who didn't know about the Sunday event. As she told the marchers: "You didn't know it was happening? You know it is where you just were – (Southside Park). I just assumed they knew about Earth Day. Most community activities I go to with a green lens and I see the same people. I think (the Science March) could have added to the energy (at the ECOS Earth Day)."

The issue of transportation was on many people's minds at the Earth Day event.

Eric Sunderland of Organize Sacramento said his organization, which meets at 1714 Broadway, said public transportation is a focus this year with weekly Saturday meetings from 1 to 3 p.m. to put "public" back into public transit. He argues more people in the Sacramento area would ride public transit if it was more affordable and accessible, adding that some people he met at Earth Day "took an Uber" with a group of friends because it was cheaper to split the fare than ride transit.

Meanwhile, many different electric vehicles from owners were on display at the Sac EV (electric vehicle) area where test drives were a noted success.

Club member David Ewert, of Stockton and owner of a 2015 Zero motorcycle, said he was looking online for a local group and Sacramento was the closest to him. Riding to the festival on the motorcycle from Stockton, Ewert said public perception has changed on electric vehicles since he's been an advocate for almost 10 years now. A previous owner of an electric motorcycle in 2008, and the owner of a Nissan Leaf for three years, Ewert said he's he's seen a dramatic change in the number of cars available and the models and the motorcycles. "Just 10 years ago, there were very few choices. Now there's 20 kinds of cars that are electric." His 2015 Zero can reach speeds of 100 mph and can travel about 100 miles on a charge (not at that speed). "It's got a 15-kilowatt-sized battery back. It's quick with acceleration."

The Sac EV club members who showed cars are environmentalists. "We want to show people there is a way to get off of oil and it doesn't have to be in a golf cart. You can have a cool car or a motorcycle and do your commuting without fossil fuels and help with climate change."

Near the Sac EV area, David Roddy, one of the members of the Sacramento chapter for the Democratic Socialists of America, said the election of Trump has ignited an exponential increase of members. "(The DSA) used to be very fringe when I started to get involved. Now it's consensus, especially here at Earth Day." Among a number of local issues, rent control has been a hot topic at DSA Sacramento chapter meetings. "It's going to blow. The current situation is unsustainable and I don't think renters are going to get displaced so willingly. There's a movement now demanding stabilization."

Ben Arriaga, who also helped table for DSA, said when it came to the topic of rent control at a recent meeting held at Organize Sacramento, it was standing-room only. "I feel that was the biggest meeting; we ran out of chairs. That's what happens with capitalism when (landlords) earn on the fact that they own (property) and get to own it."



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