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East Sacramento News

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Spook-Tacular in Tahoe Park returned for a second year

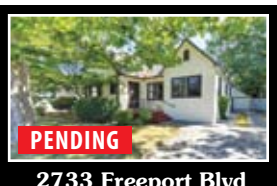
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Indigenous People's Day celebrated at Southside Park



Ida Victoria Rodriguez, seen in front of a Royal Chicano Air Force mural section, spearheaded local IPD organizing efforts.

East Sacramento News
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E-mail stories & photos to: editor@valcomnews.com
Editorial questions: (916) 267-8992

East Sacramento News is published on the first and third Thursday of the month in the area bounded by Business 80 on the west, the American River on the north and east and Highway 50 on the south.

Publisher ..... David Herburger
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Vol. XXVIII • No. 21

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Cover photo by: Steve Crowley



South Land Park

Very special 3 bed, 2 bath open floorplan home on a large lot on a great block in South Land Park. Fresh updates throughout using only the finest quality materials and craftsmanship. Spacious Great Room is perfect for entertaining, the Cook's Kitchen has exquisite granite counters and center island, skylight highlights a beautiful soaking tub, master suite features stone and tile shower, stunning hardwoods throughout, custom plantation shutters, and deep yard make this an excellent value.

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Story and photos by Joe Perfecto

Although for convenience Columbus Day (CD) was shifted in 1970 to the second Mon. in Oct., Oct. 12 marks the actual anniversary of the ocean-borne explorer's 1492 arrival in the Bahamas. This year on the 12th of that month the atmosphere above a certain chunk of ancestral Nisenan land nowadays known as Southside Park was filled with echoes—echoes of American aboriginal music, of amplified speech, of tribal chants, even of rap lyrics portraying the contemporary experience of old world peoples in this Brave New World. Echoes of the past that resonate in the present and carry portents of what the future may have in store for both mainstream society and its marginalized groups who were present across the continent for many centuries before the first European settlers arrived on the New England shore.

Unlike the modern-day celebrations that would come two days hence, the gathering from whence these echoes emanated was not in honor of that holiday's namesake but rather to recognize, celebrate and perpetuate the ways of the cultures original to not only the US but to the entirety of the Americas, from Point Barrow in the state of Alaska to Postville in Newfoundland to Punta Arenas in the Republic of Argentina, and to foster awareness of the long-standing issues many native peoples face. While its makeup will vary by geographic location (locally the focus is primarily on the Native American, Hispanic and Latino elements of the population), the annual event is in most places called Indigenous Peoples Day (IPD) to reflect this broad inclusivity.

Compared to the events in SF and LA, Sacramento's IPD was of relatively modest size and attendance. Held on a grassy expanse in front of the Robert Callahan Amphitheater, whose walls are covered with brightly-hued murals painted by the Royal Chicano Air Force in the mid-1970s and restored in 2001, it featured a handful of speakers and performers including a traditional tribal dance troupe that in keeping with cultural taboo could not be photographed, the Women's Warrior Society singing group and rapper Richie Leadereagle. Eleven booth spaces were occupied by concerns such as Missing/Murdered Women & People of California and the Shingle Springs Tribal TANF Program and vendors of assorted retail goods including medicine bags, Native American garments, Indian coffee and "fry bread"—a native comestible made of deep-fried thick dough. When toppings are added to the dense, chewy bread it becomes an "Indian Taco."

The celebration was first held 30 years ago in SD and has since spread to hundreds of US locations. Although both CD and IPD are observed in some places, rather than being intended as a companion to CD, IPD could eventually supplant it on the calendar throughout the US; such replacement first occurred in Berkeley in 1992 and subsequently spread to 129 cities, 8 counties, 11 states and the District of Columbia—with motions under review in other locales—due largely to the efforts of indigenous organizations who assert that the holiday is based in the traditional narrative presented to American schoolchildren for countless decades, which they characterize as a sanitized whitewash that reveres a man who actually perpetrated countless atrocities and never even set foot on North American soil. This effort to strike CD from the calendar, however, is just the tip of a very long arrow aimed at raising public awareness of the true legacy of not only Columbus' activities but those of the settlers that followed and the ways in which an evolving United States has traditionally approached its relations with native peoples. Their dealings with government, the tribes say, have always been lopsided, and the time to address these historic iniquities has long since arrived.

The Columbus holiday is not only a highly visible target but a symbolically significant one in that the world view Columbus held and the historically-inaccurate portrayal of his actions in the New World have been very problematic, both because of that same mentality's guiding role in the government's treatment of natives throughout the history of the US and because of the similar portrayal of this treatment.

Sacramento's inaugural IPD occurred in 2018, months after the City issued a resolution of recognition that serves as a concise summary of the aims of indigenous groups' efforts to officially replace the CD holiday with IPD, i.e. "to dispel the historical falsehood that Columbus discovered America" and to honor the "culture, heritage, and contributions of Indigenous Nations." The resolution begins with a historical overview, stating that as a result of Columbus 1492 landing, "indigenous people, the original inhabitants of this land, suffered injustice, exploitation, and genocide through slavery, forced removal, involuntary relocation, war, broken treaties, rape, and the implementation of laws and policies to support such exploits by the United States of Amer-

see INDIGENOUS page 3

Indigenous:

continued from page 2

ica." Indigenous people today, it continues, "experience psychological, intergenerational, and historical trauma and the loss of culture, language, identity, resources...." The document recognizes the Miwok, Nisenan and Maidu tribes as the area's original inhabitants and states that the city "benefits from the values and contributions by indigenous peoples' knowledge, labor, technology, science, philosophy, arts, culture, and resources that serve as its cultural foundation."

The call to dethrone Columbus originated with the UN International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas, which first proposed IPD in 1977, a dozen years before the proposal would see fruition. One of IPD's earliest activists was Bertha Nye "Grandma" Norton, born Aug. 15, 1899 in Wheatland to a Maidu father and Wintun mother. Norton lived in various locales but finally settled in Sacramento to care for her grandchildren. In 1999 Gov. Pete Wilson declared Aug. 15 "Grandma Norton Day" in honor of her decades of work. Just prior to her death in 2001, Norton was the state's oldest living Native American.

Among Norton's activist descendants is Michael Allen Ramirez, a member of the Nisenan tribe who is a park aide at the CA State Indian Museum and among the organizers of the local IPD event. "Being the great grandson of Bertha Nye Norton, I was honored to be a part of the group to finally get it [IPD] established in the city of Sacramento," Ramirez told the Land Park News between stints at the microphone during the event. "In 1997 she was named one of the founding mothers of Sacramento [and] founding grandmothers of California. So my family's been integral in the history of this state before it was part of the United States, [when] it was still under Mexican rule. Like the descent from treaty signers—even though our treaties were never ratified—which is one of the main reasons that pushes me to do these things. Because California, from the inception of the state, has ignored the [indigenous] peoples, and in very few cases [actually] acknowledged sovereignty. So, being a native son, it's important to speak for those that have been ignored and to bring to light the life of those that were the 'enemy' of this state. We're part of the history of this and we want to see the future of this; all natives want to see the future of this. This is a way to allow us to never be forgotten."

Among the day's speakers was Vice Mayor Eric Guerra, who touched upon a fundamental philosophical split between natives and "colo-

see CELEBRATED page 4



One vendor offered an assortment of Native American garments and jewelry.



An attendee looks through a collection of brightly-colored native garments decorated with traditional designs.

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Above the Fray: Woven textiles from hill-tribe regions to blanket Shepard Garden and Art Center



A baby of the Dzao ethnic group dons a protective hand-embroidered cap made by her mother. The baby carrier is indigo-dyed hands-on cotton. Ta Phin, Vietnam

Traditional Hill Tribe Art is excited to return to Sacramento for the sixth annual "Fine Silks and Tribal Art" event on Nov. 15, 16, and 17 at the Shepard Garden and Art Center (3330 McKinley Blvd). The event will be held on Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. There is no admission fee.

Above the Fray ventures to the hill-tribe regions of Laos and Vietnam to personally select the world's most exquisite hand-woven silk, cotton, and hemp textiles directly from the hill tribe artisans. A diverse selection of shawls, scarves and art is woven of village-raised materials using traditional looms. Each textile is carefully chosen for quality, precision, color-play, and charm, and a photo of the artist with that one-of-a-kind piece is often available. We also search for traditional jewelry, baskets, tools, and ritual art, with many of the items carrying the rich patina of years of village use.

The auditorium-sized event is a treasure-trove of unique handcrafted collectors and gift items and displayed information that celebrates the diverse and exquisite talents of the hill tribe peoples of Laos and Vietnam.

Above the Fray is a family business founded by couple Maren Beck and Josh Hirschstein, of Eugene, Oregon in 2007. They are the authors of "Silk Weavers of Hill Tribe Laos: Textiles, Tradition, and Well-Being", the 2018 gold-medal winner of the Benjamin Franklin Award for best travel book.

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Celebrated:

continued from page 3

nizers" concerning the nature of the environment and mankind's relationship to it. "My family de Mexico in the mountains of the Sierra Madre are from the Purépecha people, and I'm from a small town called Jerécuaro, which is the Purépecha term for 'water,'" he said. "If we don't recognize the challenges that our people are facing, then we lose the respect of water, of the environment, of the things that keep people's lives together. And so today is a great moment because we're keeping the culture [alive] and passing it down to our young kids, and I think the big legacy here is that we're making sure that in the future we do not lose [that] vital part of us. And what better place than aqui in Sacramento, where we educate so many different cultures, so many people about this issue."

Anecita Agustinez, Tribal Policy Advisor at the State Dept. of Water Resources and a member of the Navajo nation, emphasized the importance of water issues to tribal populations in a different sense. "As indigenous people we talk about sovereignty—it's culture, it's food, it's protection of fish species, it's protection of our language and protection of our water. I'm honored to work in state government in protecting those issues as priorities. When you work with the State, you have to deal with tribal water rights and what those mean for the State of California because of our history of enslavement and genocide and what happened with the treaties in California. Our tribal people know this history, but the legislators, they don't understand California history. They're not even aware that there are 18 unratified treaties, that there are over 109 federally-recognized tribes, and over 70 non-federally-recognized tribes that we work with."

A case in point is the indigenous group on whose ancestral land the local IPD event was held. Although the Nisenan tribe is acknowledged to be native to this area by scholars and local government, it is not among the 573 currently recognized by the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs and thus does not have sovereignty or access to funding or services from the Bureau.

Agustinez also addressed Gov. Newsom's recent efforts on behalf of native populations. "In April he passed Executive Order N-10-19 reprioritizing water in California. What's important for tribal people is that it also put a stop to the delta tunnels. In June he passed Executive Order N-15-19 that established a Truth and Healing Council, and also, for the very first time in state government, [issued] a formal apology from the governor to every California tribal citizen. That was acknowledging that California was built on genocide and slavery. We thought Gov. Brown was doing some im-

see SOUTHSIDE page 14

Volunteers needed to help kids read this fall



Local residents age 50 and up are needed this fall to help kids in kindergarten through third grade improve their reading through AARP Experience Corps, managed locally by United Way California Capital Region. To learn more and sign up to volunteer, visit YourLocalUnitedWay.org/Experience-Corps-Literacy-Program.

"Kids who are not reading at grade level by fourth grade are more likely to fall behind in all subjects, including math and science, making them less likely to graduate from high school," said Stephanie Bray, president and CEO, United Way California Capital Region. "This corps of volunteers is essential to ensuring our community's kids are successful."

Volunteers serve at local schools approximately two days per week for two to three hours a day throughout the school year, tutoring and tracking progress for groups of two to three students for the year. Volunteers meet monthly to share best practices and receive literacy and classroom management experience. They receive training to become mentors and role models and to hone their skills to help students reach their reading goals.

Last year, United Way's AARP Experience Corps helped 415 students with reading – 62 percent of those who were reading below grade level improved their reading and literary performance. In 2018, program participant Robla School District reported more students meeting and exceeding standards in English Language Arts compared to 2017 – the rate of annual increase was three times higher than state and county averages.

"The results are encouraging and worth the work," said Experience Corps volunteer Mary Ann Rider. "I never felt like I was cut out to be a teacher, but I felt prepared by the curriculum I had learned in our training. Plus getting to know the kids is fun. If you're looking for volunteer work, what's more important than helping a child learn to read?"

United Way California Capital Region is one of only seven nonprofits across the country helping to grow Experience Corps, the evidence-based AARP Foundation literacy program that improves the reading skills of children, enriches the lives of volunteer tutors and strengthens schools in local communities.

For nearly 100 years, United Way California Capital Region has brought local people together to make community change happen. Today, the nonprofit is bringing people together across Amador, El Dorado, Sacramento, Placer and Yolo counties for its Square One Project, a 20-year promise to significantly increase the number of students in our region who graduate from high school ready for success in college and beyond. United Way believes ending poverty starts in school and is working to ensure kids meet important milestones and their families receive support and resources. To learn more and make a donation: YourLocalUnitedWay.org.

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Faces and Places: Spook-tacular in Tahoe Park





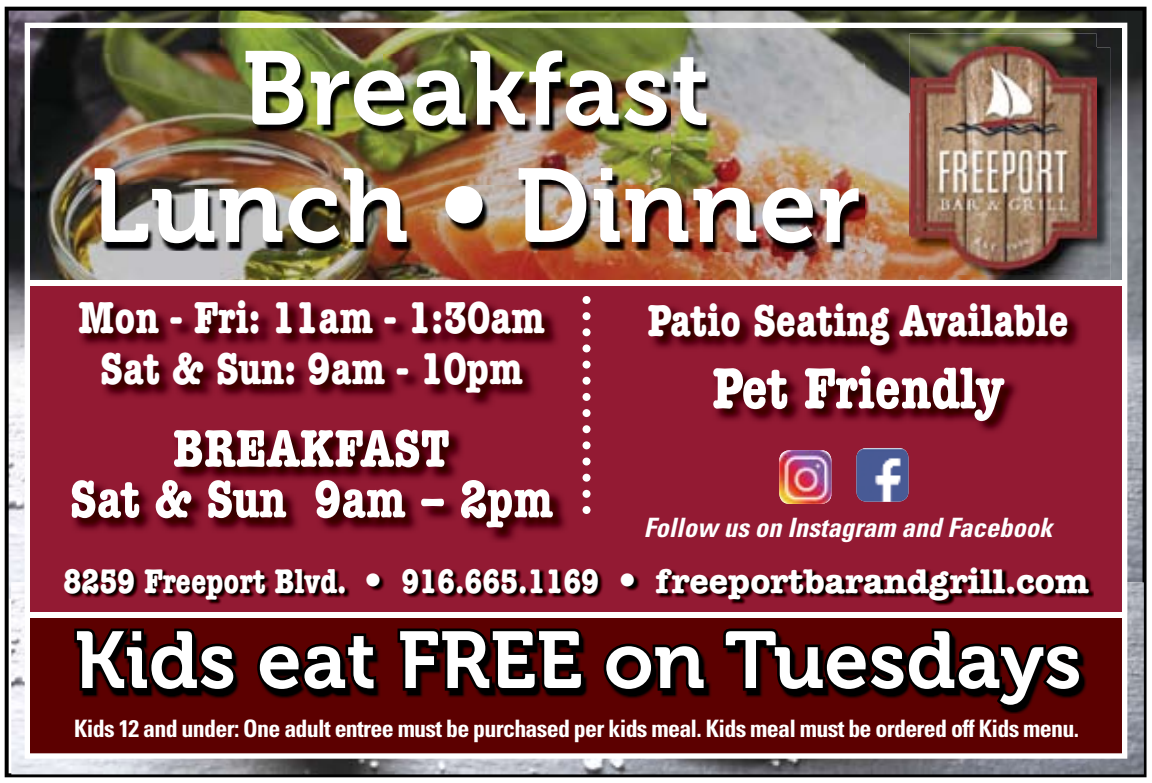
Photos by Stephen Crowley

Spook-Tacular in Tahoe Park returned for a second year on October 25. The event included games, food and family friendly Halloween fun. Sponsored by Tahoe Park Neighborhood Association, the event included a costume contest, haunted house, trick or treating, carnival games, arts and crafts, monster mash, kid activities and more. There were an assortment of food trucks to fill hungry bellies. Beers in Sac was on hand to serve beer, wine, and margaritas. *see SPOOK-TACULAR page 7*









Spook-tacular:

continued from page 6



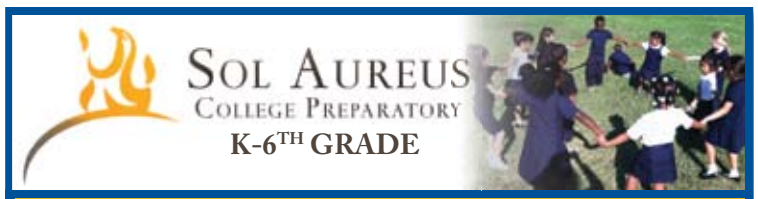












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Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

AFFILIATION
ASSISTANCE
AUDIT
BOARD
BUDGET
COMMITTEE
DEDUCTION
DONATE
DONOR
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FUNDRAISING
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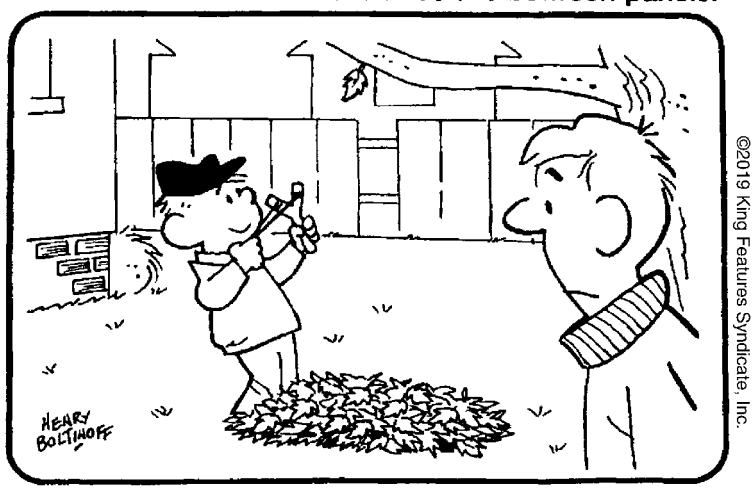
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BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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Differences: 1. Eyeglasses are missing. 2. Man's collar is different. 3. House has been added. 4. Fence slat is missing. 5. Rake is missing. 6. Bricks have been added.

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San Francisco Shakespeare Festival visited McKinley Library for a production of Macbeth





Photos by Stephen Crowley

"Something wicked this way comes" as Macbeth visited the McKinley Library on Oct. 15. San Francisco Shakespeare Festival's touring troupe staged Shakespeare's compelling drama, Macbeth. In the story, a trio of mysterious witches foretell that one day Macbeth will become the King of Scotland. Consumed by ambition and spurred to action by his wife, he works to ensure the prediction will come true. But at what cost? The hour-long performance concluded with the cast members taking questions from the audience.















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Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink Offers Lineup of Family-Friendly Activities

The Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink presented by Dignity Health at 7th and K streets is now open daily through January 20, 2020 and it's beginning to feel a lot like the holidays in downtown Sacramento.

Teaching a child to ice skate can be fun for both parent and child! Although most children do not express an interest in ice skating until they are at least three years old, any child who can walk can technically learn to skate and there's no better opportunity to get started then in the heart of Sacramento's vibrant urban core. With an exciting lineup of family-friendly activities planned for this year, there's no excuse to miss the opportunity to get into the holly-est, jolliest of moods this holiday season at the Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink!

Before you head down to start making your holiday memories, a few pro tips to ensure your ice-skating experience is a highlight of your season:

- **Dress for success:** Make sure kids are wearing tall, lightweight socks, and layers of lightweight clothes (choose sweats or leggings over jeans). But don't layer the socks!
- **Choose the right fit:** Skates need to fit snug like a ski boot and not loose like a tennis shoe. Sizes run as small as 8 youth.
- **Learn to fall:** Before they're on the ice, kids can learn how to fall down and get up. Urge them to try and fall slowly and collapse down without trying to flail. Once on the ice, skate aids can provide additional balance.

• **Princess & Superhero Day,** 12-2 p.m. Saturday, November 9

Timed perfectly with Disney on Ice at Golden 1 Center nearby, little ones can celebrate their love of fairytale princesses and comic book superheroes in costume at one of the rink's most popular events! Skate with special guests, Elsa, Ana, Batman, and Spiderman, have your face painted, and skate the day away!

• **Crafting Kindness,** 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Sundays November 10, December 8 and January 12

Skaters of all ages can learn to "Craft Kindness" with hands on craft workshops led by Capital City Beads, local artist Nicole Alvarez and more and take home a unique gift to share with family and friends.

• **Skate with Republic FC,** 1-4 p.m. Saturday, November 16

Share your passion for Sacramento's new MLS team on the ice with the Republic FC Street Team, season ticket holders, supporters and the community for a fun, family-friendly afternoon of skating from the first to final whistle.

• **Grinch Day,** 12-3 p.m. Saturday, December 14

Join Xfinity for free skating in a "Who-liday" Wonderland! Be one of the first 300 skaters and you'll not only skate for free, but also pick up exclusive grinch green earmuffs and a hot beverage courtesy of Xfinity. Don't forget to capture your "Who-liday" moment at the Xfinity photo booth and enter to win giveaways!

• **Kids Day with Sacramento Kings,** 12-2 p.m. Sunday, December 15

Kick off the holiday season with the Sacramento Kings and kid-favorite, Slamson! Bring out the family and join us for a day of fun and ice skating. For just $25, All-Star members of the Sacramento Kings Kids Club will skate for free today - and all season - in addition to receiving a kit with exclusive Kings gear and a free ticket to a Kings game! (Do not need to be an All-Star member to participate in Kids Day with the Sacramento Kings.)

• **Sports Day,** 12-2 p.m. Sunday, January 5

Enjoy the last days of the holiday break bragging for your favorite team! Wear a jersey, other clothing, and/or some accessories of your favorite sports team and take a spin with Western Health Advantage, another great way to be active, happy and healthy! Save $5 off skating admission with your Western Health Advantage ID card.

And don't forget, Storytime with the Sacramento Public Library!

Toddlers and preschoolers (3+) that participate in Storytime at the Downtown Sacramento Public Library on November 21, December 19 and January 16 are invited to head to the Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink for private skating session before the rink opens to the public at 2 p.m.

PLAN AHEAD:

Open every day, including Christmas, find information about extended holiday hours at www.GoDowntownSac.com/icerink and follow the Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink on



Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for discounts and daily updates.

General admission is $13 ($15 during holiday skate) and always just $6 for children 6 and under. Skating admission includes skate rental, sizes run as small as 8 youth. To help with balance, ice scooters are a great add on for only $5.

HOURS:

Open daily November 1, 2019 – January 20, 2020

Monday – Thursday: 2 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Friday – Sunday: 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Produced by Downtown Sacramento Partnership, the Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink has been a holiday tradition since 1991.

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FARM AND FLAVOR

By Kerin Gould

When I first started my little farm, I adopted four red hens from a school-kid who took his class pets home at the end of the year to keep them from being eaten and then realized they didn't really have enough room in his family's yard. I assured the family the girls would be treated as pets.

The four sisters were lively and funny and full of personality. Lucy was the adventurous independent one, always last one into the coop at night. Katie was bold and brassy and liked to explore high places and kick things off, as if she had been a cat in another life. Eileen was solid and wise. And Brigid was the gentle soul who looked after the others. Sunny, an Ameraucana who liked to jump on my lap and snuggle, and Zsazsa, a Silkie, came a few years later.

Zsazsa turned out to be a little rooster. And what a little rooster he was. Once his testosterone kicked in, he terrified gentle Brigid and jumped on Katie, right in front of poor Sunny. Sunny's heart broke, and in two days, she passed away from nothing any vet could find wrong. Zsazsa was rehomed to a fowl-fancier with an ornery goose who became Zsazsa's buddy.

But my Rhode Island Reds, a breed famous for good-natured hens who lay lots of eggs, came with a ticking time bomb: cancer. According to a report by PA Johnson, CS Stephens, and JR Giles of Cornell University, "The domestic laying chicken has been intensely selected to be a persistent ovulator. That is, the tendency for broodiness has been nearly eliminated and, given the appropriate lighting and nutrition, many strains of laying hens produce an egg on almost every day.... Studies have shown that ovulation, or events associated with ovulation, increase the prevalence of ovarian cancer in hens." In order to get lots of eggs, we have bred hens to self-destruct. Normal birds lay once or twice a year. Imagine if human females were constantly ovulating!

There is no chemo or surgery for chickens. My girls' vet told me the tumors dig in and wrap around organs and digestive tracts to strangle their little systems to a halt.

And so it went. Lucy was out and about until two days before she passed away on my lap. The other girls more or less followed the same pattern as my dad had with his prostate cancer: Look far better than expected for longer than expected, but then slow down, eat less, lose energy and strength, then mostly sleep until coming to a full stop. And I treated them much as I had my dad: spoil them with favorite treats and spend quality time until finally just keeping them comfortable, sitting quietly, giving some affectionate pats, and being present until their ride came to pick them up, so to speak.

With my last hen, Brigid, who had nursed her sisters when they were sick, we spent time in the garden hunting bugs and worms, with her happily pouncing on a moth like it was a powdered doughnut or even savaging a hapless frog. Her scratching in the soil became a little weaker, her enthusiasm for worms a little less so. I fed her with a dropper for a while, reminiscent of feeding my dad raspberry sorbet. In the end, she just sat up on the back of my sofa watching the birds, the dogs and the falling leaves in the yard. That's where she passed away.

I know most people look at a chicken as a product more than a pet or a little person, but if you spent time with them, you would probably see that they are big characters, a big presence, and that every individual being just wants a happy, healthy life and good company and care.

What can we do to make chicken lives better? First, we can reduce how much animal-based food we consume. Second, eggs that are "pastured" come from hens that live with fresh air and sunshine and foraging, and "organic" eggs come from hens that didn't eat GMO foods. Choose compassionately.

If you want a pet chicken and less heartbreak, get a non-layer breed. They still lay, but not like an estrogen machine. And next time you think your soul needs chicken soup, have a heart and try a minestrone instead.



Minestrone

Olive oil
4-10 cloves garlic (it's up to you and the people around you)
1/2 medium onion
1 carrot sliced
2 sticks celery, chopped
1 green pepper, chopped
1 zucchini, sliced
1 tbsp each basil and oregano
(optional) a pinch of ground red pepper
salt and pepper to taste
1 1/4 cup of mixed pre-cooked beans – kidney, garbanzo, cannellini..
10 oz pureed tomato or tomato sauce (ideally organic and from a jar rather than a can)
2 cups water
1 cup soup pasta like ditalini
One bunch chopped chard, kale or spinach

Directions

In a soup pot, heat olive on medium and sauté garlic, onion, basil and oregano, and red pepper until they are softened and working together. Add vegetables and sauté for roughly 3 minutes, then add tomato, water and beans and bring to a boil. Salt and pepper to taste. Add pasta and stir Add chopped greens when the past has 3 more minutes, depending on how much body the greens have (kale takes a bit longer than spinach, for example.) Serve hot, with a sprinkle of Parmesan if you like. For vegans and vegetarians, there are excellent parm substitutes.

Southside:

continued from page 4

portant things—he [passed] Executive Order B-10-11 in 2011 [that] established the Office of the Tribal Advisor, and he also mandated that every state agency established tribal liaisons. That Executive Order is being built on by Gov. Newsom. What is Truth and Healing? 'Truth' would mean education—what is the truth being taught in the schools? And the 'Healing' is the policies—when you do a public apology, what is the policy about making other mandates the responsibility of the State? We don't need the apology—we need actionable items."

While Agustinez didn't diminish the importance of IPD's official recognition, she put it in perspective. "Indigenous Peoples Day is just one step in making policy at the local level."

Many critics of the indigenous movement dismiss it as an unrealistic attempt to take back the land, and argue that invasion and colonization is the natural way of things. But what indigenous peoples say they want instead is the opportunity to set the record straight, to right a number of wrongs and to simply coexist with non-natives equitably. It's about identifying and establishing balance.

Toppling Columbus is a way of getting indigenous peoples' collective foot in the door, and a controversial one that is met with much resistance. But the historical record supports their thesis: Columbus never reached America, he behaved badly where he actually did land—regardless of historical context—and everything went downhill from there. The ripples from his activities are being felt still, and the time has come to calm the waters.

"We discovered Columbus, lost on our shores, sick, destitute, and wrapped in rags. We nourished him to health, and the rest is history," Lakota activist Bill Means told Minnesota Public Radio on April 25, 2014. "He represents the mascot of American colonialism in the Western Hemisphere. And so it is time that we change a myth of history."

Truth, healing, balance, respect. Activists assert that these are the moving targets on which the indigenous movement's sights are trained, and its warriors will continue to let loose their arrows of advocacy until the last mark is struck.

What's happening East Sacramento?

FRIDAY, NOV. 8

TWEEN COMICS CLUB – Join us for this free, fun program. We will have snacks, discuss a comic book, do a craft, and have a trivia contest with the chance to win a prize! This month's book: Compass South by Hope Larsson. Copies will be available at the McKinley branch in October. Recommended for ages 8–12. Friday, November 8 from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. at McKinley Library, 601 Alhambra Blvd, Sacramento.

FRIDAY, NOV. 15

LEGO Mania! – Like building with LEGO bricks? Join us for our monthly free-play afternoon! LEGO and DUPLO LEGO bricks will be provided for this free, family program. Friday, November 15 from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. at McKinley Library, 601 Alhambra Blvd, Sacramento.

NOV. 15, 16, 17

ABOVE THE FRAY: Traditional Hill Tribe Art is excited to return to Sacramento for our 6th annual "Fine Silks and Tribal Art" event on November 15, 16, and 17 at the Shepard Garden and Art Center (3330 McKinley Blvd). We will be open on Friday/Saturday from 10-5, and Sunday from 11-4. There is no admission fee. Above the Fray ventures to the hill-tribe regions of Laos and Vietnam to personally select the world's most exquisite hand-woven silk, cotton, and hemp textiles directly from the hill tribe artisans. Our diverse selection of shawls, scarves and art is woven of village-raised materials using traditional looms. Each textile is carefully chosen for quality, precision, color-play, and charm, and a photo of the artist with that one-of-a-kind piece is often available. We also search for traditional jewelry, baskets, tools, and ritual art, with many of the items carrying the rich patina of years of village use.

FRIDAY, NOV. 22

MINECRAFT – Enjoy this computer game filled with mining, crafting and exploring! Play with new friends on the library's own server. No experience necessary. Spots are first-come, first-served. Recommended for ages 8—14. Friday, November 22 from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. at McKinley Library, 601 Alhambra Blvd, Sacramento.

TUESDAY, DEC. 3

READ TO A DOG – Reading aloud to a certified therapy dog is a fun and positive way for beginning readers to develop reading skills and build confidence. Bring a favorite book or choose one from the library, and enjoy reading practice with a furry friend. School-age. Tuesday, December 3 from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. at McKinley Library, 601 Alhambra Blvd, Sacramento.



DEC. 6, 7, and 10

SACRAMENTO GAY MEN'S CHORUS ANNOUNCES 35TH SEASON AND HOLIDAY CONCERT KSGMC 201.9FM: The Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus invites the public to be a member of a live studio audience as they sing a "live broadcast" at KSGMC 201.9FM: Holiday Hits with A Splash of Sass! In this family-friendly show, the chorus will be singing traditional seasonal favorites, showstoppers from prior years, and a few new surprises to make the season even brighter.

Evening show dates are December 6, 7, and 10, 2019. Doors open at 7:30pm and the curtain goes up at 8:00pm. A matinee show is offered on December 8, 2019 with doors opening at 2:30pm and curtain up at 3:00pm. A VIP Reception featuring a drag show, refreshments, and premium seating at the concert begins at 6:30pm before the evening performances and at 1:30pm before the matinee show.

General admission tickets are $25 each. Students with a valid Student ID can purchase tickets for just $15. VIP tickets, which include the VIP Reception and premium concert seats are $40. Tickets are on sale now at SacGayMensChorus.org. The venue for all shows is the First United Methodist Church at 2100 J St. About the Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus (SGMC) The Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus is celebrating 35 years. In 1984, the SGMC began as a singing group aiming to foster a sense of community and provide support for gay men in the Sacramento area. Since then, the chorus has grown into an integral part of the Sacramento music community, as well as a voice for the wide scope of LGBTQ+ folk in the greater Sacramento area. Our mission: Fostering pride and enhancing lives, one song at a time. Our vision: To build a community where no one will be afraid to sing one's own song. SacGayMensChorus.org

FRIDAY, DEC. 6

LEGO Mania! – Like building with LEGO bricks? Join us for our monthly free-play afternoon! LEGO and DUPLO LEGO bricks will be provided for this free, family program. Friday, December 6 from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. at McKinley Library, 601 Alhambra Blvd, Sacramento.

WEDNESDAYS DEC. 11 AND 18

KNIT AND CRAFT – Join us each week for a morning of fiber arts fun! Participants can learn to knit or crochet, get help with projects, and chat with new friends. Don't forget to bring your craft supplies! Adult. Wednesdays December 11 and 18, from 10 a.m. – noon at McKinley Library, 601 Alhambra Blvd, Sacramento.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

TWEEN COMICS CLUB – Join us for this free, fun program. We will have snacks, discuss a comic book, do a craft, and have a trivia contest with the chance to win a prize! This month's book: Secret Coders by Gene Luen Yang. Copies will be available at the McKinley branch in November. Recommended for ages 8–12. Friday, December 13 from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. at McKinley Library, 601 Alhambra Blvd, Sacramento.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

HOLIDAY PARTY – Join us for our annual holiday celebration! Enjoy a show with a special guest performer, aimed at young children. Afterward, stay for refreshments and visit with a special guest – Santa! This is a free, family program. Saturday, December 14 from 10:30 a.m. – noon at McKinley Library, 601 Alhambra Blvd, Sacramento.

FRIDAY, DEC. 20

HOLIDAY STEAM CRAFT – Calling all crafters! Come join us for this free, school-age program in which we use both art and science to get ready for the winter holidays. Friday, December 20 from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. at McKinley Library, 601 Alhambra Blvd, Sacramento.

FRIDAY, DEC. 27

MINECRAFT – Enjoy this computer game filled with mining, crafting and exploring! Play with new friends on the library's own server. No experience necessary. Spots are first-come, first-served. Recommended for ages 8—14. Friday, December 27 from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. at McKinley Library, 601 Alhambra Blvd, Sacramento.

ONGOING

KNIT AND CRAFT –A morning of fiber arts fun! Participants can learn to knit or crochet, get help with projects, and chat with new friends. Don't forget to bring your craft supplies! Adult. Wednesdays from 10 a.m. – noon at McKinley Library, 601 Alhambra Blvd, Sacramento.

SACRAMENTO AREA ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE: Great news for those who live relatively close to central Sacramento! The Sacramento Country Dance Society is adding a second monthly English Country Dance, on the third Sunday afternoon of each month. Lovely hall and floor, easy parking, and on the American River Bike Trail. Come join us at Camp Pollock, just 5 minutes from downtown/midtown Sacramento, from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. Each dance is preceded at 1:30 pm by an Introductory Workshop for newcomers. This is in addition to our long-running dance in Roseville that continues on the first Sunday afternoon of each month. Beginners welcome, no partners necessary, always live music. Details about both dances, including callers, music, locations, and date changes, can be found on our Web site: sactocds.org/english-country-dance/

TOWER BREWING MONDAY OPEN MIC: Mondays from 630 to 10 p.m. at Sactown Union Brewery 1210 66th Street, Unit B, Sacramento, California 95819. Host Autumn Sky brings you a weekly open-mic night to express yourself and be apart of a unique, supportive community! Sign ups at 6:30 p.m., open mic begins at 7 p.m. and it's all ages until 8 p.m. A house guitar is provided (Autumn's own!) to play if bringing yours is difficult. There's beer, pizza next door that delivers to the open mic, and they welcome well behaved dogs. Comedy, DJing, spoken word, poetry, instrumental performance, songwriters, cover heroes and rappers are all welcome.

CORN - HOLE EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT AT SACTOWN UNION BREWERY: Be a part of the Sports Social Club. XOSO Sports Host Corn - Hole League Every Thursday Night from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Sactown Union Brewery, 1210 66th St. VISIT www.xososports.com to register. Because even adults need recess.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF SURVIVORS SUPPORT GROUP: Every first Monday of the month from 6 to 7 p.m. Location: Sacramento. Call 916-428-3271 for exact location. Description: Is your friend or family member in a domestic violence, sexual assault, or human trafficking situation? This free, drop-in group is for you. Learn how to support your loved one, and receive some support yourself among people who are in the same situation. Feel free to call My Sister's House for more information: 916-428-3271.

#METOO SUPPORT GROUP: Every third Monday of the month from 6 to 7 p.m. Location: Sacramento. Call 916-428-3271 for exact location. Description: This drop-in support group is free, confidential, open to all genders, and available to sexual assault survivors at any point in their healing. Feel free to call My Sister's House for more information: 916-428-3271.

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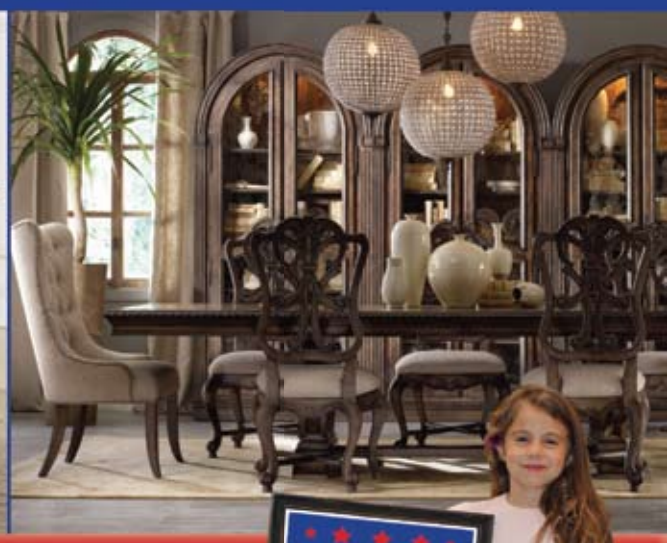
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