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Pocket News

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PRIDE

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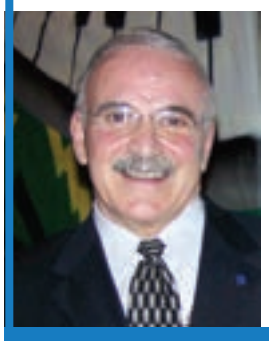

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File photo by Monica Stark

The boat dock at Garcia Bend was closed in 2017 after the high water levels flooded the dock area.

Action Items for the Flood Front

By PATRICIA A. CLARK

California is frequently the land of natural disasters and 2018 began with a big one in Santa Barbara County with the Montecito flood and mudslide. In some ways, it was a double event with the Thomas Fire (now California's largest wildfire by acreage) burning steep mountains above Montecito and Santa Barbara in December and then a rain storm with heavy precipitation in the early morning hours of January 9. With 21 lives lost, 129 homes destroyed and 307 homes damaged, the impact of the Montecito flood and mudslides cannot be underestimated.

What lessons can we draw from Santa Barbara County's experience? First of all, know your flood risk and in the Pocket area, that means have flood insurance. Sacramento is located at the confluence of two of California's great rivers, the Sacramento and American Rivers. While that location made for good transportation options in the 19th century and today brings easy access to natural beauty and recreational opportunities, it also brings significant flood risk to those of us who live here. If you are new to the Pocket area, look at the majority of street names with "river" or another water-related word in the street name. That gives you some idea of how prominent the river is in our community.

"Sacramento has the lowest level of flood protection among the most at-risk river cities in America," according to the February 2016 newsletter from the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA). In the Pocket, we are at risk for flooding from both the Sacramento and American Rivers as well as the South Sacramento Streams Group (Morrison, Florin, Elder and Union House Creeks). Folks who lived through the February 1986 crisis, when Sacramento almost flooded due to a prolonged period of heavy precipitation and full reservoirs, tend to remember our vulnerability. The number one thing you can do to protect yourself and the home you've worked hard for is to purchase flood insurance.

In addition, we have a warmer climate to factor into our risk. State Climatologist Michael Anderson notes, "As the world warms, we anticipate future flood producing storms to be larger, putting more pressure on our infrastructure." Even Governor Jerry Brown noted challenges of the natural environment after praising first responders at the Montecito mudslides in his State of the State Speech on January 25. "In this regard, we should never forget our dependency on the natural environment and the fundamental challenges it presents to the way we live. We can't fight nature. We have to learn how to get along with her."

People are sometimes confused about the question of whether flood insurance is mandatory and while that is a good question, it is not the most important factor to consider. When I moved to the Pocket in 1986, flood insurance was made mandatory and remained mandatory until 2007. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) have rules which determine whether flood insurance is mandatory in a geographic area. The key document is called a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). FEMA's calculation of flood risk varies somewhat over time with new data becoming available periodically. If FEMA revises a FIRM due to new information, it may change whether flood insurance is mandatory in that area. It's important to recognize that the FIRM is a human calculation function and that our basic geography, our proximity to two enormous rivers and our flat valley land, remains the same. Residents receive a Flood Rick Notification flyer in the mail each September from the California Department of Water Resources which advises of this risk and that your property is near a levee.

I strongly recommend that all residents, including renters, have flood insurance whether required or not. The current policy available to any homeowner is called the Preferred Risk Policy (PRP) which is available for approximately $450 per year. Beware that most flood insurance policies have a 30-day waiting period before it becomes effective. Not all insurance agents write flood insurance policies so don't give up if the first one you ask cannot help you. Find another insurance agent. Flood insurance is an additional tool that residents can use to protect themselves and their homes.

See Flood, page 11

Who makes our neighborhood a wonderful place to live, work and play?

By DEVIN LAVELLE
Pocket/Greenhaven Community Association

From the outside looking in, it is not always easy to see what makes the Pocket such a wonderful community. Sure, there is the obvious: our beautiful parks; river access; great schools; a wonderful library; resources and support for seniors; delta breeze cooled evenings; the sense of security that comes with living in the safest neighborhood in the city. But the reality of it is (aside from the wind) none of those or the other amenities – the things that make the Pocket the only place Fiona and I would want to raise our boys, Henry and Charlie – none of those things happen on their own.

It is the people: the volunteers and the public servants; the organizations, the community groups, the non-profits and the businesses; and the institutions: the parks and parkways, the schools, the library, the churches, the senior centers – it is everyone that works so hard, paid or unpaid, to make our community great.

Occasionally these folks get credit. Most of the time their service happens far from the public's view.

This is something we at the Pocket Greenhaven Community Association are looking to change. This April we will be holding the first Pride of the Pocket Awards. Along with Senator Richard Pan, Supervisor Patrick Kennedy, Councilman Rick Jennings and Trustee Darrel Woo, we will be coming together with many friends, new and old, to recognize some of the amazing people who contribute so much to our community. (Congresswoman Matsui hopes to join as well, if her DC schedule allows)

But we need your help!

While I and the rest of our board members certainly have some ideas based on our own experiences, we want to know what you think. We want to know who makes a difference in your life. Who hosted a great event? Who made the community safer? Or more beautiful? Or a great place to raise kids? Who makes you feel lucky to live in this great neighborhood? Who makes our neighborhood a wonderful place to live, work and play?

Let us know who you would like to nominate at pride.pocketgreenhaven.org.



If you go:

What: Pride of the Pocket awards ceremony and bake-off
When: Thursday, April 26 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Where: School Of Engineering & Sciences, 7345 Gloria Drive
Tickets: http://www.pocketgreenhaven.org/

While you are at it, you can get tickets to the event at pride.pocketgreenhaven.org.

Do you bake? In addition to recognizing the great volunteers, public servants and organizations in our community, we are looking to find the best bakers too! Sign up for the bake-off at pride.pocketgreenhaven.org.

Need more information about the event? Yep, you guessed it, head on over to pride.pocketgreenhaven.org and if you still have questions, shoot us an email at info@pocketgreenhaven.org.

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Kennedy baseball to play against El Camino at Raley Field

By MONICA STARK
editor@valcomnews.com

Dear reader, you can help send the Kennedy Cougars baseball team to play at Raley Field by purchasing a lower level senate seat ticket voucher for any 2018 Sacramento River Cats Regular Season home game (April 10-Aug. 3, except the home opener) for $20. The ticket vouchers can also be upgraded to any seat at any regular season River Cats home game as well. Vouchers must be purchased by Feb. 28.

The game at Raley Field on March 17 is FREE to attend. The vouchers are specifically for any regular season Sacramento River Cats home game.

Discussing the team's current ambitions, Coach Tim Fitzgerald told the Pocket News the team has been hungry to begin the season since last year's early playoff exit. "The team is experienced and eager to compete against some of the best talent the Sac-Joaquin section has to offer," he explained.

This year's group of ball players has been playing together in the Pocket/Greenhaven area since they were 9 years old, Fitzgerald said. "They are very close knit and getting them to leave the field after practices has been a challenge due to their camaraderie."



Photos courtesy of Coach Tim Fitzgerald

Kennedy baseball team photo

The team is returning several players from last year's playoff team including All Metro League First Team INF/P Senior Bennett Ohara, All Metro League INF/P Junior Blake Yuyama, All Metro League Second Team Senior UTIL/P Danny Nevis and All Metro League Second Team Senior INF Matthew Allin.

Pitching and defense were the team's strengths last year and they will be again this year. Catchers Senior Zach Gee and Sophomore Zach Enos, the only underclassmen on the Varsity roster, will provide consistent leadership to the pitching staff and defense, says Fitzgerald.

"The depth of pitchers on this year's staff, like Bennett Ohara, Blake Yuyama, Danny Nevis, Kyle Lance, Grant Wills, Kai Boyd, Luke Adel and Luke Crawford, are hard to find at the high school level, and I feel very blessed to have them in my program. I believe the depth of talent we have in our program is our greatest strength. Even our JV team will show strength this year. I believe some of the best talent lies in our underclassmen like Sophomore Nic Gregson and Sophomore Max Fong, however having them play everyday at the Junior Varsity level will help them develop faster and be ready to help us if we earn another opportunity to play in the playoffs this year."



Team meeting

Through out the Kennedy baseball program, the student athletes are very excited to have an opportunity to play at Raley Field. "They have had dreams of playing on that field and will finally get an opportunity. The student-athletes have been to many River Cats games and have friends from other high schools have the opportunity but this will be first for this Senior class. I knew getting a game at Raley Field was a priority for us this year. The players wanted it, the parents wanted it, and to have opportunity to coach on Raley Field, I wanted it too," Fitzgerald said.

So, he called an old teammate of his, Sal Rivera of El Camino High School, and they worked on the process of getting a game at Raley Field. The game against El Camino High School is scheduled for March 17, JV at 3 p.m. Varsity at 6 p.m.

Fitzgerald said the ticket vouchers for Senate level seating can be upgraded at the box office.

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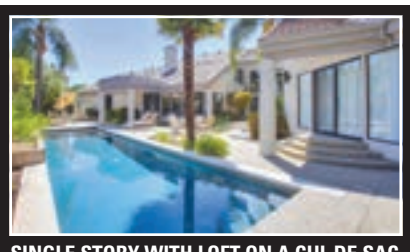

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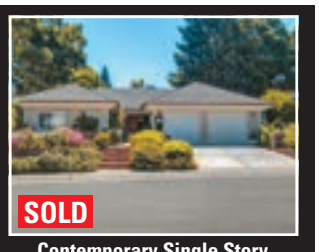

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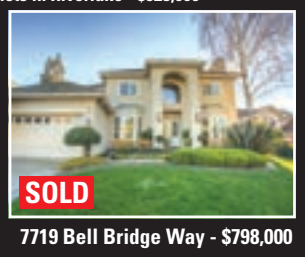
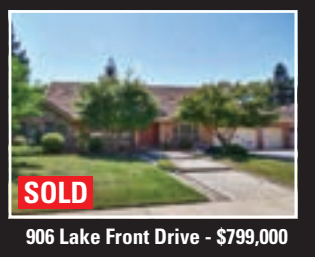


7719 Bell Bridge Way - $798,000



906 Lake Front Drive - $799,000

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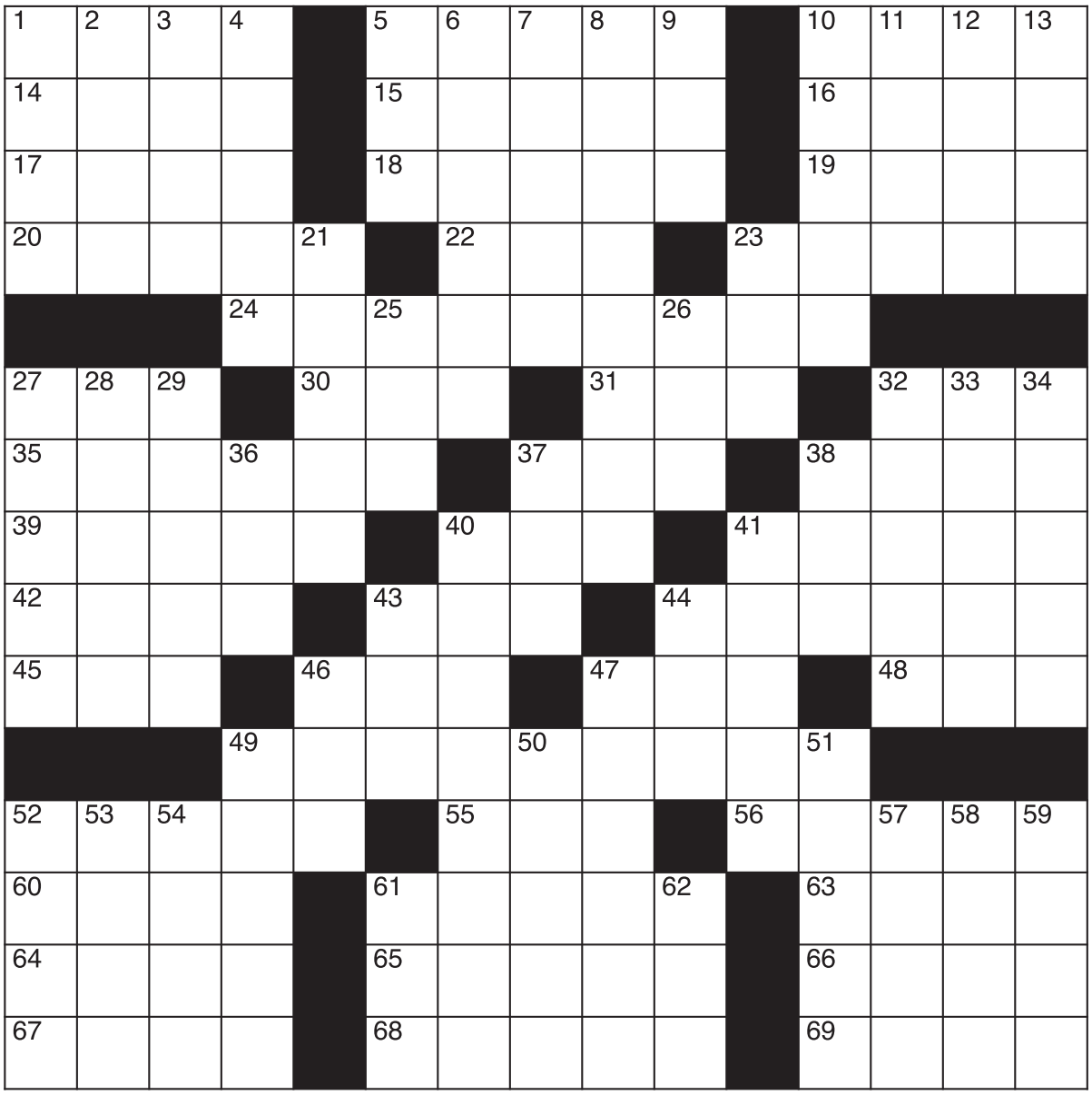

CLUES ACROSS
1. Unpleasant substance
5. Oil group
10. One-time Yankees rookie sensation
14. Ireland
15. Less easily found
16. Southeast Nigeria people
17. Bridgeline Digital stock designation
18. Play loudly
19. Elegantly fashionable
20. Open sore
22. Frozen water
23. Sacred Islamic site
24. "Kokomo" rockers
27. Follows sigma
30. Cease to exist
31. Cool
32. Doctors' group
35. Less attractive
37. Swiss river
38. Greek sophist
39. Grandmothers
40. Afflict
41. Russian pancake of buckwheat flour and yeast
42. Actress __ Rachel Wood
43. Not bright
44. Western Asia peninsula
45. Baseball speedster Gordon
46. Golf score
47. Transmits genetic information from DNA to the cytoplasm
48. Diego, Francisco, Anselmo
49. Songs to one's lover
52. Cattle's mammary gland
55. Having ten
56. Fencing sword
60. Scarlett's home
61. Hold valuables
63. Italian Seaport
64. Cain and __
65. Bad places to live
66. Large, wading bird
67. Witches
68. Cover with drops
69. Props up the head

CLUES DOWN
1. Philippine province
2. Shallow channel
3. Type of acid
4. Cygnus' brightest star
5. One who buys and sells securities (abbr.)
6. Ill will
7. Plant of the goosefoot family
8. Intellectual
9. Mineral
10. Shiny silicate minerals
11. Ottoman civilian title
12. What you wear when eating BBQ (2 words)
13. Soul and calypso song
21. Advises
23. "The Spanish Tragedy" playwright
25. Surrounds the earth
26. Paddle
27. Adjusted
28. Succulent plant
29. Forearm bones
32. Belonging to Egyptian ascetic
Apollo's colleague
33. Type of mental illness
34. One from Asia
36. 007's creator
37. Direct toward
38. Pie _ __ mode
40. Large terrier
41. Hillsides
43. Patriotic women (abbr.)
44. Connects words
46. For each
47. Flower cluster
49. Closes a deal
50. Arabian desert
51. Vaccine against poliomyelitis
52. American state
53. Religion practiced in China
54. Type of sediment
57. Hall of Famer Ruth
58. "Layla" singer Clapton
59. Gamble
61. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
62. Midway between south and southwest

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Riverside Sports Bar to hold St. Baldricks event

By MONICA STARK

Now in his seventh year going under the razor blade, Pocket resident Jason "Jay" Jugoz invites the public to the Riverside Sports Bar for an intimate, all-ages. St. Baldrick's event on March 10 at 2 p.m.

In the past at deVere's Irish Pub, Jugoz has raised about $2,000 a year for this not-for-profit organization which aims to raise funds to help find cures for children with cancer. "I got started at deVere's Irish Pub in Sacramento and have been doing it ever since. A lot of my family has been struck by cancer and it hits close to home. Doctors and researchers still don't know why children get these cancers and they still don't know why only children can get these kinds of cancer."

With volunteer shaving done by professional barbers and cosmetologists, this St. Baldrick's event at Riverside Sports Bar will be the first major charity event, though Jay says the bar will be host to more charitable events in the near future.

Jay will actually be knighted as a "Knight of the Bald Table" as this is his 7th year. The honor, according to St. Baldrick's, demonstrates "unyielding dedication" as, longtime shavees like Jay "continue to motivate and inspire others." Jay should receive a lapel pin, a personalized proclamation, on-site event recognition and access to exclusive merchandise. Swag bags and St. Baldrick's T-shirts will be given to each person going under the blade.

For those wishing to participate, it is encouraged for people to register at StBaldericks.org as a shavee and attempt to acquire donations on their behalf. If you wish to just show up and get shaved, in a kind of spur of the moment decision, you can as well, Jay says.

In other bar news, Jay says the business is progressing and they look forward to serving our community for years to come. Since opening, they have expanded the menu with more burgers, salads, kids options and brunch with bottomless mimosas. Proud to be part of the Greenhaven/Pocket community, Jay says Riverside Sports Bar will continue to make changes and progress.

Winter is coming; winter is here:

Game of Thrones inspires Parkside Community Church conversation on the role of religion in the show

By REV. BONNIE RAMBOB
Special to Valley Community Newspapers

The motif of a looming, long, dark, cold and people-starving winter permeates the psyche of the inhabitants of Westeros in the HBO series, *Game of Thrones*. And, with the winter comes the army of the dead, puppets of the diabolical Night King. As kings, queens, lords and ladies make their moves for more power, the whisper of a coming apocalypse haunts.

According to the show's prophets, this ominous end of the world promises to be so thorough, it will negate all of the brilliant strategizing undertaken on the way to claiming the Iron Throne. Those of us who watch the show, don't know the end of the story. All we know is that, in *Game of Thrones*, no person or House, no matter how powerful, is safe -- which makes it resonantly terrifying that only a few characters in the epic drama are actually paying attention. Will greedy, vengeful rulers lay aside their cravings for excess and revenge, listen to the harbingers of existential threat and unite forces to face the impending danger together? We hope so, but we don't yet know.

It's hard to say; but, perhaps the real-life experience of living in the shadows of a ticking Doomsday Clock makes *Game of Thrones*, according to *Time* magazine, "the biggest and most popular show in the world. An average of more than 23 million Americans watched each episode last season when platforms like streaming and video on demand are accounted for. And since it's the most pirated show ever, millions more watch it in ways unaccounted for. *Thrones*… airs in more than 170 countries. It's the farthest-reaching show out there—not to mention the most obsessed-about."

I was introduced to *Game of Thrones* by a member of the church that I co-pastor, Parkside Community Church. He asked for a church-sponsored conversation on the role of religion in the show. As a Christian clergy person, when a story collectively captures religious imagination, I feel it is my duty to know more. After binge-watching the first season, I told him-- I'm in.

For the past few months, I had the most fun I've ever had preparing to lead a religious/spiritual conversation. I paid close attention to the connections between *Game of Thrones's* religions and spiritualities and the tenets of progressive Christianity. Trust me, there is a lot to talk about – sin, confession, resurrection, light/dark dualism, polytheism, monotheism, ecclesiastical authority, and much more.

On Saturday, Jan. 27, a cadre of *Game of Thrones* enthusiasts (as well as some who were interested but not obsessed) gathered at Parkside Community Church (www.parksideucc.org) to enter the world of *GOT* as we made meaning through connections – connections between the storylines in *GOT* and our personal storylines and connections between *GOT* and the progressive Christian faith. The conversations were rich and deep. They left us paradoxically satisfied and longing for more.

Progressive Christianity (which is different from traditional Christianity) does not claim to have a clear vision of the future. The future unfolds as we co-create it. This understanding of the future gives us energy to collaboratively work hard to make the world a better place. However, we are still left with the uncertainty of how things will turn out. Humans have always turned to spirituality and ritual for help in facing the uncertainties in life. Each generation in each spiritual and/or faith tradition does this in its own way which makes *GOT* a powerful resource for faith communities today. The series illuminates timeless religious constructs in new ways, ways that are relevant. At Parkside, we can't wait until Season 8 comes out. When the winter winds blow in Westeros, we are looking forward to talking about what they might mean to us.

Community Worship

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‘Growing Hearts, Growing Minds, Growing Leaders’:

Matsuyama teacher embodies school motto, nominated for educator award

By ELLEN COCHRANE
ellen@valcomnews.com

Maybe you’re born with all the empathy you’ll ever have. Or maybe you can acquire it. If you’d been in Mike Mullen’s sixth grade class at Matsuyama Elementary School over the last 20 or so years you’d see how he’s tested, pulled and stretched his students’ empathetic capacity to make sure they are well equipped to be the best students and people they can be.

Mullen’s principal, Judy Montgomery, nominated Mullen for the 2017-2018 LifeChanger Award. This annual program recognizes K-12 educators who are making a significant difference in the lives of students by exemplifying excellence, positive influence and leadership. The awards will be announced this spring.

Tucked deep in the Pocket area, Matsuyama Elementary School has a mission of "Growing Hearts, Growing Minds, Growing Leaders" -- a perfect match for Mullen, who is a 22-year veteran at the school.

“Mike sees the good in everyone,” said Montgomery. “He truly believes all students can achieve greatness… even the toughest. He owns his successes and shortcomings, he is highly reflective, and never has a disparaging word about anyone. He is a man of integrity, character, empathy and moral values who leads by action. I am honored to work with him."

After school you can find him working with his Robotics team—prepping for weekend competitions. His focus is always on teamwork and sportsmanship, not winning. His students do win competitions, but they also earn self-respect and pride—life skills that will be with them forever.

About once a month you can see his students take a walking field trip to Revere Court on Rush River Drive. Mullen introduces his students to Alzheimer’s patients at this neighboring facility. The kids participate in activities, including crafts, music, cooking, and socializing.

“At the beginning of the year, when we first visit the residents, the sixth graders are very shy and standoffish,” Mullen explains. “They quickly learn of the love the patients have and of their innocence. Sometimes at the end of the year, there are tears shed as we visit for the final time. I always remind them that they can volunteer or visit anytime. Some do visit on their own time after that.”

Although Mullen’s taught multiple levels, he loves the sixth grade. “The kids are trying to define themselves. They have the responsibility of being the “top dog” at the school and I love teaching them: “With great power comes great responsibility.” (Spiderman).

Both Mullen and Montgomery believe Matsuyama is a special school with awe-inspiring, compassionate and caring students.

Over the years, Matsuyama families have supported fundraisers to help Tsunami victims in Thailand and Japan. They have donated thousands of pounds of pet food to animal shelters, and many, many boxes of canned food to help feed the hungry.

Through examples from their parents and direct instruction from the teachers, the children are learning the importance of caring for one another. “A lesson this world sorely needs,” said Mullen.

Mullen teaches this lesson. At the end of each year he sends sixth graders off into the world a little wiser and kinder. This is Mullen’s way of touching the future with goodwill and humanity.







New Greenhaven/Pocket Listings by Dee



964 Cobble Shores Dr.
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7481 Maple Tree Way
$330,000

Updated 1 story halplex in Park Place South. Spacious great room with large fireplace. Spotless 2 bed, 2 bath with skylight. HOA covers front yard maintenance, exterior painting, roofing, and common tennis courts.



3 Rio Viale Court
$489,000

Sophisticated living adjacent to the Sac River. One year old 4 bed, 3 bath home. Beautifully appointed and maintained. Low mainteance yards. Built with the young professional in mind.



715 Cutting Way
$389,000

Prestigious Pocket area. Beautifully kept two story home with 3 bed and 2.5 baths. Separate living room and formal dining. Country kitchen. Light and bright. Profesionally landscaped.



1174 Cedar Tree Way
$385,000

Great room concept w/ vaulted ceilings, sky lights and beautiful laminated flooring. Kitchen with breakfast nook, European cabinets & newer appliances. Master bath has jacuzzi tub, double sinks and private shower stall.



7353 Rush River Drive
$350,000

Recently updated 3 bed, 2 bath home. Shining laminate floors, separate bonus room with fireplace, and large backyard with mature landscaping for shade in Sacramento's warm summers.



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Kennedy music department to hold concert to aid sexual assault victims



By Christopher Wong, Front Ensemble Section Leader

The John F. Kennedy High School music department is holding its annual benefit concert on Thursday, March 1, at 7 p.m. in the school's auditorium as a means of giving back to the community. Performing groups include the school's concert band, jazz band, choir, and percussion ensemble.

While in previous years the concert fundraised for national organizations, this year the concert looks to make a difference at home by raising money for WEAVE, a Sacramento organization that fights to end sex trafficking, sexual assault, and domestic abuse and also gives aid to survivors of those crimes.

"The reason why we put on a concert like this is... to do something nice for the community that doesn't necessarily benefit us. We do so many things for ourselves, constantly raising money. We would like to do something to help other people," Jeremy Hammond, one of the Kennedy band directors shared. He hopes to fill the auditorium and raise at least $2,000 for WEAVE.

Bryan Stroh, also band director and choir director, said that student leadership made the decision on which charity receives the funds raised from the concert.

Kennedy senior and clarinet section leader Lucy Salazar originally made the proposal to donate to WEAVE. "...especially with what happened with our soccer coach, we wanna come together as a community to fight people like that," explained Salazar. Since the issue of sex trafficking affects Kennedy students locally, the other student leadership members overwhelmingly voted for WEAVE.

Also new this year, the band is inviting special guests from the community to help fundraise.

"We want to make sure that while [our community representatives] supporting us in our efforts to get to D.C., we are supporting our own community and taking care of what we can at home," Stroh expressed.

Tubist Rachel Lei believes the community should go to show solidarity in support of stopping sex abuse.

"Why wouldn't you go to a concert that's helping end that issue?" she remarked.

If enough people attend, meeting the $2,000 goal will be easy. "While we might not be able to each donate to WEAVE Sacramento, we are able to work together and create a synergistic program that allows us to support our local WEAVE chapter," Stroh assured.

Admission to the concert is just five dollars.

For more information contact Jeremy Hammond, band director at 1 (916) 832-8657 email: jeremy-hammond@scusd.edu or Bryan Stroh, band director, choir director by email at bryan-stroh@scusd.edu



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Photo courtesy of Frank Abe

The first day of the trial of the Heart Mountain draft resisters in Federal District Court, Cheyenne, Wyoming. Mits Koshiyama (center, looking down) was 19 years old when this photo was taken on June 12, 1944.

Day of Remembrance to be held at ACC, to feature film on Japanese internment

By DEBBIE ETO

On February 19, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066. This led to the forced removal and incarceration of some 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry living on the West Coast. They had to abandon their jobs, their homes, and their lives to be sent to one of ten concentration camps scattered in desolate, remote regions of the country.

No Japanese Americans were ever charged or convicted, of espionage or sabotage against the United States. Still they were targeted, rounded up, and imprisoned for years, simply for having the "face of the enemy", a face of color.

On Feb. 23 from 1 to 3 p.m., ACC Senior Services will screen the film Conscience & The Constitution. The film's producer, award-winning journalist Frank Abe will speak on a panel moderated by Dr. Linda Revilla, with retired Sacramento County Superior Court Judge Charles Kobayashi and Dr. Phillip Akutsu of Sacramento State University. Dr Akutsu's father, Jim Akutsu, is featured in the film. Additionally, The Show Stoppers senior choir will perform. Photographs by Maurine Huang of the Manzanar Internment Camp will be on display.

This event is co-sponsored by the Jan Ken Po Cultural Association. The film "Conscience & The Constitution" and the discussion panel is the first event of ACC's "Films of Resistance" series supported by a grant from APIs Rise.

"Conscience and the Constitution" delves into the heart of the Japanese American conscience and a controversy that continues today. In discussing the history surrounding the documentary, Abe said, "In World War II, a handful of young Americans refused to be drafted from an American concentration camp. They were ready to fight for their country, but not before the government restored their rights as U.S. citizens and released their families from camp. It was a classic example of civil disobedience – but the government prosecuted them as criminals and Japanese American leaders and veterans ostracized them as traitors."

In describing his memories of the internment at Tule Lake, Kobayashi said he was 8 years old when he went to camp, not having completed the second grade. "Because I was the oldest child, after a while (I do not remember when now) I started to attend Japanese School in the morning and English School in the afternoon. When the war started, I lived in Auburn, Washington. Since there was not enough space in the Puyallup Assembly Center for the people who lived south of Seattle and those who lived in Oregon, we were sent to Pinedale CA Assembly Center, which was near Clovis/Fresno. From there we were sent to Tule Lake in the summer of 1942.

"My parents were 'no-no' – they spoke very little English – and I believe my father, who was a dry cleaner-tailor before the war, knew that he could not return to Auburn, WA. I had overheard that Japanese Americans were not welcome back to the Auburn area. I believe that my parents at one time said that they wanted to go to Japan but fortunately they changed their minds and were allowed to remain in the U.S."

If you go:

What: Day of Remembrance
When: Friday, Feb. 23 from 1 to 3 p.m.
Where: ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive
Admission is free and open to the public, but you should RSVP to cmoua@accsv.org

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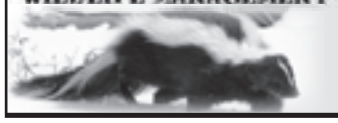

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Flood:

Continued from page 2

The second lesson is to sign up for emergency alerts from your local emergency management officials. The current emergency alert system, which can send a phone call, email or text to your preferred numbers, requires residents to opt in. By default, the system includes all landline telephone numbers (listed and unlisted). By signing up, you can ensure emergency notices go to additional numbers such as work phone, cell phone, TTY device and email addresses. You can also register multiple locations, such as work, school or other family members, to receive an alert about those locations. The system covers Sacramento, Yolo and Placer counties.

According to Jason Sirney, Emergency Manager for the City of Sacramento, about 17% of residential units in the Pocket and Greenhaven areas have signed up with the service. "It is likely that most people intend to register for emergency notifications but do not quite get around to actually doing it," Sirney said. "Unless you really do take the few minutes to sign up, you are limiting your chances to receive critical emergency notifications and information during crisis situations. Good intentions alone will not result in receiving emergency messaging when it matters!"

To register for emergency alerts in Sacramento County, follow the instructions at this page:

http://www.sacramentoready.org/Pages/Emergency-Alerts-Notification-System.aspx

Despite the inherent flood risk, many of us choose to live in the Greenhaven/Pocket area because of other virtues like its proximity to downtown, planned community with parks, greenbelts, great schools, a variety of housing and the often-cited family friendly community here. And there is positive news on the flood front with a big upcoming project to reduce our flood risk further. More on that in a future column.

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What's happening Pocket/Greenhaven?

SATURDAY, FEB. 17

WABI KUSA: JAPANESE WATER GARDENS WORKSHOP: Learn the Japanese art of Wabi Kusa with Joe Triglia from Tufarock Design. Participants will learn about these beautiful, low maintenance indoor/outdoor water gardens before making their very own from 2:30 to 4 p.m. at Sierra 2 Center for the Arts and Community, 24th St. The fee is $35 per person. Instructor Joe Triglia will provide moss, plants, as well as a special hypertufa planter for creating a Wabi Kusa planting. What is Wabi Kusa? Wabi Kusa is a trendy offshoot of aquascaping that is accessible to beginners while providing new challenges to experienced gardeners. There is no literal translation of 'Wabi-kusa' in the English language, but it denotes something natural, beautiful, sweetly imperfect, and involving plants. While aquascaping is all about growing underwater plants, this form of water gardening indoors makes use of semi-aquatic plants that live in boggy conditions. They are shallow-rooted and need consistently wet conditions. And unlike traditional aquascaping, there's no complicated aquatic equipment needed– just a wide container (most commonly made fromclear glass) is needed.

In this workshop:

Participants will be planting semi-aquatic plants and moss into special hypertufa planters (made by Joe Triglia).

Those planters will sit in the water proof containers provided by the participants. These mini-aquariums are easy to take care of and make beautiful art pieces in any home or office.

What Participants Need to Bring:

Participants need to bring their own water proof container, such as a ceramic, glass, or plastic dish to display their new Wabi Kusa planting in. Containers should be roughly 6-10 inches in diameter, and 1-4 inches deep. About the Instructor: Joe Triglia is a go-to instructor for plant workshops. He is a Sacramento-based maker and owner of Tufarock Design, located in West Sacramento. For the past five years he has been sharing his knowledge of hypertufa crafting in workshops and tutorials throughout Northern California.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21

SOLD OUT: ALHAMBRA: SACRAMENTO'S PALACE OF FANTASY TO PREMIERE ON FEB. 21 AT THE TOWER THEATRE: The Center for Sacramento History, in partnership with Pocket resident Matías Antonio Bombal, Chad E. Williams and executive producer Wendell Jacob, are proud to present the world premiere of ALHAMBRA: Sacramento's Palace of Fantasy at the Tower Theatre (2508 Land Park Drive) on Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2018. Screenings will take place at 7 p.m. and 8:20 p.m. Over a year in research and production, using multiple assets in the collections of the Center for Sacramento History and the community, this documentary examines why the Alhambra Theatre (1927-1973) captured the imagination of all who entered and how its demise still sparks controversy nearly 50 years later. The 55-minute documentary film ALHAMBRA: Sacramento's Palace of Fantasy is highlighted with compelling interviews, pictures and newly-found movies that tell the story of Sacramento's beloved and lost Alhambra Theatre, a 1927 million-dollar temple to movies, music, and art for 46 years. The film's trailer can be viewed at https://vimeo.com/242839790. Funds from this event will go toward preserving and making available the moving image collections held by the Center. For more information, please visit www.centerforsacramentohistory.org.

HIMALAYAN HEALING BOWLS: For centuries, the harmonics of Himalayan Singing Bowls have been used to create physical and mental health. You will be introduced to several bowls and learn how to play the bowls to get the greatest benefits such as relaxation and a balance and calmness into your life. Pre-payment of $20 and pre-registration required. $25 drop-in fee. Class will be held Wednesday February 21, 2018 from 1:30-3:00pm at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more information, call (916)393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.orgs.

THURSDAY, FEB. 22

TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR PHONE SERVICE: Knowing about your phone service options can save you money, help you avoid telephone fraud and ensure that you get the service that is right for you. Learn about discounted local home service and types of telephone fraud. If you have questions about your current services, bring copies of your phone or PG&E bills. We will also review various utility assistance program available. Pre-registration required. Free of Charge. Class will be held on Thursday February 22, 2018 from 2:30-3:30p at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more information, call (916)393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.orgs.

SACRAMENTO POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION 1849 FOUNDATION 2ND ANNUAL POLICE CHARITY BALL: The Sacramento Police Officers' Association (SPOA) 1849 Foundation presents their 2nd Annual Police Ball, Saturday, February 10, 2018 at the Kimpton Sawyer Hotel, 500 J Street in downtown Sacramento. The evening is from 6:00 p.m. until Midnight and will feature dinner, no-host bar, music, dancing, a silent auction and a live auction. The public and law enforcement personnel are welcome to attend. Tickets are now limited, so be sure to pick yours up soon. Discounted hotel rooms are available at the Kimpton Sawyer Hotel, subject to availability. Celebrity Emcee for the evening is Scott Moak, "The Voice of the Sacramento Kings." The Celebrity Auctioneer is Robi Quick, Field Emcee for the FC Republic Professional Soccer Team. The 1849 Foundation seeks to enhance the relationship between the Sacramento Police Family and the community in which they serve, through scholarships, crisis relief, team athletics and its rich history with planning underway for a "Sacramento Police Department Museum." The SPOA 1849 Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt, charity organization. Federal Tax ID Number: 35-2278731

MONDAY, FEB. 26

CHOOSING AND TRAINING HELPERS FOR YOUR FUTURE NEEDS: Choosing someone to help with your daily needs and finances in life is a big decision. At this legal workshop, we willl discuss how to choose an agent to make health care and financial decisions for you and the duties and responsibilities that they will have. A licensed professional fiduciary will join in the discussion. Pre-registration and pre-payment of $3 required. $5 drop-in fee at the door. Class will be held on Monday February 26, 2018 from 3:00-4:00p at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more information, call (916)393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.orgs.

TUESDAY, FEB. 27

LOCAL BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE: From 6 to 8 p.m, the Pocket Greenhaven Community Association will be hosting a local business roundtable at the Robbie Waters Pocket Greenhaven Public Library to discuss the issues and needs of local businesses and engage the community in "shop local" campaigns. Residents and local business owners welcome. Please submit questions or agenda topics to info@pocketgreenhaven.org; 7335 Gloria Dr, Sacramento, California 95831.

See Events, page 15

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Social Media Challenges

Topic for Presentation in our Community

By JAN DALSKE

Today's families face challenges that effect their teenagers in ways that teens who grew up even a decade ago would never have imagined. With everyone online, cyber bullying has become common. Sexting has become a new way of communicating. Selfies are the latest obsession. Our teens are finding it difficult to spend time alone and require some form of constant social communication.

The technology that everyone has access to can become an obsession and draw teens away from the responsibilities and activities that would have served to make their lives more balanced. Teenagers today feel the need to be in constant social communication, whether with a cellphone or a computer. What can parents do to change the way their teenagers communicate in this new technological era?

Parents, grandparents, caregivers and guardians of children and teens are invited to a special presentation that will help them to gain a new perspective. All families are invited to attend this timely and important community discussion which will address the challenges that our children and teenagers face with technology, social media, and academics in this digital age.

St. Anthony Parish will be presenting a documentary entitled "SCREENAGERS" and will have a panel to help give you a new perspective. How do the current social media challenges effect our Catholic values? The members of the panel include Father Jeremy Santos from Holy Rosary Parish in Woodland who has a background which involves interacting with youth.

Dave Levasseur, an educator from Christian Brothers High School, will share his expertise. And, a current high school senior will give his insight. The panel will be moderated by Lisa Levasseur, Director of Parent and Community Engagement for the Elk Grove School District. All families who have children in fifth grade and older are encouraged to attend.

A light lunch and childcare for the younger children will be provided. If you can attend please RSVP to Christine at 916-428-5678. This event will take place at St. Anthony Parish, 660 Florin Road, Sacramento, CA, in the Memorial Center on Sunday, February 25th at 12:30 pm.

Events:

Continued from page 14

DIABETES ACADEMY EDUCATIONAL SERIES: Second workshop in a series of three workshops dealing with diabetes. This workshop will focus on lifestyle modification, stages of changes and setting smart goal on diabetes. Pre-registration required. Free of Charge. Class will be held on Tuesday February 27, 2018 from 4:00-5:30p at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more information, call (916)393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.orgs.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28

FINANCIAL LITERACY FOR WOMEN: This informative workshop highlights the unique financial challenges women face and provides a forum to share their insights and wisdoms in small groups. Through case studies of women at major stages in their lives and their common financial challenges, the workshop offers strategies for establishing and maintaining financial security. Pre-registration required. Free of Charge. Workshop will be held on Wednesday February 28, 2018 from 6:30-8:00p at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more information, call (916)393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.orgs.

ONGOING

JFK BAND CROWDFUNDING FOR DC MEMORIAL DAY TRIP: JFK High School has a crowdfunding campaign they started to raise over $250,000 for their trip to DC in May to represent California at the nation's Memorial Day parade. Crowdfunding Site Link: https://www.crowdrise.com/jfk-marching-band-pathway-to-dc/fundraiser/johnfkennedyhighscho

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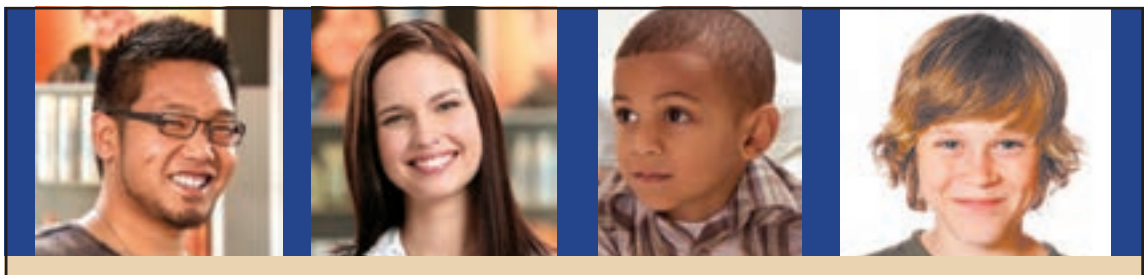

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