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East Sacramento News

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East Sacramento residents needed for United Way's Day of Caring

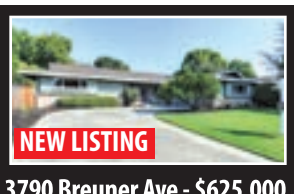
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SPLIT SHIFT

How collaborative divorce is changing the game

By JESSICA LASKEY

When CPA Steve Rutlen was going through a litigious divorce, he couldn't help but think that there had to be a better way to deal with the dissolution of a marriage than the adversarial act he was going through.

"I was a partner in a multi-billion-dollar accounting firm but when I sat across from my litigation attorney, I realized I didn't know anything about the divorce process," Rutlen says. "The further I got into the long, drawn-out legal proceedings—and essentially transferred the amount of my kids' college tuition to our attorneys in fees—I thought, 'This is wrong. There has to be a better way.'"

Disappointed by the broken system, Rutlen went searching for that "better way" and found it in collaborative divorce, a process created in Minneapolis in 1990 by an attorney who was sick of the legal battles and high emotional toll he was seeing with his divorce clients.

"Collaborative," by contrast, takes the adversarial element away and instead equips the divorcing couple with a team of experts—attorneys, financial analysts, mental health professionals and child specialists—to help lead them through the process outside the court system.

"The hardest working people on the team are the divorcing couple," says Hal Bartholomew, a family law attorney based in East Sacramento who co-founded the Sacramento Collaborative Practice Group (SCPG) in 1997 when he, too, grew weary of the difficult divorce battles he was witnessing daily. "It took two of you to get into the marriage, so why aren't the two of you working actively to resolve issues instead of turning it over to some stranger (a judge) to make decisions for you?"

It was the SCPG, in fact, that helped Rutlen decide to add Certified Divorce Financial Analyst to his title and become a valuable member of many collaborative teams.

"I started to train in collaborative with SCPG in the midst of my divorce," Rutlen says. "All I do now as a CPA is divorce financial consulting—but only with couples going through collaborative or mediation. Litigation is too damaging to a family. It breaks down what little communication there was between the couple. Collaborative, on the other hand, encourages the couple to talk. We sit in dialogue instead of in battle."

Rutlen was so inspired by his own transformational experience that he decided others should have the same opportunity. With the help of the SCPG, Rutlen founded Divorce Options Workshops, a series of informational seminars held on the second Saturday of every month that curious couples can attend to learn more about the collaborative process.

"What we're finding with the workshops is that when couples hear the information at the same time and presented in a neutral format, it encourages them to explore collaborative as a welcome alternative," Bartholomew says, who still serves as the president of the SCPG and was the co-founder and first president of the statewide organization Collaborative Practice California.



Hal Bartholomew, a family law attorney based in East Sacramento, co-founded the Sacramento Collaborative Practice Group in 1997.

Rutlen has been delighted by the positive response the workshops have received—sessions are now offered throughout California as well as in 11 other states and overseas in Israel and Australia—and is consistently amazed by how much collaborative improves a divorcing couple's satisfaction when all is said and done.

"As the 'financial neutral,' I help a couple gain a better understanding of what their financial picture looks like," Rutlen explains. "Typically, one spouse is the financial manager in the household, so the other spouse—who has never been involved and is now being asked to make decisions that will affect the rest of their life—feels absolute fear. My job is to help both parties become equally financially savvy so both are better situated to negotiate how to divide things up. I'm here to take them by the hand and help them take baby steps."

"It's all based on the interests of the couple," Bartholomew affirms. "We're here to educate and guide people through a respectful process. A couple might not come out singing 'Kumbaya,' but they definitely don't have to hate each other."

For more information about collaborative practice, the Sacramento Collaborative Practice Group and Divorce Options Workshops, visit divorceoption.com. Questions? Call East Sacramento-based attorney Bartholomew at 455-5200.

Fundraiser for Borys Prysiazhnyi brings in $1,685

Photos by MONICA STARK









Many neighbors from the East Sacramento community and beyond came together at Compton's Market on Saturday, Sept. 9 to support Borys Prysiazhnyi, a chauffeur for Coastal Breeze Limo Service, who is in need of a kidney transplant. The final tally from the fundraiser at Compton's Market for Borys Prysiazhnyi came to $1,685. According to the GoFundMe, which can be found at <gofundme.com/help-borys-prysiazhnyi-heal>, a total of $5,000 is needed.

Tears poured out of Borys' eyes as he accepted a check at a ceremony at the market. Twist N Shout and Barry the Balloon Man provided balloon twisting to support Borys; Dragonfly Arts provided facepainting for a fee and Fabrizio traveled from South Lake Tahoe to provide music -- all at your neighborhood store, Compton's Market. Borys' sister is giving her kidney to Borys, which will be done at UC Davis in November. UCD Medical Center removed his kidney last year due to cancer. If no more cancer is found in October, then UCD will begin the process for the donation from his sister, who lives in the Ukraine. Due to these extremities, Borys is unable to hold a full time job due to dialysis.

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LIFE IN THE VILLAGE

By JAN DALSKE
East Sacramento News

It was November and the weather had suddenly turned colder. Our mom had started checking to make sure that when we left to walk to school in the morning we all had on a warm coat. She grew up in Wisconsin, and never wanted us to be cold like she was when she walked to school as a young girl. I think that she was remembering the days when she did not have a coat to wear.

She was from a large family. There were twenty children, ten boys and ten girls. There were three sets of twins. So, her mother, my grandma Amelia, did not work. She had enough work to do at home. Her father, my grandpa, was a truck driver. Those coats and shoes were better than toys.

Whenever our parents told us stories about when they were young, we felt very lucky that we had so many things that they never had. We had a nice new house to live in. We had comfortable beds to sleep in. And, my mom always made sure that we had clean clothes to wear. She even sewed some of our clothes for us. She was a great seamstress. One of the first things I remember her making on her sewing machine were the curtains for our new house living room window, and our bedroom window curtains.

Timothy, Rodney and I buttoned up our warm coats and started walking toward our school. Pretty soon we noticed other kids from the houses on our street coming out of their houses to walk with us. Some of them were talking about Halloween and all of the candy and treats they had received from going out Trick or Treating. We did not add anything to the conversation. Rodney gave me a smile because I knew about his plan to ask our parents about going out next year. Maybe then we could join in their conversation.

Since the weather was so chilly the teachers decided that we should all stay in when it was recess time. So, we played games in the classroom after we finished eating our lunches. That was fun but different. When we were in the classroom, it was for studying and working on our assignments, not playing games. As soon as the bell rang at the end of the day, we all rushed out the door of the classroom. We were in a hurry to get home. School wasn't that bad, we just wanted to get home and see our families.

I know that our mom was always glad when we came home after school. I know she missed us and it was probably very quiet with three of us missing. Linda, Rita and Wayne probably got into a lot of trouble without the older kids keeping an eye on them. I am pretty sure that Wayne was in his playpen most of the day because he was the baby and he needed to be somewhere that he could be watched.

Linda and Rita probably played with their toys in the living room where Wayne's playpen was placed. That way our mom could keep an on eye on everyone as she worked in the kitchen or while she was going in and out of the garage doing the laundry. Dad had recently brought home a used electric dryer for our mom to dry the laundry. Since it was winter she could not hang the wash on the clothesline any more.

Linda did not want Rita to touch her new doll, and so she kept it with her everywhere she went. My mom had told us we would be having another little brother or sister very soon. We already knew that because our mother's tummy had been getting bigger. There were three boys: Rodney, Timothy and Wayne. And there were just as many girls: Me, Linda and Rita. So, the new baby would break the tie.

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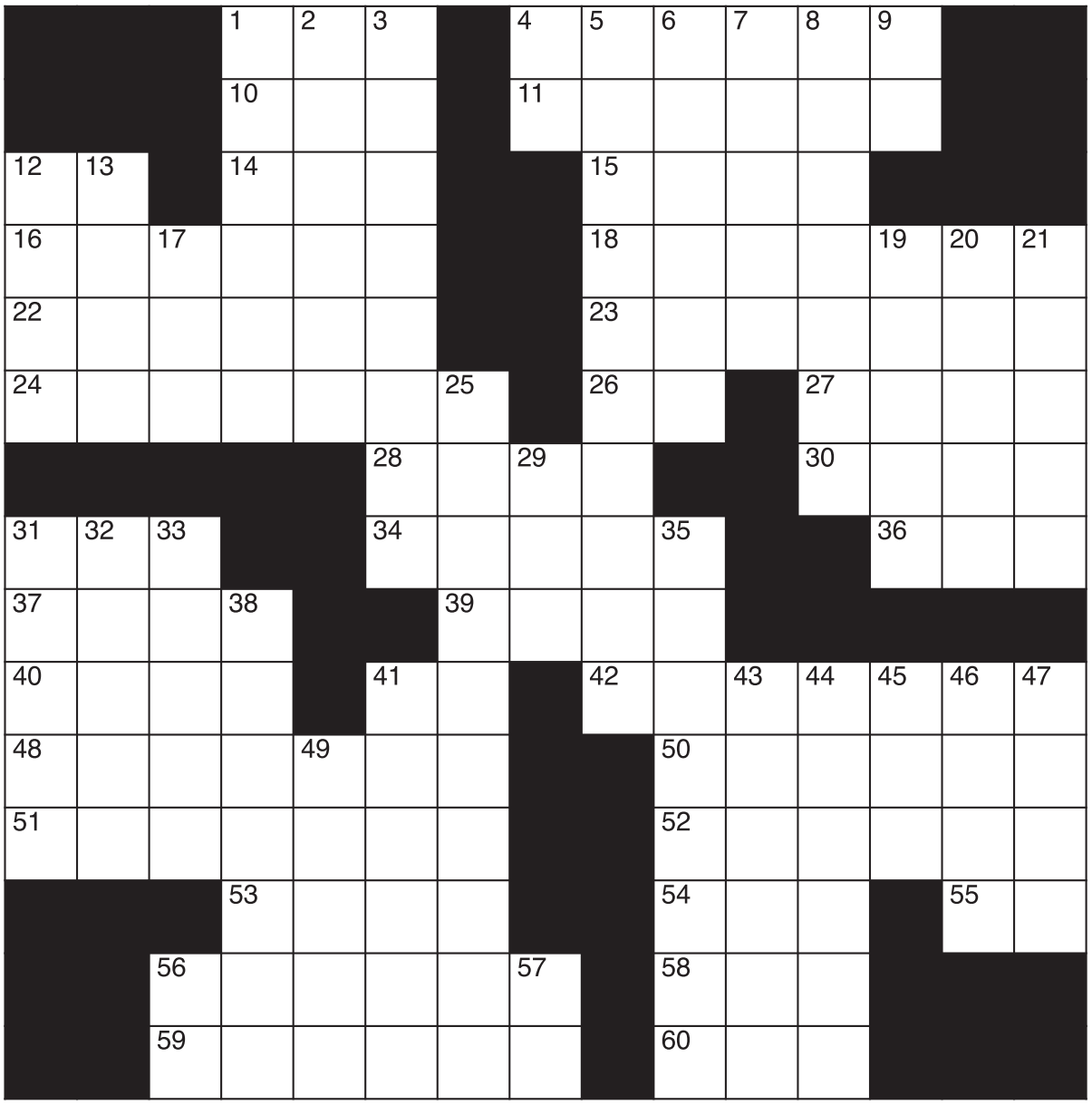
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CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

1. Storage device
4. Disagree with
10. Political organization
11. Playoff appearances
12. Collection of cops
14. Balkan mountain peak
15. Island north of Guam
16. Seizure of someone's property
18. Repeat
22. Beautiful youth
23. Bullfighters
24. Charges a fare
26. Not off
27. Where skaters ply their trade
28. Meson
30. Guru
31. Cycles/second
34. Alternating turns
36. Soviet Socialist Republic
37. Mound
39. Boxer Amir
40. Away from wind
41. Exist
42. Working man
48. British soldier
50. Scrounge
51. Upset
52. The act of escaping
53. Poet Pound
54. Confederate general
55. Midway between south and east
56. Becomes hot from the sun
58. Fictitious poet Mailey
59. Not yet purchased
60. Intersperse

CLUES DOWN

1. Bathing suit
2. Poignantly different from what was expected
3. A person with the same name as another
4. West Siberian river
5. Of the membrane lining the abdominal cavity
6. Has a positive electric charge
7. Fish-eating mammal of the weasel family
8. Offerers
9. Spanish be
12. Chilean province Capitan __
13. Father
17. Pestilence
19. Songs
20. Grilling tools
21. Long, winding ridge of sand and gravel
25. Court game
29. __kosh, near Lake Winnebago
31. Variety of beet
32. Caps
33. Rides in the snow
35. Took without permission
38. Tall stand to hold books
41. Spanish neighborhood
43. Spanish dance
44. Countries of Asia
45. Make fun of
46. Elk Grove High School
47. Network of nerves
49. Greek apertifs
56. Unit of volume
57. South Dakota



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Door to Door

with PAT LYNCH

When our family went on car trips our mother often said, "Look up, look up." This was so we could avoid seeing the beer cans, soda bottles, crumpled papers, cigarette butts, discarded food and other sometimes unidentifiable garbage that befouled the roadways. It was a disgrace, she said, and the people who tossed their refuse or dropped it on the ground were, of course, disgraceful. This was to be without grace, and grace was the thing that lifted us up and made us share, gave us good manners and good habits. People who had grace were considerate of others. They didn't spoil the view.

So we didn't throw our banana peels out the car window. Once in Calaveras we saw and heard two adults complaining loudly about a trash-splattered meadow. "Why don't they do something?" our mother muttered, and I recall thinking that if she didn't have seven kids to keep track of, she'd have cleaned the meadow herself. We took seriously the "Don't be a Litterbug" campaign inspired by early environmentalists, (though Eileen, our youngest, misheard it and thought it said, (Don't be a Little Bug.) Our mother wasn't crazy about billboards either, and liked to recite Ogden Nash's verse: I think that I shall never see/A billboard lovely as a tree./ Indeed, unless the billboards fall/ I'll never see a tree at all."

By the late sixties we elder kids had entered our generation's roistering critique of president Lyndon Johnson and the Vietnam war. Our parents largely agreed, in part because they feared the draft would take one of our brothers. But our mother insisted on one thing: "Don't tell me I can't like Lady Bird," she said. "Because I like Lady Bird Johnson." The first lady had made highway beautification and recovery of natural habitat her mission, and though comedians made great mock of her Texas drawl and her cause, she persisted.

The Outdoor Advertising Association of America defeated her first effort—the Highway Beautification Act. LBJ reacted strongly. "You know, I love that woman," he proclaimed to his cabinet. "And by God, we're going to get it for her." (New York Times, 2007). Lady Bird's bill finally passed, 245 to 138. Thus began an enhanced national consciousness, abetted by fines, and now you can drive to breathtaking Yosemite or tour the New England fall colors without having to 'look up, look up' to avoid squalor.

You saw the improvement everywhere, in national parks, local parks, on the highways and byways of our vast sprawl of homeland. Lady Bird woke us up and got us to clean house. And once we did that we instituted a permanent new aesthetic for our public places—they had to be kept clean and inviting. She was an old school preservationist, of course, which means she was really a visionary and a futurist, and we enjoy the realization of her vision today. So here's a nod to Lady Bird.

But sometimes high standards are hard to maintain. Our iconic and lovely McKinley park, for example, has declined. Encamped and transient park users defile it with discarded needles, waste, condoms, garbage, soiled clothing and other detritus. Some of the people who abuse the park environment are destitute, others can afford spray cans for graffiti.

It is, as my mother would have said, a disgrace. The charming haven she enjoyed, with its celebrated rose garden, library and pond, is besieged, and shows it. One day at dusk I saw a stained paper bag tumble down a green slope. I went to retrieve it, then recoiled. Urine soaked underwear sagged out, giving it a soggy stench. I backed off. Okay, I fled.

I don't know enough about the homeless to characterize them as a group. I know some are mentally ill, some are parolees, many are drug addicts, a few are younger runaways. And I know that their presence has burdened the park and driven some neighbors away.

Another citizen has confronted McKinley's deterioration in a more forthright manner. After frequently calling 311 to report park violations (and receiving no response), Will Green decided to act. Armed with rubber gloves and a tall trash grabber, he patrols the park, picks up refuse, drops it in the cans. "It's a mission for me," he says. "I'm so visually wired, and when I saw the park getting so degraded I had to do something." Green is a retired physician, so he knows the biological hazard that lurks in some of the refuse. "I'm out there every day," he says. On weekends he is joined by Martin Palomar.

Green is so committed to his mission that he has designed and wears a blue tee-shirt that states U 2 CAN HELP; it features the image of a person discarding trash. Green, too, is a preservationist visionary (and former co-founder and current board member of East Sacramento Preservation), and is able to see not merely what is wrong with a situation, but how to make it right. He is unusual in that he steps in.

Psychiatry was his medical specialty and he says that most of the park abusers are indeed homeless and suffer mental illness. The arena pushed some of them out of downtown and into East Sacramento where our parks become refuge. Add drug addiction to the mental illness and you have a recipe for personal disaster. But Green doesn't go to the park to treat or reprimand. Instead he brings water bottles and blankets and picks up the trash. This is public service that produces immediate and needed results, for the day. But he's out there the next day too, and the next, and the next. Sometimes he returns in the evenings. Palomar joins him every weekend, and sometimes they both return in the evening. While the City ponders building pet-friendly homeless shelters for winter, these two guys rescue our park. Nobody asked them to do it, nobody forced them, nobody pays them. They serve because they saw the need. It reminds me of what Martin Luther King said: "Everybody can be great…because anybody can serve…You only need a heart full of grace."



RedRover celebrates 30 years, national headquarters stationed in East Sac

By ELLEN COCHRANE
ellen@valcomenws.com

The next time you head over to Pete's or Starbucks on J and 38th in East Sacramento take a look across the street. On the bottom floor of the unassuming medical building is the national headquarters for one of the nation's first-responder organizations for animals in crisis—RedRover.RedRover's mission is to bring animals out of crisis and strengthen the bond between them and people. They do this with a triad of humane support programs—disaster response teams, financial relief for animal care and a social-emotional learning reading program focused on the humane treatment of animals. All this was founded and headquartered right here in Sacramento.

RedRover Responders

When hurricanes Irma and Harvey roared in the RedRover Responders were ready for them. The SPCA of Texas asked RedRover to help with the temporary sheltering of animals displaced by Harvey. Volunteers were on the ground every day during the crisis setting up temporary kennels and cages, organizing donated supplies, feeding and walking the animals and providing comfort when they needed it the most. In Florida, RedRover is doing the same.

During major natural disasters The Responders work with law enforcement, local agencies and animal organizations to provide lifesaving care and shelter for animals displaced by natural disasters. (Sadly, the team will also respond to cruelty and neglect cases.) The all volunteer corps is committed to helping animals in need and are the backbone of these efforts. This program is often described as the "Red Cross for animals."

RedRover Relief

Sometimes comfort is not enough. The cost of an animal emergency can overwhelm family finances. RedRover Relief has helped thousands of animals by giving financial assistance, resources and emotional support to families. Relief goes to the heart of the problem and gives help where it's needed most: helping pet owners care, emotionally and financially, for companion animals in life-threatening situations.

Part of this work includes supporting programs that focus on human victims. When women and men flee to shelters to escape abusive homes they can take their children and some belongings. They cannot usually take their pets.

Red Rover Relief provides grants to help victims of domestic violence escape abusive environments with their beloved pets. Domestic violence offenders often have a pattern of abusing all members of the household – including children and pets. It is estimated that as many as 65 percent of domestic violence victims stay in abusive homes or delay leaving because of concern for the safety of their pets. Relief helps women and men leave an abusive situation and know that their pets will also find temporary shelter, with with them or in a foster home.

The organization partners with non-profits like Sacramento's WEAVE to provide grants to assist the victims and in some cases to build co-shelters that can house the animals until the humans find a safe haven.

RedRover Readers

Neuroscientists say that empathy is hard-wired into our brains. But some children need structure and nurture to bring out their best empathetic selves. The Readers program helps elementary school children understand the emotional states of others, develop the skills needed for empathy and explore the bond between people and animals through select stories and discussion about animals.

Teachers and educators trained in the RedRover Readers curriculum read to children and lead discussions – helping children increase their level of empathy for people and animals. RedRover has offered this program to districts pro bono for many years.

Sacramento City Unified embraces the program. "Social Emotional Learning is fundamental to advancing equity work in Sacramento City Unified School District. SEL programs, such as Red Rover Readers, are one of the many ways to build SEL skills in order to support equitable outcomes for all," said teacher, Janet Maira. "The RedRover Readers program is fantastic and a great resource for accessing Social and Emotional Learning through literature."

Second grade teacher, Sarah Kesty, 2014-2015 Teacher of the Year, Twin Rivers School District explains how children are affected. "The program is able to change perspectives. The kids no longer throw rocks at cats. They say… I never thought of it from the cat's perspective... this makes me want to be a better brother."

Anniversary

Thirty years ago in South Land Park Belton Mouras helped start United Animal Nations to provide emergency shelter, disaster relief and financial assistance for animals in crisis situations across the globe. Mouras, a World War II veteran, devoted his life to caring for and writing about animals. In the early 2000s, the organization streamlined its work and took on the new name, RedRover. Today there are more than 50,000 members with a publication circulation of more than 700,000. "It's best to make the best change where we live," says Karly Noel, RedRover Education Manager. At RedRover I love that I get to blend my three passions – children, education and animals – into the work I do.

Three decades of empathy, down to earth help and growth. RedRover is the real deal. If you'd like to be trained to help, join or just learn more, visit RedRover.org or Come. Sit. Celebrate. The anniversary party is on Thursday, Sept. 28, 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Sactown Union Brewery, 1210 66th St. B, Sacramento, CA 95819. One dollar of every pint purchased goes to RedRover.

The Responders

- 180 deployments, 84 of which have been natural disasters
- Been to 38 states and provinces, as well as Japan and Poland
- Held more than 340 volunteer training workshops
- Trained more than 9,000 volunteers

The Readers

- Ten years of free curriculum and work with children
- Reached more than 67,000 children,
- Read with 501 different classrooms or groups
- Served 195 different schools nationwide and in lower Canada.
- More than 1,220 teachers, humane educators and volunteers trained

The Relief

- Vet emergency money
- Domestic violence, safe escape, working with human shelters,
- Grants for people and animals in crisis
- Non-profit partnering





Photos by Lance Armstrong

This 100-foot mural is located on the west side of the building that houses Urijah Faber's Ultimate Fitness. It was painted by Sacramento artist David Garibaldi and several other artists.

East Sacramento's Urijah Faber presents new gym to community

20,000-square-foot facility offers workout equipment, classes, training, more

By LANCE ARMSTRONG
lance@valcomnews.com

East Sacramento resident and mixed martial artist (MMA) pioneer Urijah Faber held the grand opening of his new gym, near California State University, Sacramento, on Sept. 16.

Known as Urijah Faber's Ultimate Fitness, the 20,000-square-foot facility at 6700 Folsom Blvd. is a one-stop gym for workouts, classes, and training with notable trainers. Faber previously had a smaller gym in midtown Sacramento.

Members of the new gym can participate in indoor cycling, yoga, wrestling, boxing, kickboxing, cardio, boot camp, Muy Thai, jiu jitsu, and more than 50 classes per week.

The place also offers saunas, massage, physical therapy, a café and outdoor and upstairs areas.

Faber, who won the World Extreme Cagefighting Featherweight Championship in 2006 and held that title for more than two years, commented about the grand opening of the business, which held its soft opening on June 12.

"Today was our official grand opening," he said. "We've been open to the public and taking memberships for a while, but this is just a big, kind of finished product celebration.

"People know about Sacramento, they know about me, they know about mixed martial arts, but having this gym showcased was a great day for all of us. It's one thing to hear about something or know about something, but it's an-

See Faber, page 9



Exercise bicycles are among the many pieces of exercise equipment at Urijah Faber's Ultimate Fitness.

Faber:

Continued from page 8

other to experience it, and I felt like people were really able to experience the new facility and what we're all about."

Attendees of the grand opening were presented with opportunities to meet Faber, tour the gym, participate in games and activities, listen to live music, view live, interactive demonstrations and martial arts exhibitions, and observe Sacramento artist David Garibaldi's unveiling of a 100-foot, six-frame wall mural.

The event also included membership specials and meet-and-greet sessions with Team Alpha Male, the mixed martial arts team that is based out of Faber's gym.

Faber said that the new gym is a very significant upgrade from his former facility.

"It has the same energy and the same kind of mentality (as the previous gym), but it's a brand new, state-of-the-art facility," he said. "All the finishes are top notch and the people that are here are doing a bunch of different things to get in shape, whether it be mixed martial arts related or general fitness. We have TRX (Total Resistance eXercise), we have CrossFit and we have yoga. There are so many things that we are offering at this gym that we didn't necessarily (have) at the other, and so that's making it pretty unique."

Former East Sacramento resident Dustin Soderman, who was visiting the gym with his children, Chloe and Cooper, said that he appreciates the family atmosphere of the place.

"I think that Urijah has done a great job with bringing the community together and I think that this is a gym that's not only just for MMA fighters, it's for people who just want to get fit, and kids also can come work out, so it's a good family atmosphere."

Another visitor of the gym, south Sacramento resident Nicole Wray, expressed excitement for the diverse opportunities that the gym presents for working out.

"It's massive and it's a totally different feel than other gyms," she said. "This gym has everything you need to get fit, and it offers more of the stuff that I'm into. I'm not really into the weightlifting, but I'm into the body toning, which everything in here is cardio. So, this gym has a lot of stuff that I would use."

Josh Espley, the gym's general manager and CEO of Team Alpha Male, said that the community's excitement for the new gym is very apparent, as the facility already has about 1,500 members. And he noted that further growth will lead to an expansion of the place.

"We're going to expand once we get to 2,000 (to) 2,500 members," he said. "We will expand in this structure, taking over some of the neighbors here and working it that way."

Faber extended his invitation for people to come to his new gym.

"I would love for anybody in the greater Sacramento area, whether it takes a little commute or you can just ride your bike, to just come and check us out," he said. "Try some classes, bring your friends, bring your family, check out the café, and enjoy the fine finishes that I take a lot of pride in with the wood and the curriculum that we offer. (Come) be a part of what we created – something that's very unique and it's right here in Sacramento."



Uriah Faber is joined by visitors of his new gym.



A mermaid and a pirate were among the special guests in the children's area at the event.

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Tahoe Park residents to open Hop Gardens Taproom by the second week of October

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

Walls have fallen and with construction now underway over at the Hop Gardens Taproom in Curtis Park, the projected opening for this family-oriented beer hall is set to open by the second week of October. To gradually open without notice, a grand opening celebration will soon follow a few weeks later, said co-owner Matt Hawkins. Joining wife Jeannine and father Pete, Matt said the family-run business will feature unique ales, lagers – "the beers in Sacramento that no body else is bringing."

The location of the former Coffee Garden, 2904-2906 Franklin Blvd.., features a huge back patio with just over 3,000 square feet, which Matt says will include a full size bocci court and a chalkboard play area for the kids.

While primarily a taproom, Hop Gardens Taproom will also serve wood-burning pizza made in an oven from Andrea Mugnaini who Sonoma Magazine calls the maker of the "Rolls Royce of pizza ovens", a prized possession used at successful local eateries like Masullo Pizza on Riverside Boulevard.

Creating an upscale beerhall with community-driven pub style tables inside and a garden atmosphere outside Matt says will separate Hop Gardens from other taprooms around town, as they will add food and activities for kids. "A lot of the places that you go to that have really good craft beer, they don't really specialize in food so you're kind of left with mom and dad go out, but the kids can't. The back patio will be more picnic style for people to sit around drink beer, watch bocci ball, eat pizza."

A home brewer at heart, Matt says time has passed for his former dream of opening up a brewery. Others "certainly make beer a lot better than I ever did, so … " he trails off, chuckling and changing the subject.

A fan of simpler hops variations, he says he'll travel as far north as Portland and as far south as San Diego. "I just like what they bring. They have simple concepts in terms of their hops and the variations that they work with. Not to say there is anything wrong with Sacramento. I love every Sacramento brewery there is. There's so many good ones here, but I am really looking for the stuff you don't see on your tap everyday …. I am looking for that rare batch somebody made that maybe they're not shipping out to the public. We're going to find a way to get that stuff in our taproom."

Heeding the advisory cliché – don't quit your day job – Matt's not giving up on the flooring company he owns, Focus Flooring; Jeannine is not leaving her job as a lawyer. Instead, they're leaving it up to the professionals – leaving it those with the same passion who can help run the taproom. His dad Pete Hawkins, now retired, will help with daily duties and joining their team will be "people who know what they are doing in terms of the restaurant stuff... There are a lot of foodies in my family, but no pizza makers."

Involved with "beer stuff" for the last decade or so, back in his 20s, Matt says his passion about craft beer never wavered. "There weren't a lot of breweries out there and I thought that was what I wanted to do in Sacramento, but then I saw taprooms pop up and thought, okay, well I can kind of coincide with that. I'll just do something a little bit different and I've been talking about this for awhile. I figured I'd pull the trigger because about a year and a half ago when my father said, 'Hey, if you're serious about this taproom thing, I'd be interested in getting involved, but I'm only interested in one location. I said, 'Okay, well, what location is that?' And, we went down and looked at it, and I told him: 'Dad, I'm in; let's do it.' And we went from there."

Matt says as his father has been retired, he's had to find something to keep busy and this project in particular has been enjoyable. "He's had a lot of fun putting the project together, tearing down walls," he said.

The garden area out back could be space available for private events with a capacity of about 150 people, and as there would be enough real estate inside for customers, the business could keep its regular flow of beer consumption.

For those who remember the layout of the Coffee Garden and the overflow space at the adjacent address, the wall behind the old pay counter has been taken out, essentially doubling the communal space for the taproom. "Almost everything in this place will be brand-spanking new," Matt says. "We've cleaned up the garden area; we've replastered the walls; we're keeping a lot of the flowers, getting newer pots. We'll be using wine barrels with hops going up the side, creating a much cleaner look."

Residents of Tahoe Park, Matt and Jeannine live nearby and look forward to the further revitalization of Curtis Park. "It's such a nice area and it's slowly starting to come back the same way that Oak Park is. We're hoping people move into this area, develop it and before you know it we have a nice community with different kinds of restaurants."

While Rubicon Brewing Company announced their closure last month after competition in the local brewing market, Matt says he has no worries for his own business. "Not in the location I'm in. I'll be honest with you. Not to sound arrogant or anything, I love taprooms, I love beer and I love different atmospheres. I get this super warm feeling when I walk into the Hop Gardens and I know as a beer drinker myself and a pizza lover, if I went in there, I would not want to leave that place. I know some of my friends say, 'Matt this is it.' We're pretty confident with what we're going to put together."

Stay tuned for news about a grand opening celebration as it nears.

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El Coro: The first bilingual community chorus announced and all are welcome to join

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com



Marie Acosta, Director of The Latino Center of Art and Culture

The Latino Center of Art and Culture announces the formation of Sacramento's first bilingual community chorus. In partnership with La Familia Counseling Center and Casa de Español and funded by the California Arts Council, El Coro will revive songs from the Chicano Civil Rights Movement and other social movements from Latin America and the United States. The Coro will be directed by the outstanding vocalist Dinorah Klingler and her musical partner, Carlos Mario Kandia. The Coro songs are in Spanish, English and Spanglish.

As LCAC Director Marie Acosta has said, "We are immensely excited to bring songs from our activist legacy to our current political climate. Music heals, unites and inspires."

El Coro especially seeks Latino Baby Boomers who remember the songs from the 1960s and '70s that inspired and informed students, farmworkers and community activists, but all ages are welcome.

El Coro will interpret well-known songs including: "Quihubo Raza!" ("What's Happening, People!"), "El Picket Sign," "No Nos Moveran," "Huelga En General," "Un Son Para Mi Pueblo" along with songs from the same era-- "Give Peace a Chance," "We Shall Overcome" and "Blowin' In the Wind."

Historically performed on the backs of pick-up trucks, in labor halls, at demonstrations, at student gatherings during the era of the Delano Grape Strike and Boycott and Cesar Chavez's 300-mile march from Delano to Sacramento, these songs, Acosta recalls symbolized the strength of community that arose out of the activism of the day." We'd perform for farmworkers out in the fields. They were very powerful messages and there was such a great response from these songs."

Two of her favorite protest songs of the time include "Quihubo Raza!" and "Que Vivan Los Estudiantes (Long Live the Students)". Quihubo Raza! discusses "identities as Latinos and the pride we have about being Latino and the contributions we make as Latinos" while "Que Vivan Los Estudiantes", Acosta feels, is "so appropriate for today for DACA, our Dreamer students."

Asked about the motivation behind the formation of El Coro, Acosta senses energy from the youth who are responding to a series of actions taken recently by the Trump administration. "There's a sense of purpose. The 'I' is less important than the 'We'. There's a community that expands beyond our boundaries of Sacramento and there's an international sense of urgency."

El Coro may participate in local protests or cultural events if called upon, Acosta said. "And, today a lot of people feel it's important to go to demonstrations and participate in those, but after that, what? This is a way for people to continue their activism through song with these words; many of (the songs) are in the Smithsonian (Folkways Recordings)."

When the grant proposal was due to the California Arts Council for a new program called Artists Activating Community, Acosta said the timing was inspiring. "It was right after the elections, and I started thinking there has to be a way through the arts we can address this situation that has so many of us in angst and stress." Coincidentally, for many years, she had wanted to revive the songs from the Chicano Civil Rights Movement, which she participated in both Mexico and the United States. "They were such inspiring songs. They built community and they strengthened our efforts and our resolve and they added continuity to what we were doing at the time."

During that time period, Acosta worked with the famed El Teatro Campesino (*The Farmworkers' Theater)* in California and in Mexico with a group called Teatro Los Mascarones (*The Maskers Theater*).

She recalls her experiences during "El Movimiento" traveling to college campuses or participating in demonstrations in host towns. "The catchiest way to get people into the marches was with these tunes. I've seen them in action. I had that purpose myself. There was a sense that as cultural workers we were able to contribute to an important cause that would affect our families and children for years. One of the other reasons is that many of my peers are Latino Baby Boomers and have great memories of Chicano activists and 'El Movimiento.' That piece of our history is considered in the past, but it speaks to the now. And many of my peers said, 'Yes, let's bring those songs back.'"

A special holiday performance at the Guild Theatre is planned with Spanish language Christmas favorites – an event that like the traditional Mexican Posadas will play out Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem in their search for a place to stay for the birth of baby Jesus. Posadas are held in neighborhoods across Mexico and this year's Posada will occur along the Broadway Triangle with a big fiesta ending at the Guild. Songs will be sung along the way.

While auditions have been announced, there will be no cuts to El Coro. "The purpose is to hear people, to hear the kind of range of the people we have. We hope to do harmonies; soloists, musicians will join us. I know people will think they can't sing in front of people. But that's not true, everyone can sing. This isn't a glee chorus. This is the people's chorus. Everyone is welcome."

Auditions for El Coro will be held on:

Sunday, Oct. 1 from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Latino Center of Art and Culture, 2700 Front St.

Tuesday, Oct. 3 from 5 to 9 p.m. at Casa de Español, 101 R St.

Wednesday, Oct. 4 from 5 to 9 p.m. at Maple Neighborhood Center, 3301 37th Ave.,

For more information, call 446-4133 or email larazagaleria@gmail.com

What's happening East Sacramento?

THURSDAY, SEPT. 21

WRITING TO HISTORY AND CULTURE WITH INDIGO MOOR, SACRAMENTO POET LAUREATE – Indigo will share readings from his three books Tap-Root, Through the Stonecutter's Window and the recently released, In the Room of Thirsts and Hungers (The Mirrored Tragedies of Paul Robeson and Othello). Indigo will read selections from each, discussing the various elements and tools used to expertly capture the south of his childhood and the history of African Americans in the Carolinas. Book sale and signing will follow the program. Thursday, September 21 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Arden-Dimick Library, 891 Watt Ave., Sacramento.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 22

THOMAS DERTHICK, STRING BASS: Faculty string bass recital of Thomas Derthick. With John Cozza, piano, and Lisa Derthick, narrator, and featuring music by Schubert, Randjbaran, Messiaen and Kurtz. Thomas Derthick is currently Principal Bassist of the Sacramento Philharmonic, Opera, Ballet and Choral Society, as well as the Cabrillo Festival, America's foremost Contemporary Music Festival. He frequently performs with the Chamber Music Society of Sacramento and has recorded and toured with the Empyrean Ensemble. Other performances include the San Francisco Symphony, San Francisco Opera, San Diego Symphony and Oregon Symphony, as well as recording work and Broadway shows. Professional solo appearances include multiple performances of the Bottesini Grand Duo Concertante and Concerto #2, the Koussevitsky Concerto and the Dragonetti C major Quintet. Tom recently performed unaccompanied bass recitals for full houses in both Sacramento and Stockton. Time: 7:30 p.m. at Sacramento State (CSUS) Music Recital Hall, 6000 J St., Capistrano Hall, Sacramento, CA 95819.

LEGO MANIA! – Like building with LEGO bricks? Join us for our monthly LEGO free-play afternoon! LEGO bricks and DUPLO LEGO bricks will be provided for this family program. Friday, September 22 from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at McKinley Library, 601 Alhambra Blvd, Sacramento.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 22-SATURDAY, SEPT. 23

VOLUNTEER FOR UNITED WAY'S DAY OF CARING– More than 1,000 local residents are needed to spend a day caring for the community Sept. 22-23 by signing up for one of dozens of volunteer projects happening at nonprofits, schools and community parks across the region during United Way's Day of Caring. The event, sponsored by Nationwide, will begin with a kickoff breakfast and rally at Cal Expo. To sign up for Day of Caring: http://www.yourlocalunitedway.org/day-caring. As part of Day of Caring, United Way is holding its Stuff the Bus campaign to collect school supplies for Robla School District in Sacramento through Sept 22. All donated school supplies will be placed in a school bus and driven to Robla School District at the end of the day. To donate to Stuff the Bus: http://www.yourlocalunitedway.org/StuffftheBus2017. Day of Caring and Stuff the Bus are part of United Way California Capital Region's Square One Project, a 20-year promise to significantly increase the number of local students who graduate from high school ready for success in college and beyond. Through nine decades of work and research across Amador, El Dorado, Sacramento, Placer and Yolo counties, United Way believes ending poverty starts in school and is working to ensure kids meet important milestones for success in college or career. To donate or volunteer: www.yourlocalunitedway.org.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 29

MINECRAFT GAMING – Love Minecraft? Come join us for an afternoon of Minecraft gaming! Players of any level of experience are welcome to join. Spots are first-come, first-served. This free, school-age program takes place Friday, September 29 from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at McKinley Library, 601 Alhambra Blvd, Sacramento.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 30

"SHAPE UP THE SHEPARD" From 8 a.m. to noon, volunteers welcome you to help mend fences or help restore the Japanese garden at the Shepard Art Garden in McKinley Park, 3330 McKinley Blvd. Clean-up days at the center are especially important now because the City of Sacramento has passed the baton for maintenance of the Shepard onto the SGAAC Board of Directors. The maintenance staff who regularly come in to clean do a minimum clean up, so they are inviting all of the clubs who depend on the Shepard to pitch in and help us spiff up this grand old building for the following weekend's annual "Fall Sale". This annual drive to "Clean up the Shepard" requires no previous experience, just a willingness to pitch in. Assistance will be needed in all areas: kitchen, storage area, main room, small room, outside patios, gardens, etc. Coffee and snacks will be provided in the morning. Any club willing to donate lunch/snacks or drinks is most appreciated. If you have cleaning supplies, rags, or paper towels that you could bring with you that would be a big help. Also, please bring your gloves and be sure to wear closed toed shoes. RSVPs to shepardgacinfo@att.net are requested, though drop-in help will also be appreciated. The check in will be at the parking lot entrance of the Shepard. Come and help for as long as you can.

BACK TO DANCE DAY AT FANCY FEET: *Free Classes- Ballet/tap/jazz/hip hop/Acro; free ice cream from the Meltdown Truck; free cookies from Lunch Box Lane; giveaways; dancing/games; face painting & princesses; 20 percent discount on shoes & attire; Saturday: 3:30 to 7:30 p.m.; location: Fancy Feet Dance Academy and Parties, 712 57th St, Sacramento, CA 95819.

PIRATE TEA PARTY – Do you like fancy tea parties? Are you a pirate at heart? Then join us for our pirate tea party! Come dressed in your favorite tea party attire or your best pirate outfit. Or both! We will serve tea and cookies, make star wands and crowns. We will also make our pirate hats, eyepatches, maps, and telescopes. Don't miss this a swashbuckling yet refined event. Family/All Ages. Saturday, September 30 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Ella K. McClatchy Library, 2112 22nd St., Sacramento.

DINNER IN THE PARK: A Carmichael gourmet affair benefitting youth scholarships and park beautification. Experience an enchanting evening in Sutter Park and Jensen Botanical Gardens, featuring celebrated chefs Mike and Molly Hawks of Hawks Restaurant & Hawks Provisions + Public House. Musical performance by renowned artist Joe Gilman and his trio. Appetizers by Carmichael's finest restaurants. 5 p.m. reception, followed by 6:30 dinner in the garden. For ticket information, call 485-5322

FRIDAY, OCT. 6-SUNDAY, OCT. 8

SACRAMENTO GREEK FESTIVAL: For more than 50 years, the Sacramento Greek Festival has shared the vibrant culture, rich food and traditions of Greece with the local community. The authentic cuisine is homemade by our volunteers with recipes from all corners of the Greek Mediterranean. The village-style atmosphere of the festival perfectly represents the historical and epic Greek passion for life, food, drink and dance. There will nearby offsite parking, a shuttle service, an Uber promotion, and a monitored bike corral area on the 30th Street side of the block. Festival hours are as follows: Friday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturday from noon to 10 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 8 p.m. 616 Alhambra Blvd., Sacramento.

SATURDAY, OCT. 7

"THE SACRAMENTO GUITAR SOCIETY PRESENTS YURI LIBERZON AND GRISHA GORYACHEV, two Russian-born virtuoso guitarists in one show! The concert is at the Harris Center in Folsom on October 7th, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the Harris Center box office, 916-608-6888 or website: www.HarrisCenter.net. Relax and enjoy some beautifully dazzling music!"

SUNDAY, OCT. 8

INTERFAITH FORUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE: Speakers from Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Christian and Unitarian Universalist faiths will explore our spiritual and moral response to climate change as supported by science. All are welcome! Bring your questions for the Q & A session. Refreshments provided; The Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento (UUSS) 1 to 3 3:15 p.m.; Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento (UUSS), 2425 Sierra Blvd, Sacramento, California 95825. For more info: uuss.org/interfaithearth Contact us at interfaithearth@uuss.org; free admission.

TUESDAY, OCT. 10

TJ HARVEST FESTIVAL: Theodore Judah PTA present the annual harvest festival from 3 to 7 p.m. on the TJ campus, 3919 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, California 95819

FRIDAY, OCT. 13

STAR WARS READS DAY – Come celebrate Star Wars Reads Day with us! We will be making our own light sabers, crafting our own Star Wars starship, making Star Wars keychains with Perler beads, and more! Don't forget to check out one of your favorite Star Wars books before you go. School Age. Friday, October 13 from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at McKinley Library, 601 Alhambra Blvd, Sacramento.

SATURDAY, OCT. 14

MAGIC AND BALLOONS WITH THE PIXIE TRIBE – Come meet the magical fairies and daring pirates of the Pixie Tribe as they astound us with a fun 30-minute magic show, where puppets will help us find clues along the way. Then stay for another hour as the Pixies will astonish us with amazing balloon creations they will make for everyone! Magic show recommended for ages 4-8. Saturday, October 14 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Ella K. McClatchy Library, 2112 22nd St., Sacramento.

FRIDAY, OCT. 20 AND SATURDAY, OCT. 21

LANTERN TOURS 2017: You're invited to the annual October evening tours with Victorian-era costumed actors for "Wild Rides" through the tombstones at the 2017 Lantern Tours of the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery presented by the Old City Cemetery Committee. Four tours per night are available on Oct. 20-21 and Oct. 28 at 7 p.m., 7:45 p.m., 8:30 p.m., and 9:15 p.m. On Oct. 27, two tours are available at 8:30 and 9:15 p.m. On a lantern-led tour through Sacramento's past, guests will meet some of the cemetery's eternal residents who will share stories of adventure and misadventures on the water, across the prairies, on trains and through Gold Rush streets. A stage show will feature riverboat entertainment at the tour's midpoint, and you will encounter riverboat gamblers and enjoy period music. Along the way, you will encounter some ghostly – or is it ghastly? – spirits. It will be a lively night in the cemetery!
Tickets for this fundraiser are $35 and available only through http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3034629. Price includes the tour, entertainment and light refreshments. Proceeds benefit cemetery preservation and maintenance, and other programs of the Old City Cemetery Committee. **Tickets on sale now.** For more information, call 916-448-0811 or 916-264-7839. The mission of the OCCC is to join hands with the community to restore, beautify, preserve, and protect the Historic City Cemetery, while maintaining access by descendants of the deceased, and to provide educational services to all visitors to the Historic City Cemetery of Sacramento. The Sacramento Historic City Cemetery is located at 1000 Broadway, Sacramento.

ONGOING

FE GALLERY PRESENTS TINY MONSTERS JURIED SHOW: It's a great big world...We live in yet some of the greatest threats come in the smallest and most deceiving packages. So FE Gallery hosts their tiny monster themed art show in tribute to the wolf in grandmother's clothes, to the bump in the night, to the monsters under our beds and to all of your most dangerous creations who lurk in a tiny frame. Tiny Monsters, Fe Gallery's national juried show, features more than 90 pieces of 2- and 3-dimensional monsters and monster stuff **now through Sept. 28.** FE Gallery is located at 1100 65th Street. Hours are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (unless Second Saturday), Sunday closed. *-Source: FE Gallery.*

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.

SAC UNIFIED POETRY SLAM: Jenny Lynn and Joe Montoya's Poetry Unplugged present The Sac Unified Poetry Slam every third Friday at Luna's, 1414 16th St., starting at 7:30 p.m. The show is unpredictable. The special guests and judges won't be known until they sign up. The slam is three rounds. This is a FREE show with purchase at the cafe, donations are encouraged to cover PSI venue dues and show staffing. $5 to slam (except youth 18 and under) winner takes the whole pot. Luna's Cafe will be serving the freshest juices and licuados in town, nothing frozen or concentrated. The menu also includes sandwiches, salads, our famous quesadilla, fresh-ground coffee, mochas, and other espresso drinks. A nice selection of beer and wine is also offered. Enjoy it all in the comfortable atmosphere of Luna's, one of this area's original cafe galleries. Supporting artists of all kinds for over 30 years.

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.

JANE AUSTEN READING GROUP AT ELLA K. MCCLATCHY LIBRARY: This monthly group reads the works of Jane Austen and meets the third Saturday of each month in the Ella K. McClatchy library from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. All Austen fans are welcome. 2112 22nd St.

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!

East Sacramento residents needed for United Way's Day of Caring



East Sacramento residents are needed to spend one day caring for their community at McKinley Park Rose Garden on Sept. 22 as part of United Way's 5th Annual Day of Caring, sponsored by Nationwide.

Forty to 80 volunteers are needed to weed, hoe, tend, deadhead and mulch the rose garden at McKinley Park from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Volunteers will be invited to attend the kickoff breakfast and rally happening at Cal Expo that morning and will receive a free Day of Caring t-shirt. To sign up for this project or another, visit www.yourlocalunitedway.org/day-caring.

The McKinley Park Rose Garden project is one of dozens of volunteer projects happening at nonprofits, schools and community parks across the region during United Way's Day of Caring, Sept. 22-23, which is seeking more than 1,000 volunteers during the two-day stretch. Last year, volunteers gave 5,450 hours through the event, which equated to more than $128,000 in volunteer time that many nonprofits, schools and groups could not have otherwise afforded.

"This is the single largest volunteer day in our region, and we hope people will be as enthusiastic about it as they are about Big Day of Giving," said Stephanie Bray, president and CEO, United Way California Capital Region. "This our chance to give big through our time and energy as we dig our hands in to help the hard-working nonprofits, parks and schools that do so much for our community every day."

Showing the regional nature of Day of Caring, East Sacramento's Law Offices of Deon R. Stein has already signed up as a project sponsor at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Placer County in Auburn and will be providing dozens of staff members to paint, clean, build shelving and landscape out at the clubhouse.

Nationwide is the presenting sponsor, and Cal Expo is the kick-off rally sponsor. Other project sponsors include Dr. Pepper Snapple Group, ESM Prep, KPMG, Nelson Staffing, SAFE Credit Union, SMUD, Social Interest Solutions, Sutter Health, Syzmanowski Orthodontics, TaxAudit.com and Zurich. Media partners include Entercom Radio's ESPN Radio 1320 AM, 98 Rock, Eagle 96.9 FM and 106.5 The End. To sponsor: www.yourlocalunitedway.org/day-caring.

As part of Day of Caring, United Way is holding its Stuff the Bus campaign to collect school supplies for Robla School District in Sacramento through Sept 22. All donated school supplies will be placed in a school bus and driven to Robla School District at the end of the day. To donate to Stuff the Bus: http://www.yourlocalunitedway.org/StufftheBus2017.

Day of Caring and Stuff the Bus are part of United Way California Capital Region's Square One Project, a 20-year promise to significantly increase the number of local students who graduate from high school ready for success in college and beyond. Through nine decades of work and research across Amador, El Dorado, Sacramento, Placer and Yolo counties, United Way believes ending poverty starts in school and is working to ensure kids meet important milestones for success in college or career. To donate or volunteer: www.yourlocalunitedway.org.

Women's Empowerment named California nonprofit of the year

100 nonprofits honored at second annual California Nonprofits Day celebration



Women's Empowerment, along with 100 nonprofits from across the state, was honored recently at the second annual California Nonprofits Day celebration. Assemblymember Kevin McCarty (D-Sacramento) named Women's Empowerment Nonprofit of the Year. The award recipients were honored at a luncheon at Sacramento's Convention Center.

"Women's Empowerment is thrilled to receive this award from Assemblymember Kevin McCarty, who truly supports our vision of breaking the cycle of homelessness for women and children in Sacramento," said Lisa Culp, executive director, Women's Empowerment. "We also are proud to receive this award with other nonprofits across the state that are working hard to improve the lives of Californians. Partnership is vital in this sector, and we were honored to stand with so many valuable organizations."

The annual California Nonprofits Day event was formally recognized by Assembly Concurrent Resolution 54, authored by the chair of the new Assembly Select Committee on the Nonprofit Sector Assemblywoman Monique Limon (D-Santa Barbara).

Women's Empowerment was featured on NBC's The TODAY Show in 2015 for offering the most comprehensive job-readiness program in the Sacramento area designed specifically for women who are homeless and their children. The award-winning organization has graduated 1,437 homeless women and their 3,500 children since 2001. Last year, 92 percent of graduates found homes, and 81 percent found jobs or enrolled in school or training. The program combines self-esteem courses, job training, health classes and support services to help homeless women across diverse ages, races and cultures. Women's Empowerment is funded through private donations from the community. To make a donation: www.womens-empowerment.org.

Sofa Sale

all sofas, loveseats, sectionals, chairs, ottomans, and recliners are on sale!*

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Leather & Fabric Choices

82"



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897185

Fabric Choices

87"



The Westside

$1279 reg$1399

931169

79"

Leather & Fabric Choices



The Tompkins

$1699 reg$1899

161385

Power Headrests

83"



The Chandler

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615478

1 Leather Choices

90"



The New Town

$1979 reg$2199

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100's of configurations

94"



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