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Pocket News

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Pulitzer Prize cartoonist to visit Pocket Library for a fun Q and A

See page 9

- Pocket Greenhaven Community Association ... 2
- Crossword Puzzle ... 5
- Police Logs ... 6
- Faces and Places ... 16
- What's Happening ... 21



Neighbors to hold bike safety clinic at Pocket Library

See page 2



Kennedy Cougars to hold ice cream social and band performance on Saturday

See page 3

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Neighbors to hold bicycle safety clinic at Pocket Library

By GARIRAE GRAY
Pocket-Greenhaven Community Association

Pocket-Greenhaven is blessed with miles of well-used bike paths, bike lanes, and a gorgeous levee trail, and the Pocket Greenhaven Community Association hopes that all our residents stay safe while riding. To support this goal, the association is sponsoring "Urban Bicycle Safety 101", in partnership with the City of Sacramento.

As bicycling increases in popularity, accidents between cyclists and motorists are also on the rise. On May 18, the Sacramento Bee published an article concerning bike versus car accidents, and the Pocket-Greenhaven community is not immune to such accidents. This map charts the primary areas in the neighborhood where injury accidents have occurred in the past 15 years.



Bike wrecks with injuries from 2001-2016 in the Pocket neighborhood.

Additionally, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration annually publishes traffic accident data. Here's a sampling: the number of bicyclists killed in 2015 was 818, a 12.2 percent increase from 2014; more than 60 percent of those fatalities occurred at non-intersections, 28 percent at intersections, and only 3 percent occurring in bike lanes; the average age of cyclists killed in traffic crashes was over 45 years, with the average injury age being 35; and California was second in the nation in bicyclist fatalities, following Florida.

Despite the size differential between a car and a bike, the vehicle is not always to blame for a bike collision. According to a 2011 NPR report which cited various studies, bicyclists are at fault for bike-car crashes in 44 to 49 percent of the time. And, a 2012 California Highway Patrol report indicated that bicyclists are at fault 59.9 percent of the time at intersections where a red light or stop sign violation occurred.

Urban Bicycle Safety 101 will be presented by Drew Hart, a City Transportation Analyst, and will focus on bicycling regulations and riding tips for safe cycling.

Specific topics include:

- Bicycling and the law
- Bicycling on the street
- Bicycling through intersections
- Avoiding crashes
- How to enjoy the ride

Although the class is geared towards adults and teens, the course information will be valuable for parents who can relay accurate bicycling information to their children to ensure kids develop safe bicycling habits.

The class is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 30 from 10 to 11:30 a.m., and will be held at the Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library, 7335 Gloria Drive. (Bicycles are not necessary for the class.) At this time, the class is only open to Sacramento residents.



Photo by Pete Toscano/flickr.com/photos/sigsegv/232378643
Learning bike safety is important for all ages.

As space is limited, registration is required. Use this link to signup for the event: bike101.pocketgreenhaven.org

Email GariRae Gray at biking class@gmail.com with any questions.



Kennedy Cougars to hold Ice Cream Social and Marching Band performance

The JFK Marching Band and Color Guard is hosting its first "Friends and Family" Ice Cream Social on Saturday, Sept. 23 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the JFK High School athletic field (corner of Gloria Drive and Florin Road). Come out to the athletic field (gates open at 7:30 PM) and enjoy some Leatherby's ice cream for a small donation, then stay to hear the band run through the fall show "PHANTOM". Ice cream is a small donation of $5. They're raising money to send the band to Washington DC to march in the National Memorial Day parade in May, and $1 from every scoop sold will go to help the C.E. King High School's marching band in Houston to recover from Hurricane Harvey.

Cindy Kazee explained that Phantom is the show that the band & color guard is performing for its competition season. "We're raising money to send the entire group of students to DC, $225,000 is needed. It is a huge honor to be nominated by Congresswoman Doris Matsui to represent California. As far as I know, we are the only high school band who was nominated, but quite a few marching bands participate in the parade. I think the last time that Kennedy traveled to DC was in the late 1970's."

There are many other fundraisers in the works, including a group ticket sales effort with the Kings for the January 8 Spurs games. Regarding the benefit for Houston's marching band at C.E. King High School, Kennedy band members are piggybacking on a fundraising effort started by the Mandarins. Their school was flooded and they are starting over with instruments and music, uniforms too.

The JFK band rehearses every Saturday, and one Saturday is a 12-hour rehears-a-thon. The ice cream social is an extra event this year, created to give the community a chance to see the performance without having to attend a competition. The ice cream was added to help raise money for travel.

GO COUGARS!!!





Photos courtesy of Cindy Kazee.



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Chinese Community Church to host 34th annual fall festival

On Saturday, Oct. 14, the Chinese Community Church will host its 34th annual Fall Fellowship and Food Festival.

The cultural festival attracts a wonderful diversity of people to celebrate Chinese food, live music and entertainment, and activities for kids.

This year, the CCC Fall Fellowship and Food Festival will feature delicious Chinese menu items, including the popular BBQ chicken, chow mein, Chinese chicken salad, and quick appetizers such as pot stickers, egg rolls and more. Members and volunteers of the Chinese Community Church prepare the food by hand and always use fresh ingredients to preserve traditional family recipes.

The Chinese Community Church donates a portion of festival proceeds to support and enrich the local community each year. The church is proud to partner with a number of missionaries and nonprofit organizations in the greater Sacramento area to help people in need and create greater opportunities within our community.

It will be a day of food, activities, and cultural entertainment at the Chinese Community Church, 5600 Gilgunn Way, Sacramento CA 95822 (on Fruitridge Road between Freeport Boulevard and South Land Park Drive) on Saturday, Oct. 14 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The event will be a free-admission event.

Please visit www.cccsac.net for more information.











File photos by Monica Stark

The community has enjoyed delicious Chinese barbecue chicken, pot stickers, live entertainment and fun and games at previous years' Fall Fellowship and Food Festival, which has been held at the Chinese Community Church. Here's to this year's event, which will be held on Saturday, Oct. 14 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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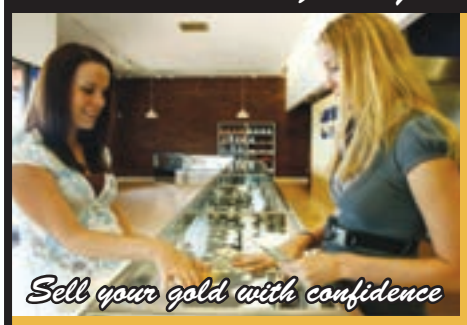

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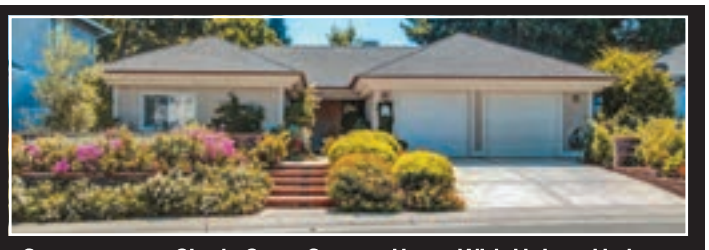

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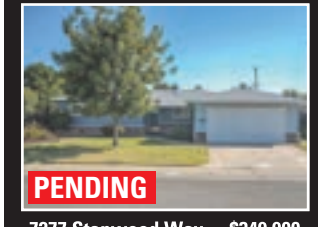

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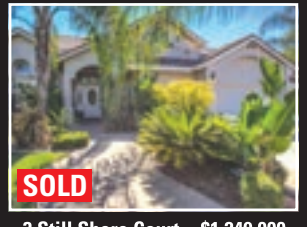
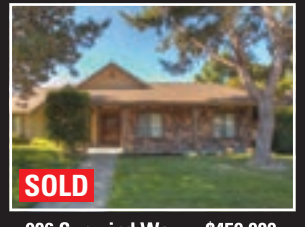
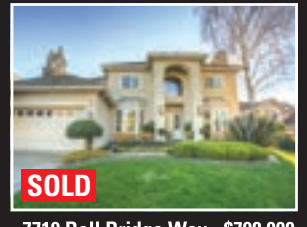


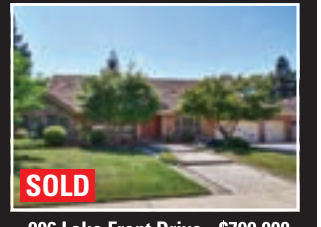
3 Still Shore Court - $1,249,000



906 Sunwind Way - $459,000



7719 Bell Bridge Way - $798,000



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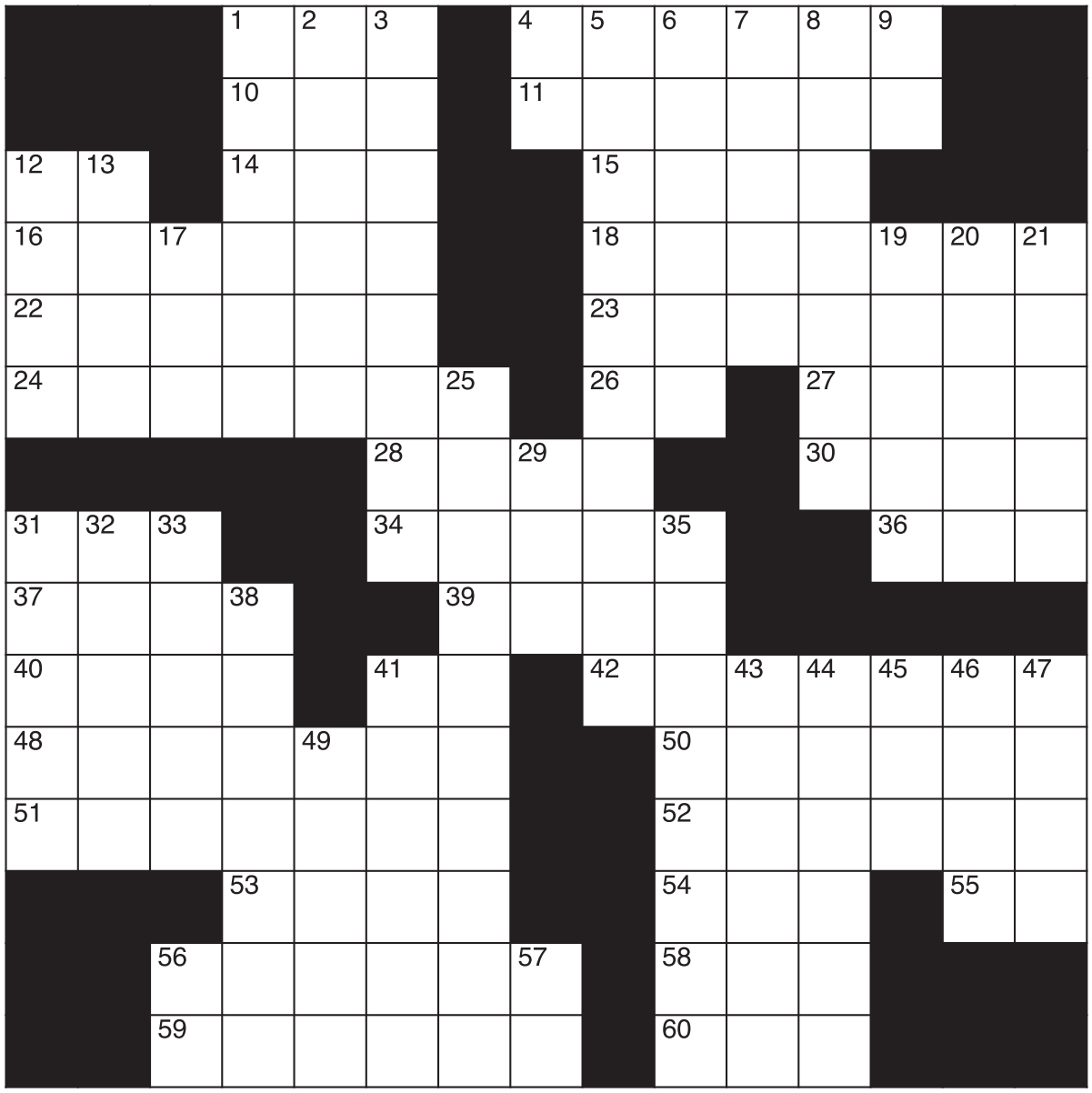

CLUES ACROSS

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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Pocket/Greenhaven:

Public safety town hall

by LEIGH STEPHENS

The Pocket/Greenhaven, City Council District Seven has the lowest crime rate in Sacramento, according to Vice Mayor Rick Jennings, II and the Sacramento Police Department.

An all-star group of city officials gathered at the Robbie Waters Pocket/Greenhaven Library, Wednesday, Sept. 6, to report on safety and crime in the area. Approximately 55 residents of the area attended this town hall to hear the report and ask questions of the officials.

Popular Vice Mayor Jennings led the meeting to inform citizens of the Pocket/Greenhaven about crime statistics, POD (Police Observation Devices) in the area, city response to homelessness, and emergency preparedness.

Jennings came to Sacramento with a professional background with Xerox, the Center for Fathers and Families, and a Super Bowl XI ring from his days with the Oakland Raiders. In the 2014 primary, he was elected to the City Council and then appointed Vice Mayor in 2016.

Jennings asked his audience, "What are you hearing about crime in our District 7?"

Residents responded with: shoplifting, mailboxes and cars broken into, armed robbery, public intoxication, and speeding through school zones.

He praised the online NextDoor with 8,278 District 7 subscribers for making the neighborhood aware of current crimes.

Police Captain Dave Peletta spoke next about crime statistics. Peletta is Captain of the South Command who began his career with the Sacramento Police Department in 1988. He has worked as an officer, a sergeant, and a lieutenant in the south area. He is a native of Sacramento and attended John F. Kennedy High School.

Peletta emphasized that the police serve all citizens. He discussed the crime statistics in the area and said the most reported crimes in the area are: vehicle burglaries, phone scams, and transient loitering. The number of crimes has gone down except vehicle burglaries and assaults. He said the vehicle burglaries could go down if people would stop leaving items on the front seats of their auto or truck. He encouraged citizens to call police for a ride along so they could get a perspective of the work being done by the police.

The Captain said the good news is that there is a reduction in burglaries, larceny, robberies, drugs, stolen vehicles, and vandalism. He continued by encouraging people to report anything suspicious to the police. If the police can't send an officer, please report the crime online. He said that a beat officer walks the Garcia Bend and levees once a week, and the marine unit comes up once a week to look at water's edge for any signs of transient camps.

The Police Observation Devices (PODS) alert in real time wanted vehicles or missing persons. The videos and data assist police in their investigations. To date, PODS have assisted in more than 700 vehicle

recoveries and several hundred investigations. Jennings has just secured in the budget four additional PODS to cover every ingress and egress point in the Pocket/Greenhaven area.

Sacramento's new Police Chief Daniel Hahn says he grew up in Oak Park and was adopted at three months by a wonderful mother, Mary Hahn, who was a community activist. He says he was taken to church meetings, community events, and civic meetings as a child.

He says at about seven or eight, he and his brother witnessed a homicide and later his younger brother was murdered. He says he became a police officer by accident. While at City College, he began working for the Sacramento Police Department, seeing it as a short- term way to earn extra money.

After graduating CSUS, he taught for three years in Grant Union High School's Criminal Justice Academy. He then worked as Roseville Police Chief for more than six years. This year, Hahn, celebrates 30 years in law enforcement.

He says the police are servants for every citizen, not just a few, and the criminal justice system has changed in the last four or five years: "We can't lock everybody up! We have to face the reality of mental health issues, homeless issues, and drug issues. What we find is that most of the crimes committed are drug-driven."

The next speaker was the new City Manager Howard Chan who comes to the position with more that 28 years of public service after workings as assistant city manager position for three years. He served as the City Manager's liaison to the Mayor and City Council on operational matters.

Chan talked about the city's part in crime fighting and citizen responsibility in being the eyes and ears that help officials capture criminals. He and Vice Mayor Jennings praised Police Captain Peletta's work in charge of the South Command. Jennings addressed homelessness in Sacramento. He said that the City is hoping to go from 100 shelter beds to 300 in what he calls "Winter Sanctuary."

Assistant City Manager Arturo Sanchez who is the son of Mexican immigrants says his move to Northern California came because of his daughter's diagnosis of spinal muscular atrophy. He and his wife felt they would get the most support here.

He interviewed with City Manager Chan who said that within a short time of talking with Sanchez, "I had this feeling of calm. I loved what I heard; I offered him the job."

Sanchez ended the meeting by discussing disaster preparedness since the Texas and Florida hurricanes are so fresh in everybody's minds. He mentioned the Oroville Dam breach where about 200,000 had to evacuate the area.

He says, "The Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency is putting together a ten-year plan to double the size of the Sacramento Weir that catches overflow."

Nearby earthquakes, explosives on the highways and trains, fires, and flooding are familiar disasters in the Sacramento area.

Sanchez says the Office of Emergency Services lists ten essentials to put in your preparedness pack: *three days of prescription medicine; one gallon of water per person for at least three days; non-perishable food for three days; first aid kit; changes of clothing and shoes; flashlights with batteries; battery-operated radio with extra batteries; hygiene items such as soap, toothbrushes and paste, moist toilettes, trash bags; tools to shut off house utilities, as well as handy items like scissors, knife, can opener, and duct tape; a waterproof packet containing your vital papers such as insurance contacts, birth certificates, passports, cash, etc. Don't forget to have a pet pack for dogs and cats with their food needs.*

Sacramento is fortunate to have such experienced professionals working to keep the area safe.

To get the latest crime charts and reports: www.cityofsacramento.org/Police.

Their emergency phone 911, non-emergency 264-5471, and call center 311.

Police Logs

The information provided allows for a timely snapshot of significant events in our community. The crimes reported here are preliminary investigations, taken in the field by patrol officers, and may or may not be assigned to a detective for further investigation. The information provided may be found after further investigation to be incorrect or false. Certain details of these incidents have been removed due to potential follow up investigation into the incident and/or for privacy rights. https://www.sacpd.org/

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 13

(Robbery): 7700 block of Amherst Street at 1:02 a.m.

Officers responded to a robbery had just occurred. Officers determined the victims had been sitting in a vehicle when they were confronted by three suspects, one of which was armed with a handgun. The suspects demanded personal property as well as money. The victims relinquished items and the suspects fled the area. The suspects were not located and the victims were uninjured. The case was forwarded to detectives for further investigation.

MONDAY, SEPT. 18

(Robbery): 1300 block of Florin Road at 12:26 p.m.

Officers responded to a robbery at a business in the area. When officers arrived on scene they determined two males had entered the store and jumped over the counter. The suspects stole various medications and controlled substances. The suspects obtained the medication and fled the scene. The employees were uninjured in the robbery. The suspects were not located. The investigation was forwarded to detectives.





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 teeshirt 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."

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LIFE IN THE VILLAGE

By JAN DALSKE
Pocket 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.

Gaming creators

Genevieve Didion students will start making their own video games

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

In a special after school program, students in grades 5-8 at Genevieve Didion K-8 will soon create a platformer game using their own art and creative skills. Advertised that all equipment is provided, just show up ready to create, the classes will be offered through Ninja Pandas, an organization that teaches video game design to kids. According to the class description, the course leads students through the adventure of game design. Each session focuses on a different type of game, so students can keep taking the course and building upon their skills. Students will build upon their basic computers skills, will learn to use and track variables, create functions and use conditionals.

Students will work with digital and traditional art styles. Students will use the game design program Construct2 so that if they have a PC they can download the software for free and work from home if they wish.

Unfortunately, the $150 class is sold out, but a waitlist is open at ninjapandas.com/?page_id=50

Class will be held on Wednesdays, Sept. 27, Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25; Nov. 1, 8, 15 from 2:45 to 4 p.m. It will be interesting to see what the students come up with by the end of the program.

On the website, dear reader, you can actually play some of the games made previously by Genevieve Didion students, including games by Abigail, Adam, Antonio, Blake, Gio, Harry, Joshua, Kaden, Katelyn, Kristi, Luis, Madison, Noah, Tyga and Tyler.

The games are quite challenging and it takes a bit of a knack using your up and down arrows to keep yourself moving. Unfortunately, for me, the death counts mount each time and so I haven't completed any of the games. But like anything, it takes practice, which is OK because the games are addictive and even more complicated and fun than Pong!





Pulitzer Prize cartoonist to visit Pocket Library for a fun Q and A

By PAT LYNCH

If you want to drowse through a speech don't go hear Jack Ohman, October 4th, 6 pm, at the Robbie Waters-Pocket-Greenhaven Library. Ohman, the Sacramento Bee's Pulitzer Prize winning editorial cartoonist and writer, is deft and witty and will capture your attention from the start. And if you want to know the political answer to a cartoonist's prayer (No, it's not Trump or Ted Cruz) he'll surprise you with his reply.

Ohman's been drawing (and writing) for the Bee since 2013. His work is syndicated to over 200 newspapers. This testifies to his considerable stature in the business and his success in skewering politics and culture through his unique perspective. When asked in a recent interview what question or comment he hears most often, he replies, "You don't look like a cartoonist. You look like a TV anchor." (Clearly, this is for Ohman a winning question and the audience member who asks it may well bask in the speaker's favor).

Queried about future political mega stars, he says, "I think Senator Harris and Lieutenant Governor Newsome have great potential in California, and President-elect Kid Rock in 2021." He also states, "I enjoy drawing Governor Brown, Governor Brown's dogs and 1960's spacecraft." Could this last be a sly reference to the 'Governor Moonbeam' nickname given Brown by columnist Mike Royko? You decide.

Are Lieutenant Governor Newsome and Trump son-in-law Jarrod Kushner almost "too pretty" to draw? Both can be caricatured, he replies. "But I derive more inspiration from Steve Bannon."

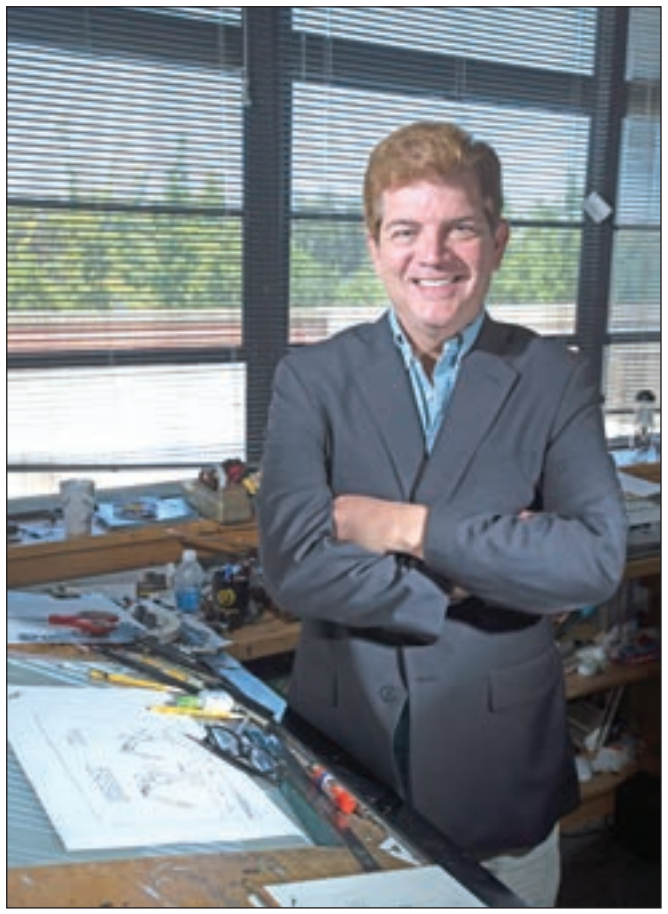
"Is there a future for print media? "Yes," he says. Is it fun working for the Bee? "Yes."

Ohman also compliments a Bee colleague. His favorite journalist, he says, "is my editor, Dan Morain. He's broadly knowledgeable and a great guy."

Ohman's literary influences were (and are) eclectic: "I grew up reading George Will, David Broder, Hunter Thompson, and I currently really like Charles Blow and David Von Drehle." It adds up. The most astute political commentators educate themselves to grasp the many sides of policy and personality.

"I've been focusing more on video lately," Ohman says, and readers are well advised to look those up. It was fascinating to watch how Ohman, with a few adept strokes with a marker, brings Mitch Mc Connel and Jerry Brown to vivid life.

The Robbie Waters-Pocket Greenhaven Library is located at 7335 Gloria Drive. Again, Ohman will speak at 6 p.m., Oct. 4, and a question and answer exchange with audience members will follow.



Jack Ohman

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Oto family celebrates 50 years in grocery business on Freeport Boulevard

By LANCE ARMSTRONG
lance@valcomnews.com

The Oto family, owners of Oto's Marketplace, is currently celebrating a special milestone. It has been 50 years since their late patriarch, Masashi "Ted" Oto (1927-2016), began working in the grocery business on Freeport Boulevard.

The family's current store opened in a newly-constructed building at 4990 Freeport Blvd. in 2007, and it was there that they welcomed the community to a celebration with entertainment, Asian food booths, food tastings and demonstrations.

The celebration, which was held on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 9 and 10, drew hundreds of people, including many longtime customers of Oto family-run businesses.

Entertainment included performances by the Island Sunset Band, Rendevous (a band from the Bay Area), Sacramento Taiko Dan, the Otahi Marama Hawaiian Dance Group, and opportunities to spin a wheel for prizes.

The event also presented flavored, shaved ice treats made by Osaka-Ya, a historic business in the old Japanese district on 10th Street, south of Broadway.

As part of Saturday's attractions, Sen. Richard Pan (D-Sacramento) presented a California Legislature resolution honoring the Oto family's business history.

A portion of the resolution, which is signed by Pan, Assembly Member Kevin McCarty (D-Sacramento) and Assembly Member Jim Cooper (D-Elk Grove), reads:

"Holding pride of place as one of Sacramento's oldest Japanese markets and familiar to generations of Sacramentans as a specialty grocery store stocked with a large and tantalizing selection of Japanese and Asian foods, some of the freshest fish locally available, quality meats, farm-fresh produce, and much, much more, Oto's Marketplace will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary in the year 2017, upon which occasion, Oto's and the Oto family members, who have owned and operated this much-loved business in its various incarnations for more than a half century, are deserving of special honors and accommodations."



Photos by Lance Armstrong

Shown left to right are Cheryl Oto-Inouye, Florence Oto-Wong, Mollie Oto, Russell Oto, Michael Oto and Stephen Jung.

In addition to celebrating the Oto family's business history, the event also served as a fundraiser for the Sacramento Barons and Sacramento Warlords boys and girls basketball teams.

Jeff Fong, one of the coaches of the Barons and Warlords, expressed his appreciation for the Oto family.

"Anything that we do, we all appreciate what the Otos do," he said. "They're a big part of the Asian community, and they're always supportive of us. They always step up to the plate and that's why they've been here for 50 years."

The roots of the current store actually date back more than a half century.

Ted, who grew up in Walnut Grove, became a butcher in the 1950s.

After being interned at Gila River internment camp in Arizona during World War II and being drafted into the Army in 1946, he attended automotive body and fender school in Chicago.

He later worked for Inaba Bros. in Walnut Grove and attended meat cutting school in Toledo, Ohio.

Cheryl Oto-Inouye, a daughter of Ted, recalled the reason why Ted decided to attend meat cutting school.

"He chose meat cutting, so his family wouldn't starve," she said.

In 1955, Ted and the business's current matriarch, Mollie, were married. And the first of their children, Russell, was born two years later.

Altogether, the couple eventually had four chil-

See Oto's, page 11

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Oto's:

Continued from page 10

dren, including Michael and Florence.

Ted's training as a meat cutter paid off, as he operated a meat and fish market inside Carl and Theodore Ferderer's Vina Vista Market at 5452 14th Ave. during the 1960s.

And as previously recognized, the Oto family is celebrating 50 years since Ted began conducting business on Freeport Boulevard.

For 16 years, Ted operated his meat market, Ted's Meats, inside the Food Center at 1912 Fruitridge Road, near Freeport Boulevard.

Ted purchased the Food Center in 1979, and about six years later, he opened Oto's Japan Foods in a rented structure at 5770 Freeport Boulevard, at Fruitridge Road.

The Oto family's current store is an expanded version of Oto's Japan Foods, as it offers many of its former items, as well as a wide variety of newer items.

And the store's name is more fitting, since the business's focus expands beyond the realm of Japanese foods and includes other Asian foods.

Among the longtime customers, who attended the anniversary event, were Craig and Donna Tanaka, of Elk Grove.

Craig said that his parents were two of Ted's earlier customers at his meat markets.

Donna said that her history with the Oto family also runs deep, as she was a Ted's Meats customer in the 1970s.

"I used to shop at (Ted's Meats) at Fruitridge (Road) and Freeport (Boulevard) back in the 1970s," she said.

Donna also commented on the current store.

"It's a family business," she said. "Everybody knows everybody. I (mostly buy) Japanese food and the Hawaiian food. I like their sashimi and their fish products are always fresh, and they have bento boxes all ready to eat, and a variety rice products."

Jackie Lopez, another longtime Oto's customer, also spoke about why she appreciates this local business.

"I've been shopping (at Oto's) for 25 years," she said. "They were just right down the road. Everybody is so friendly. You can come to the checkout and it's like you are one of the family. Zip, zap and they take you right through. They're very nice."

Lopez added that she appreciates the size of the current store.

"The old store was very cramped," she said. "It was hard for them to keep a wide variety of products. But when they moved here, it was like everything opened up and they were able to provide many more things for their customers."

While talking about the store's offerings last Sunday, Cheryl emphasized that point, as she directed attention to the store's selection of toys and its low-price, bargain area.

She also mentioned that a substantial portion of Oto's employees have spent many years working for this business.

Stephen Jung, who is one of those employees, commented about his experience working for the Oto family.

"I've been here for 20 years and I love working here, because the family treats me great," he said. "They're great people and they've taken care of me and the customers are great. It feels like home."

Mas Yaginuma, a salesman for JFC International, a major Asian food products wholesaler and distributor, stated that he appreciates the Otos ongoing willingness to make changes to their business.

"Oto's is always focusing on something new to make the customers happy," he said. "We bring new products from Japan, Korea, China, all over. So, we talk about it (with Oto's) and try to introduce them to new customers. Some of the stores, they don't want to do that, but this store is always open minded."

Oto's is open Mondays through Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For further information about this business, call 424-2398.



Left to right, Jacob Fong, Josey Wong, Jesly Paulo and Victoria Paulo stand together at one of the event's food booths.



Vicky Zou flashes a smile at the event's ramen and cold noodle booth.



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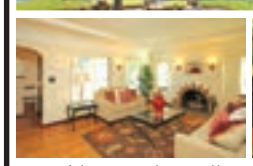



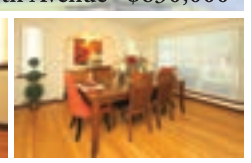

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A festival of LOVE

Holi Festival of Colors to consider Southside Park its Sacramento home



Photo by Mario Leonardo

By **MONICA STARK**
editor@valcomnews.com

Celebrating the triumph of love over evil, the Holi Festival of Colors returns to a playful and colorful backdrop – Sacramento's Southside Park on Saturday, Sept. 30 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

An annual Hindu event in India and Nepal, the Holi Festival of Colors is a festive day to meet others, play and laugh. From Salt Lake City to Sacramento, Caru Das, the festival's coordinator returns from one capital city to another. The president and founder of the Krishna Temple in Spanish Fork and SLC, Das said the 21-year-old event in Utah plateaued in 2012 with about 60,000 in attendance, and so, rather than scaling back – he's added 10 other events in California, Nevada and Utah. "It's such a potentially cathartic event that for young people that we wanted to share it and expose it and make it the same experience available within reason."

Highlighting the event includes an official throw of biodegradable colored cornstarch at the top of each hour with bands performing an appropriate drum roll, followed with dancing, a positive channel of energy, Das explained.

A traditional festival in India, representing the passing of winter and the coming of spring, Das' festivals have been spread throughout the year for logistical and symbolical reasons. "There's a lot of dancing involved, so we haven't found it practical to do (the festival) in the summer months when it's hot, so we do eight of them in the spring and three of them are left over for the fall. Regarding comments about doing it unseasonably, there's the practical aspect, then there's also the fact that spring itself is a metaphor for change, revitalization and renewal. So, I think that's something that's purposeful and thematic any time of the year."

Das' adult life has been spent practicing Bhatki Yoga, a form that has been popularized with an annual, yet pricey, festival in Joshua Tree. "It appeals to a certain class of people who have to travel out of town to a retreat center," Das explains, adding he wanted to make a genuine spiritual experience available to people who live in the inner city for a small pittance of an admission fee ($6 online at festivalofcolorsusa.com). "So, you may say this is a blue-collared Bhatki Fest." People get to experience yoga, mantras, a lyrical type of music called Kirtan (chanting) while the Holi Festival of Colors bridges the gap between India and the West using music that's popular, in-

See Festival, page 23

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Matias Bombal's "The Sacramento Picture" played to a sold-out crowd at the Historic City Cemetery

Photos by
STEPHEN CROWLEY
stephen@valcomnews.com



The Old City Cemetery Committee presented held a fundraiser Movie Night in the cemetery, proudly showing "The Sacramento Picture", which showcases historic film clips from the city's archives, most unseen since they were originally captured. The selections consist of dramatic news footage, rare home movies, vintage educational programs, and kitschy promotional films that capture Sacramento during the 20th Century.

The film, created and edited by Matías Bombal and Chad E. Williams, includes commentary from local experts and longtime citizens who provide insight into the history of our city and the everyday lives of Sacramentans.

Highlights include a 1920 Sacramento Senators baseball game; the city's commercial and architectural core, J and K streets, documented during several eras; the redevelopment of the West End in the 1950s and 1960s; and shots of parades, river recreation, school activities, and man-on-the-street interviews.

The noted California showman, broadcaster and former movie palace manager Bombal is known for his love of cinema, from its beginning to the arrival of wide-screen films. He reviews current cinema at Matías Bombal's Hollywood and for Valley Community Newspapers. Matías is a member of the Sacramento Press Club, and presenter of movie classics at theaters throughout the region. Bombal can also be heard on KAHI Radio, reviewing movies on the Thursday evening news and "Poppoff" on Fridays every week. Chad E. Williams is an award-winning producer, artist, sound engineer, editor, author, and musician based in Sacramento.

Cemetery docent Eric Bradner began the event before dark with a rare sunset tour of the Cemetery and its residents. The film followed, hosted by Bombal. The event was sponsored by the Sacramento County Historical Society.

What follows is a question and answer with the filmmaker about the film, the event and future projects.

Monica Stark: What prompted the idea of having the movie night at the cemetery?

Matías Bombal: Eric Bradner of the Old City Cemetery Committee approached me in late November 2016 with the idea of having me introduce an outdoor movie in the Cemetery in August 2017, one with a Sacramento connection. Initially he wanted a classic movie about the Gold Rush or river life, but many of them had what he considered troubling images for today's PC guidelines. I spoke with Chad E. Williams, and we agreed to offer "The Sacramento Picture" our first documentary made for and with Center for Sacramento History as the perfect tie-in to the city's past. We additionally donated our documentary without our normal $350.00 rental fee to support the ongoing efforts by the Old City Cemetery.

Stark: Looking back at that night: what was your favorite part of the evening?
Bombal: As for Chad E. Williams and myself, we are always delighted when our hard work is shared and shown. To hear the reactions of the audience is very rewarding, especially when they react emotionally to powerful moments, or even better, laugh at the humorous moments. The temperature was perfect and the audience had a good time.

Stark: Describe its success. would you do it again?
Bombal: Mr. Brander had to work hard with the city to ask for special permissions to extend the capacity requirements for an event in the cemetery, which had been a very low number as an event of this type had never been done there. He succeeded with a capacity of 75 persons for the event (living of course, the permanent residents there were not included in the count) We were delighted that the event sold out in just a few days and many persons were turned away from tickets, which I hope Mr. Bradner may use as evidence that such events may be successfully held there and a greater capacity of respectful persons may be allowed.

Stark: Can you describe the audience -- who attended?
Bombal: It was fascinating to me to find all age groups and demographics represented. Many factors of course contributed to this; the screening of our documentary brought folks that had never been able to see it before at the five earlier screenings over the last three years, there were those that were captivated by the idea of a movie under the stars in the summer time, this in an unusual setting. Although cemetery screenings are popular in other cities, especially at Hollywood Forever in Los Angeles, this had never been tried here. Of course the folks interested in local history and the many local historical societies and their memberships also attended.

Stark: Who helped put on the event?
Bombal: Aside for the hard work of Mr. Bradner, whose brainchild this was, volunteers from The Sacramento County Historical Society and The Old City Cemetery Committee formed and staffed the event. Bob Hayes of Sacramento Outdoor Movies supplied the giant inflatable screen and projection and sound so the movie could be seen and heard with the best possible light in an outdoor setting.

Stark: Tell us briefly about the documentary on the Alhambra Theatre that you are working on and when you think that will be released.
Bombal: Chad and I began work on our current project, "ALHAMBRA: Sacramento's Palace of Fantasy" last January, when Davis resident Wendell Jacob saw our just finished documentary about our restoration of a 1948 movie about NBC. That documentary is called "The Story Behind Your Radio Dial" and actually is premiering Sept. 23 at The Sacramento Film & Music Festival in the Little Theatre of Sacramento Me-

See Bombal, page 15


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Bombal:

Continued from page 14

morial Auditorium. When Jacob saw the rich detail in that production, he offered to fund another documentary. Chad and I started on The Alhambra as a subject, one that we knew could not be included in our first film, "The Sacramento Picture" as it deserved a movie on its own. To date we have now assembled over 20 interviews, found 35 min. of historic film footage of the theater inside and out, countless photographs and artifacts which will help us tell the story. We conclude out interviews this month and begin to start the painful and long editing process (The hardest part). On August 7th, a catastrophic fire destroyed our studio and we lost all of our collectable equipment, my film poster, movie stills and movie film print collections of more than 40 years collecting. We have no idea how to recover our losses, however, none of the Alhambra project materials were lost, and we continue from the ashes to complete on time. We are hoping for a late November early December screening at the Tower Theatre to benefit Center for Sacramento History, and then Mr. Jacob, who owns the film, will pitch it to the Sacramento PBS affiliate.



Editor's Note: Dear Reader, while the fire Matias writes about destroyed irreplaceable collectibles, if you are so inclined to help by way of donating to the MAB Hollywood fund, the PayPal can be found at https://www.paypal.me/MABHollywood.



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(916) 613-3339

Samantha Tov
(916) 947-4312

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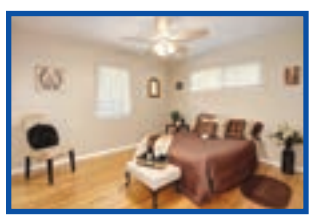





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FACES AND PLACES

Elks #6 Hawaiian Luau

Photos by STEPHEN CROWLEY
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Neighbors gathered at the Elks Lodge, No. 6 on Riverside Boulevard on Friday, Aug. 18 for a fun summer evening. With a show and music by Doug Meredith, no host cocktails, dinner and dancing, fun was sure had by all. Menu items included: Chinese chicken salad, Kalua pork, Teriyaki chicken, steamed rice, rolls and dessert. Folks had fun donning their favorite Hawaiian attire for the evening event.





















High School Voter Education Weeks

As we encounter local elections around the state in 2017 and prepare for the 2018 gubernatorial elections, it is important to ensure that students are learning to become active and engaged participants in our democracy. It is never too early to motivate your students to get involved. That's why Sacramento City Unified School District strongly encourages your school to observe High School Voter Education Weeks on September 18-29 to put your students on the path to a lifetime of civic engagement and voting. And now with online preregistration available for 16- and 17-year-olds, it's easier than ever to get students prepared to cast their own ballots. Once pre-registered, they will automatically become active voters on their 18th birthday.

California Education Code designates the last two weeks of April and September as "High School Voter Education Weeks" and authorizes schools to designate students as "voter outreach coordinators." With county elections officials as partners, the district provides resources to make it easy for schools to participate. Teachers and parents can help eligible students pre-register or register to vote either on a paper form or online. Voter outreach coordinators can lead registration drives and other school activities aimed at civic participation.

Here are some ideas and resources to get you started:

- Encourage eligible students to visit http://registertovote.ca.gov/ to register or preregister to vote. Set up pre-voter registration terminals in the school library or at large school events.
- Review the High School Voter Education Weeks page on the Secretary of State's website, sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/voting-california/help-strengthen-our-democracy/high-school-voter-education-weeks/
- Stay informed by downloading the Secretary of State VOTE CALIFORNIA smartphone app.
- Partner with your county elections officials, invite them to visit your school, and learn from these experts how to register and vote. You can locate your local official here: sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-offices/
- Place a link to the Secretary of State's online voter registration application on your school website and email the link to students and parents. http://registertovote.ca.gov
- Inform students how they can learn the electoral process firsthand—and get paid—by serving poll workers on Election Day.
- Use the California Voter Bill of Rights to teach students about rules that govern the act of voting, http://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/voter-bill-of-rights/voter-bill-of-rights.pdf
- Adopt recommendations from the California Task Force on K-12 Civic Learning and use lesson plans and other resources of the Power of Democracy. http://www.powerofdemocracy.org

Working together, we can educate and encourage our young citizens to register to vote and turn out at the polls to ensure their voices are heard in 2017 and beyond.

Source: SCUSD

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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 Pocket/Greenhaven?

FRIDAY, SEPT. 22

HEALTHY AGING AND FALL PREVENTION FAIR: Free risk fitness test, shoe assessments, medication reviews, blood pressure screening, home modification consultation and more. Co-sponsored by UC Davis. Free of charge. Fair will be held Friday, Sept. 22 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at ACC Senior Services 7334 Park City Drive. For more information, call (916)393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.orgs.

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/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.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 23

ELKS PARKING LOT SALE: 8 a.m. until 2 p.m.; Spaces $20 each; visit Elks6.com/events for details.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL AND MARCHING BAND PERFORMANCE AT JFK: The JFK Marching Band and Color Guard is hosting its first "Friends and Family" Ice Cream Social on Saturday, Sept. 23 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the JFK High School athletic field (corner of Gloria Drive and Florin Road). Come out to the athletic field (gates open at 7:30 PM) and enjoy some Leatherby's ice cream for a small donation, then stay to hear the band run through the fall show "PHANTOM". Ice cream is a small donation of $5. They're raising money to send the band to Washington DC to march in the National Memorial Day parade in May, and $1 from every scoop sold will go to help the C.E. King High School in Houston's marching band to recover from Hurricane Harvey.

NCD GOT TALENT: Come One Come All to the North Central District Talent Show & Dinner at the Sacramento Elks Lodge #6. Menu: Delicious Steak Dinner with all the trimmings and an outstanding evening of entertainment and Fun. Tickets are only $20/person (tax included) Family & friends Welcome.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 26

GENEALOGY PART 2: This class will cover how to conduct genealogical research using online and off-line resources, what to look for in the various type of records, and how to find them. Recommended for those who wants to begin working on genealogy as well as those already working on it and wanting to learn more. Pre-registration and pre-payment of $3 required. $5 drop-in at the door. Class will be held Tuesday, Sept. 26, 2017 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at ACC Senior Services 7334 Park City Drive. For more information, call (916)393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.orgs.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 27

PLANNING AHEAD FOR THE INEVITABLE: A 25-minute presentation on why everyone should pre-plan funeral arrangements. You can eliminate stress, relieve your family of the burden, know all available choices, get what you want, ensuring all detail is covered and save money. Free lunch provided. Free of charge and pre-registration required. Class will be held Wednesday, Sept. 27 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at ACC Senior Services 7334 Park City Drive. For more information, call (916)393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.orgs

THURSDAY, SEPT. 28

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: RESOURCES AND SERVICES: This presentation will cover what domestic violence is and the different types of violence. We will also focus on restraining orders, the Victims Bill of Rights (also known as Marsy's law), and the resources available to victims. Free of charge and pre-registration required. Class will be held Thursday, Sept. 28 from 10 to 11 a.m. at ACC Senior Services 7334 Park City Drive. For more information, call (916)393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.orgs

FRIDAY, SEPT. 29

SANTA MARIA STYLE TRI-TIP DINNER: Come and join the Elks for another wonderful Tri-Tip dinner. Includes: Tri-Tip, Portuguese beans, bake potato, salad garlic bread and dessert. $15 (tax included) Social Hour, 6pm; Dinner, 7pm; music by DJ Henry Jeong. Call Lodge Office for reservations and tickets 916.422.6666.

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!"

SATURDAY, DEC. 2

FIFTH ANNUAL DANDELION ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW: The Sacramento Senator Lions Club presents this free admission and free parking event at the Sacramento Buddhist Church, 2401 Riverside Blvd. from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All sales profits go to support various community projects. Visit sacramentosenatorlions.org to see how the Sacramento Senator Lions Club serves the community. For event information, email senatorlionsevents@gmail.com

ONGOING

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR "SUNDAY JAZZ": Come and join our Sunday Jazz event committee for events held the Second Sunday of every month at the Elks Lodge. If any of you would like to volunteer and enjoy listening to good music at the same time, please let organizers know. Hours to volunteer would be 11:30 a.m. to approximately 4:30 p.m. Please contact Clayton Hablitz at: Clayton39.ch@gmail.com Cell number 916 706-9837 or email Lori548@yahoo.com. Cell number 650-200-8570. Come on down & enjoy the fun!

WEDNESDAY COFFEE AND CONVERSATION GATHERING: Every Wednesday morning from 7 to 10 am., join neighbors at Cafe Latte, 7600 Greenhaven Drive, for conversation and fun. Find the group back near the piano.

IN CREATIVE COMPANY MEET UP AT ROBBIE WATERS POCKET-GREENHAVEN LIBRARY: Held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month from 1 to 3 p.m, this meetup was started to allow participants from past and current "In Creative Company" classes to continue meeting. Any artists or crafters who are interested in this social group are welcome to join--just bring whatever you're working on and come on in! 7335 Gloria Drive.

"ALL IN" SENIOR SOCIAL HOUR – The Pocket Library will provide games, refreshments, conversation, and fun on the last Wednesday of each month from 1 to 3 p.m.! Games available to play include poker, chess, Scrabble, checkers, Dominos, Mahjong, cribbage, and more! Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library, 7335 Gloria Drive, Sacramento.

ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTH SACRAMENTO: The friendliest club in Sacramento, the Rotary Club of South Sacramento meets every Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. at the Casa Garden, 2760 Sutterville Road.

VINTAGE HOT RODS AND CLASSIC CARS AT LAKE CREST VILLAGE: Starting May 12 through Oct. 13, 2017, cars will be displayed on the 2nd Friday of each month from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Lake Crest Village Shopping Center corner of Florin Road and Greenhaven Drive. The June and August events will be held on the first Friday of those months. Come take a look, many of these cars participate in special events in the area. For more information you can contact Tony Antonucci at 916-606-5459.

SUNDAY BREAKFAST BUFFET AT THE ELKS LODGE, NO. 6: From 8:30 to 11 a.m., enjoy eggs, omelets, corn beef hash, bacon or sausage. 6446 Riverside Blvd.

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF SACRAMENTO SOUTH: Meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at Aviators Restaurant, Executive Airport, 6151 Freeport Blvd. For more information, call Dee at 341-7852.

JOB COACH APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE AT POCKET LIBRARY– Make an appointment to meet one-on-one with a volunteer job coach and get help with online job searching, using library databases, interviewing tips, resume writing, and more. For questions or to schedule an appointment, please ask at the library service desk or call 916-264-2920 during open hours. Appointment times are available for most Wednesdays between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. at Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library, 7335 Gloria Drive, Sacramento.

TECH HELP APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE AT POCKET LIBRARY– Have a technology question or problem? Sign up for a one-on-one technology help session with our staff. We can help with basic computer, Internet or e-mail questions, and/or get you started with library services like e-books or e-magazines! Stop by the service desk or call 916-264-2920 during open hours to make an appointment. Appointment times are available for most Wednesdays between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m., Thursdays between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., and Saturdays between 10 a.m. and noon, at Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library, 7335 Gloria Drive, Sacramento.

BABY/TODDLER STORYTIME AT POCKET LIBRARY– Babies and toddlers (ages 0 to 3 years) and their caretakers are invited to join us for songs and rhymes. Arrive extra early or stay later for extra social time with other children and parents. Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 11 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. at Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library, 7335 Gloria Drive, Sacramento.

KNIT TOGETHER AT POCKET LIBRARY– Love to knit? Want to learn? Join us for expert advice, great conversation and more. All crafters are welcome, not just knitters! Every Friday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library, 7335 Gloria Drive, Sacramento.

BABY STORYTIME AT BELLE COOLEDGE LIBRARY –Nursery rhymes, fingerplays, simple stories, and songs designed to encourage a range of early literacy skills. For children up to about 18 months old. Each child must be accompanied by a participating adult. Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m. at Belle Cooledge Library, 5600 South Land Park Drive.

Chinese Community Church 34th Annual
Fall Fellowship and Food Festival
Saturday,
October 14, 2017
11 AM to 6 PM ■ ONE DAY ONLY
ADMISSION IS FREE
Delicious Chinese Food – BBQ Chicken, Pot Stickers & More
Live Entertainment and Activities for Kids
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5600 Gilgunn Way Sacramento, CA 95822

Dixon Scottish Highland Games
9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 30
Dixon Fairgrounds, 655 South First Street
(Dixon is 19 miles southwest of Sacramento, off Interstate 80)
Lots of Scottish fun: Celtic, Scottish and Irish folk and rock bands; region's finest bagpipe bands; Highland and Irish dancing; Scottish athletic competitions; British food, beers and gifts; Scottish living history displays; rugby; Scotch whisky tasting; Scottish animals; children's activities and a wee bit more!
$10 general admission; $8 for youths and seniors; and FREE for kids, under age 9, and active-duty military and their families (with military ID).
www.scotsindixon.org

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For Tickets
Contact: 422-6666
(Sales Tax included)

City Theatre Opens Season with Contemporary Take on Commedia Dell'Arte Classic 'The Servant of Two Masters'

City Theatre is proud to begin its 2017-18 season celebrating 90 years of theatre at Sacramento City College with Carlo Goldoni's commedia dell'arte masterpiece, The Servant of Two Masters. Presented in the 130-seat Art Court Theatre on the Sacramento City College campus, this grand-daddy of all modern farces sees Truffaldino outwit "masters, mistresses, lovers, lawyers, and meatballs... all the slapstick you'd care to shake a schtick at" and set on the idyllic shores of Jersey in that classic era of all times, the 1980s. The Servant of Two Masters plays through Sunday, October 15. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. on Sundays, with an added Saturday matinee on Oct. 14 at 2 p.m. Performances will be held in the Art Court Theatre of the Performing Arts Center on campus at Sacramento City College, at 3835 Freeport Blvd.

Ticket prices are $18 General Admission, $15 for Seniors, SARTA members, Veteran/Military and Persons with Disabilities and $10 for students with IDs and children over six years old. Season subscriptions and Group rates are available. All details and tickets are available online at citytheatre.net.

The Author

Carlo Goldoni (1707-1793) was a prolific playwright who renovated the well-established Italian commedia dell'arte form by replacing its masked stock figures with more realistic characters, its loosely structured and often repetitive action with tightly constructed plots, and its predictable farce with a new spirit of gaiety and spontaneity. For these innovations Goldoni is considered the founder of Italian realistic comedy. His works include some of Italy's most famous and best-loved plays. Audiences have admired the plays of Goldoni for their ingenious mix of wit and honesty. His plays offered his contemporaries images of themselves, often dramatizing the lives, values, and conflicts of the emerging middle classes.

By the late 1730s he was working regularly in theaters in Venice and other cities and had begun his reform of the improvised commedia dell'arte tradition. He wrote out individual parts and then entire plays, blending Tuscan-speaking aristocratic characters of the erudite tradition with dialect-speaking non-aristocratic characters. While retaining some elements of commedia dell'arte masks and writing a masterpiece in Il servitore di due padroni (1747; The Servant of Two Masters) Goldoni endowed his characters with new psychological depth and realism.

Goldoni wrote plays in a wide range of styles, including the famous sixteen comedies of the 1751 Carnival season and his memorable dialect comedies. Goldoni received criticism including accusations that he was inverting the social order by associating aristocratic characters with vice and the popular classes with virtue. In 1762, Goldoni moved to Paris to work with the Comédie Italienne. Even though the French public's expectation that Italian comedy conform to the traditional commedia dell'arte style, he spent the rest of his life in Paris, writing a number of well-received plays and his memoirs.



Photo by Bruce Clarke

From left to right: Allison Bento Murphy as Smeraldina, Bert Andersson as Truffaldino and Meghan Cazadio as Beatrice

If you go:

WHAT:
City Theatre presents: The Servant of Two Masters
Playwright: Carlo Goldoni
Director: Christine Nicholson

WHERE:
Performing Arts Center/Art Court Theatre
Sacramento City College,
3835 Freeport Blvd.,
Sacramento

WHEN:
Now through Oct. 15
Regular performance times: Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m.
Sundays at 2 p.m.,
Additional performance: Saturday, Oct. 14 at 2 p.m.

TICKET PURCHASES AND PRICES:
Online: citytheatre.net
Box Office: An hour before curtain
General: $18
Seniors, SARTA members, Veteran/Military and Persons with Disabilities: $15
Students with IDs and children over six years old: $10

WHO:
Playwright: Carlo Goldoni
Translated By: Jeffrey Hatcher and Paolo Emilio Landi
Director: Christine Nicholson
Physical Theatre Choreographer: Moses Norton
Costume Design: Nicole Sivell
Scenic Design: Shawn Weinsheink
Lighting Design: Lori Ann Delappe-Grondin
Sound Design: Matt McCracken
Stage Manager: AnaPaul Prince
Cast: Bert Andersson, Allison Bento Murphy, Renay Bharvti, Meghan Cazadio, Collin Clark, Felise Esposito, Steve Ibarra, Ian Justman, Sinead Kennedy, Monica May, Said Noori, Sean Thomas Olivares, Connor Oshiro, Katie Peters, Jonathan Plon, Arslan Saeed, Tim Sapunor, Paul Scott, Jessica Smooth, Scott Taylor, Johnna Wood, and Dafydd Wynne

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Photos by Mario Leonardo

Festival:

Continued from page 12

cluding hip-hop, rap, reggae, ska as well as rock 'n' roll, each coupled with consciousness-raising mantras. "The effect is an experience unlike any most of our attendees have had before," Das says.

While the performers are imports who travel with the festival, the craft and food vendors are Sacramento local, as are many of the volunteers. From Key Club members at Monterey Trail and Franklin high schools to individuals at various schools like Burbank, community members are volunteering in various capacities. As for the performers – Das prefers to call them "engagers."

"Their job is to get things going – to engage the audience and the call-and-response chant and the dancing... A lot of people think of spiritual life as dropping out and passive and not engaging, but the principle of Bhatki is a yoga community, it's a yoga celebration, it's a yoga music, it's a yoga food. It's a type of yoga that you can do in one form or another, 24 hours a day."

The second year at Southside Park, Das said previous Sacramento locations have included River Walk Park ("but that was deserted") and Gibson Ranch. Inquiring to the city parks department for the use of William Land Park, he said the response was "that it would not be suitable" for the event "and they gave us Southside Park instead."

"I like it. I like Southside Park. I like the people that live in the area. I like the diversity of it. So, we're happy."



While the festival continues to grow, it's still in its infancy in some ways, requiring Das' paternal presence, he says. So, he's looking for someone to train up as a vice manager to help out with the 11 annual festivals since he works 12 hours a day, 365 days a year. "You're never at a point when you say it's good enough. You want it to say it's the best festival. You want it to stand above the others. We're just trying to push the envelope all the time."

To Das, the festival and the release of color, brings out the inner child. As children, he says, we tend to trust everyone and we tend to basically love everyone unreservedly, but as we grow up, that changes." It's not that anything happens to us; it's just a general mood of society where they tend not to understand people who aren't like them. We saw that in Charlottesville. People start by mistrusting those who are not of the same color, then that escalates into stereotyping and demonizing, then blaming all the troubles on somebody else. I think the Festival of Colors, especially for children, nips that in the bud and gives them a little resistance, a little push back from society and leadership that thrives on fear and mistrust. We need to be proactive about love. Love is not something that happens. It's something you pursue aggressively and you have to work to maintain it and we are just doing our little part."

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