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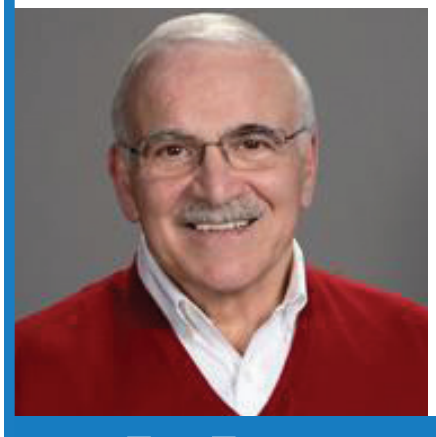

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SMUD is taking the lead on building a cleaner future for region

By Rosanna Herber
SMUD Ward 4 Director



Following several months of community meetings, workshops and public input, the SMUD Board of Directors recently approved a Zero Carbon Plan that commits us to removing carbon emissions from SMUD's power supply by 2030. It's the most ambitious clean-energy plan of any large electric utility in the nation.

There are many reasons why we set such an aggressive path.

Sacramento's poor air quality and the growing effects of climate change through drought and wildfires prompted us to take action now. In the American Lung Association's "2020 State of the Air" report, Sacramento was ranked the sixth-most polluted city in the country based on days of unhealthy levels of air pollution in the ozone layer. The public health implications are real - the Sacramento region's childhood asthma rates are more than 20 percent higher than the national average. That's unacceptable.

While SMUD is one of the greenest utilities in the country, we currently rely on natural gas for about half of our power generation. We plan to close two of our gas plants by 2025 and re-tool the others to reduce the amount of carbon SMUD puts into the air. Our Zero Carbon Plan will focus on proven and new clean technologies, new business models and partnerships, the remodeling and retirement of natural gas plants, and regulatory and financial strategies.

At the same time, the Board is committed to maintaining reliable, around-the-clock service while keeping rate increases at or below the rate of inflation. Our customers tell us that affordable rates and reliable electricity are their top two priorities, even as they voice strong support for SMUD's clean-energy efforts. The Board will not forget it's commitment to low rates and reliability as we take this journey.

The electrification of buildings and vehicles is a key part of the Zero Carbon Plan. SMUD doesn't intend to force our customers to act one way or another, but we do plan to offer education and incentives to ease the transition to a carbon free future.

One of the biggest strengths of the Zero Carbon Plan is its flexibility. We're not taking such a large step in any one direction that we can't pivot if we need to, based on new technologies or market conditions. We know where we're going, in other words, but our path is flexible. This plan gives us the adaptability to choose the best route.

We realize we can't accomplish this important goal alone. We need the support of a wide range of players, including our residential and business customers, elected officials, local business groups, community leaders, technology companies, car manufacturers, solar companies, and more. We're committed to full transparency and to making sure that all of our customers, including those living in historically under resourced communities benefit from this effort.

Together, we can lead the way to a cleaner, healthier, more sustainable future. I encourage you to visit CleanPowerCity.org to learn more about the Zero Carbon Plan. You can also send me your thoughts at Rosanna.Herber@smud.org.

POCKET NEWS
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Cover photo by: courtesy of Steve Lightstone

Pocket residents express concern with safety along levee

They say cross-levee fence removals led to influx in trespassing

By LANCE ARMSTRONG



Photos courtesy of Steve Lightstone

A group of motorcyclists are shown trespassing along a private section of the levee in the Pocket.

Several Pocket residents last week shared with the Pocket News their concerns with safety along the Pocket area stretch of the Sacramento River levee.

That portion of the levee from Garcia Bend Park to Zacharias Park is intended to become part of the future, $16.5 million Sacramento River Parkway, which would extend from downtown Sacramento to the southern edge of the city.

According to the city, the Pocket area portion of the planned, shared-use trail on the levee top totals 3.5 miles in length.

That stretch of the levee currently includes both public and private properties.

Until Feb. 23, when a few cross-levee fences were removed in the area, those seeking to travel a long distance southward toward Garcia Bend Park found their access denied.

Steve Lightstone, a co-coordinator of the West Pocket Neighborhood Watch, told the Pocket News on May 19 that a lot has changed since those fences came down.

"Since then, we've had a massive influx of (cars and motorcycles) on the levee, from the access point on Benham (Way) – 2.2 miles down – all the way to Garcia Bend Park," he said.

"It's very concerning, considering my daughter was up there when the vehicles went by. The Camellia Waldorf School is super concerned, because their kids are up on the levee during the day, during school."

Ryan Bogle, a member of the Sacramento Riverfront Association – a citizens group in the Pocket-Greenhaven area – mentioned that he resides on Brickyard Drive, in a vicinity of the levee where three cross-levee fences were removed for a levee strengthening project. He added that he is not aware of any plan to have the fences reinstalled.

"It's just going to be done and we're going to have to figure out how to live with these ramifications of these open levees with no one knowing who needs to patrol them, knowing who is actually responsible for them," he said.

"Where I live, we own the land under the levee. We're liable for anything that happens on the levee. If someone is back there and gets hurt, it's a liability issue. There's a safety issue, as well."

Mark Portuondo, another member of the Sacramento Riverfront Association, expressed frustration with a "total lack of coordination and kind of outreach" to the stakeholders.

"There's all these various stakeholders that had no notice, really, of these gates coming down," he said. "So, when Steve (Lightstone) was reaching out to folks, no one really knew.

"There (were) these roaming bands of motorcycles up there (on the levee), the safety of (kids) was being threatened by that. So, it took a lot of effort on private residents to reach out and do this that the flood board should have been doing. So, you had a response from some people that (the fences) should be going back up."

Meanwhile, Potuondo noted, there are many people in the community that have a misconception that private portions of the levee, once protected by fences, are now open to the public.

Portuondo, who owns property that extends under the levee, added that in response to certain residents' concerns, Assembly Member Jim Cooper, D-Elk Grove, sent a letter to the flood protection board, requesting that the gates be reinstalled.

In Cooper's letter, which was shared with the Pocket News by Portuondo, Cooper asked the Central Valley Flood Protection Board – which removed the fences – to reinstall them to "prevent vehicle access to the levee," and to place more signage along the levee for the purpose of "informing residents that vehicle access to the levee is prohibited."

"While I support public access to the levee, I'm concerned about motorists driving on the structure and potentially compromising the safety of others and of the levee itself," Cooper wrote.

Cooper did not respond to this publication's request for further comments by the deadline for this article.

Don Murphy, who lives along the levee, told the Pocket News that he is opposed to the city's plan to create a public, shared-use trail through the Pocket.

"A bike trail on the levee will compromise the security and safety of all properties – public and private – on the levee and nearby neighborhoods," he said. "Residents in Pocket, Greenhaven and Little Pocket are concerned that our Sacramento River levee neighborhoods will become what has happened on the American River Parkway.

"There is already evidence of this with homeless camps up and down the Sacramento River. A bike trail will become a thoroughfare for crimes, drug usage and homeless activity."

Murphy shared other concerns, including using eminent domain to cease private properties for a recreational trail, a potential decrease in property values, and using tax dollars for a project that could "fund more significant issues."

Todd Fulton, a 20-year Pocket resident who moved to a home near the levee last August, mentioned that no trespassing signs on the private levee near his home were vandalized.

Fulton, who owns property on Benham Way, mentioned that whether or not a trail is completed on the levee through Pocket, he is

see Levee page 6



Celebrate the return to normalcy:
But understand we're not yet fully there

By Devin Lavelle



After about fifteen months of significant restrictions to protect our community from the spread of COVID, the Governor's Executive Order saw most of those restrictions come to an end on Tuesday, June 15.

Californians who are vaccinated can go nearly everywhere without a mask and most businesses can operate without capacity limits and most other restrictions.

Before we get too far into celebrating, note there are a few limitations. Some public facilities will still require masks (schools, healthcare, long term care, correctional facilities and public transit). In addition, adults who have chosen not to be vaccinated are still required to be masked to limit the risks to others from their choice. (Especially children who cannot yet be vaccinated and immunocompromised neighbors of all ages)

That said, in most ways, for most of us, if we choose, a return to normalcy is here!

So with that, it's time to celebrate! And what better way to celebrate than by visiting one of our great local restaurants? Our neighborhood has so many great choices, covering a huge range of cuisines. Maybe visit a longtime favorite? Or try one of the newer restaurants that the pandemic stopped you from trying?

Homero's (near Bel Air) opened just a few months ago and offers great taqueria-style Mexican food. Sushi Q (on Florin) open a few months ago, as well, focused on sushi, with a full range of Japanese fare. Started in Elk Grove, this is their second location. Caffe Latte (Riverlake Village) changed ownership last winter when the LaVelles (no relation) retired and has had a major revamp since with updated the interior and an expanded menu with lots of great sandwiches and salads, in addition to the breakfast fare (plus crepes!). Tamashii Ramen (near Nugget) opened just before the pandemic, only to immediately have to shut its doors when COVID hit, with great ramen, sushi and other Japanese treats.

So what should we look forward to as we move past COVID this summer?

For Cacio's Katie, it's simple: "Tomatoes, stone fruit, Friday lunches...meatball sandwiches!! All of the things we missed last summer putting on an actual plate."

Ken, from Device, is focused on bringing community together, "We're looking forward to hosting community events, live music, and much more!"

And at Sushi Q, Kimthy looks forward to, "A more comfortable dining experience, indoors and outdoors, and possibly having the sushi bar open up!"

As excited as I am to get back to normal, our local restaurants have been through a really difficult time, both financially and having to deal with constantly changing regulations, so they are understandably harboring some reservations.

Katie relates, "We are feeling skeptical because we have had capacity/spacing restrictions for 15 months plus masking rules. We look forward to our new normal of more responsibly spaced seating indoors. The pandemic has taught us a good deal in terms of our business and we look forward to what the future holds. So many exciting things coming!!"

Ken seems cautiously hopeful, "It's good to see the state making real progress toward moving past COVID-19. My hope is that people remain responsible in their behavior and aware that this virus is not yet eradicated. However, it does appear that the population is moving toward immunity, which is fantastic news."

Kimthy shared mixed emotions, "We feel a bit relieved but also a bit nervous since we're in the same boat as most restaurants being understaffed."

see Normalcy page 5

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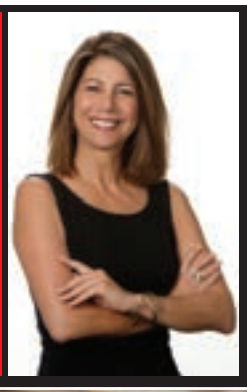

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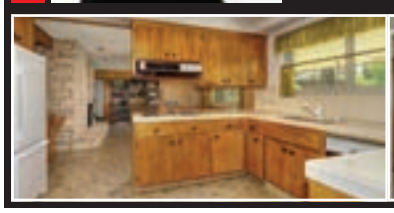

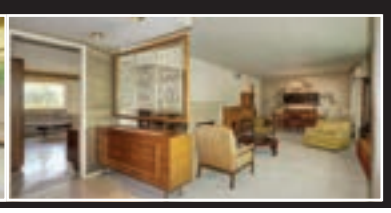



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Normalcy:

continued from page 4

All of our restaurants will have challenges over the next few months. The few who were able to keep consistent staffing levels are having to adjust to new rules and new processes as they adjust to customer wants and needs. The restaurants that have been able to fully hire are dealing with those same challenges while bringing in and getting new employees up to speed. And those that aren't so lucky are doing that all while short-staffed. They will get through it in time but know that they are doing their best and please be patient and kind when challenges occur.

Kimthy shared how important it is to remember that adjusting to this new normal is a challenge, "With indoor dining opening up, we still have a high call volume with phone-in orders. We would like others to be considerate and patient as we try to navigate new & constantly changing territory. Keep in mind, we are here to service the community and that takes a whole village."

Katie also emphasized how important reservations are to their business. "When people cancel a reservation with short notice or no show for a reservation, it now has much more impact. We count on those reservations to survive, we have staffed humans based off of these reservations. If people can do anything to help restaurants survive the next 6-12 months is to fulfill reservations or at least give enough adequate notice so tables may be rebooked. It may seem minimal to the layman but it greatly impacts us all right now."

I also heard from restauranteurs who are not able to return to normal yet. Whether from an inability to staff up or a desire to take a wait-and-see approach to ensure reopening happens safely and avoids a resurgence and future closures.

That would be the worst thing that could happen to our community, our families, our economy and, of course, our local restaurants. So please do your part:

If you're not vaccinated – get vaccinated or wear a mask.

Be patient and considerate, know that this is a time of adjustment.

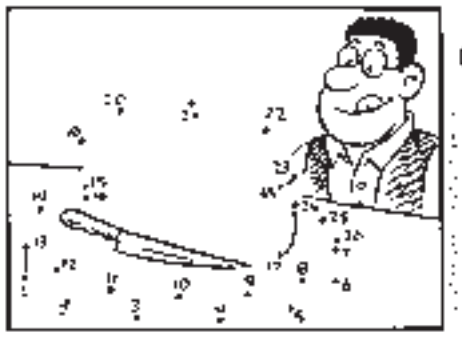
Be kind, know that some neighbors and businesses may be more cautious about COVID and they are fully entitled to feel that way and enforce whatever restrictions they want within their homes and businesses.

Keep on supporting our local businesses. Things may be getting back to normal for many of us, but this is their recovery period and they'll need a long period of "normal" before they stop feeling the pain of the pandemic.

And know that your local restauranteurs appreciate you for all of your support:

Katie, "We are so grateful for all of the support we have been given. Our little restaurant has survived for no other reason than the humans that supported us every week, every month. We wouldn't be here without people who believed in us and sacrificed their own loss in finances to keep us going. The hard part for restaurants as people move forward is the acknowledgment of staffing restrictions, how capacity limitations have greatly impacted our cash flow. We all are hanging on every bit we can right now. We were fortunate to have received the second round of PPP which enabled us to hire 4 humans.

And Ken leaves us with, "These past 15 months have been challenging, to say the very least. We're so grateful to all the people who continued to support us through all of this. We're also deeply thankful for our amazing staff who faithfully came to work every day to serve our guests."



WHAT MOST RESEMBLES HALF A CHEESE?
Connect the dots and find out!

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

TALLYHO, WORD SEARCHERS!

N	O	R	E	H	C	R	E	P	H	E	G	B	F	P
C	I	D	N	A	L	E	C	I	G	Z	N	Y	A	T
I	Y	I	S	H	E	T	L	A	N	D	A	S	R	R
R	E	S	L	O	N	O	I	L	L	A	T	S	A	O
C	K	S	S	E	N	R	A	H	R	U	S	X	B	T
U	N	A	P	V	R	R	E	T	R	A	U	Q	I	T
S	O	R	N	A	I	G	L	E	B	J	M	A	A	E
G	D	G	C	G	N	I	K	L	A	W	G	D	N	R

Illustrated by Cheryl Coulson

Hidden in the diagram above are names and words associated with horses. They can be found by reading up or down, or side to side. You'll even find them diagonally going up or down. Letters can be used more than once. Listed below are the words you're looking for.

ARABIAN
BELGIAN
CARRIAGE
CIRCUS
DONKEY
GAIT
GRASS
HARNESS
ICELANDIC
MUSTANG
PASTURE
PERCHERON
QUARTER
SHETLAND
STALLION
TROTTER
WALKING

A BETCHA PUZZLE! Place an odd-shaped piece of paper (fig. 1) on the table and challenge your friends to cut it into four equal pieces, all the same size and shape. The solution is shown in figure 2.



CHAIN REACTION! Take the seven letters printed below our diagram and place them in the circles so that eight four-letter words can be read top to bottom, along the connecting lines. All the words will begin with the letter in the top circle.

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The Spats — by Jeff Pickering



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Levee:

continued from page 3

more concerned about public safety.

He also spoke about how a recreational trail on the levee in the Pocket would affect wildlife.

"The more development that comes into play and comes into town, it's going to push wildlife off it," Fulton said. "That's what makes the Sacramento River so beautiful is the access to those things."

City supervising engineer talks about levee trail plan, more

Jesse Gothan, the city's supervising engineer, spoke about the purpose of the removal of the cross-levee fences in the Pocket area.

"The Central Valley Flood Protection Board, they're the permitting authorities of the levess," he said. "They review the projects and encroachments that are on the levees with the goal of keeping us safe from flood.

"And so, they also permit the (Army) Corps (of Engineers) to come through and do the projects. So, the cross-levee gates that were up were taken down by the Corps to implement their levee improvements. The Corps had to take down those levee gates to put in their slurry cutoff walls and implement all their flood control measures."

Gothan added that the city is not supportive of people trespassing along the private sections of the levee in the Pocket.

"There's reports of folks traveling up there (on private portions of the levee), bad behavior, trespassing," he said. "I know the city definitely doesn't approve of any of that (activity). I think it's really an issue that the Corps, working with the (Central Valley) Flood Protection Board, for their immediate situation, they need to secure their construction site and they need to keep those trespassers off."

Gothan mentioned that due to reports of public nuisances on sections of the levee in the Pocket, the city plans to establish a safety plan for the future trail along the Sacramento River levee.

"We are definitely going to be looking at a safety plan for the new (Sacramento) River Parkway that looks at best practices for controlling the trail entry points that would preclude motorized vehicles, work closely with our police department and our park rangers, just for enforcement," he said. "That will definitely be a part of our planning and our design process."

As for the history of the parkway plan, Gothan noted that it has been on city planning documents since the 1970s.

He added that the plan also aligns with the Sacramento Area Council of Governments' goal for a regional trail network.

"One of the main things Sacramento is known for is its river parkway – most notably the American River Parkway," Gothan said. "But this is a key transportation component that would be used for people making transportation trips, and also for recreation and just active mobility."

As for the issue of eminent domain, city spokesperson Tim Swanson told the Pocket News that although the city would use that method to acquire easements for the project, "the city will consider all other options to ensure just compensation for any property rights necessary for the project."

Gothan noted that federal environmental reviews for the project will commence this year, and that construction on the parkway project will begin after the Army Corps of Engineers complete their levee improvements, which are scheduled to conclude in 2024.

"I would think the timeline for the construction of our project would probably be one construction season – so probably a six-month time frame in 2024 or 2025, likely starting in the spring and concluding in the summer," he said.

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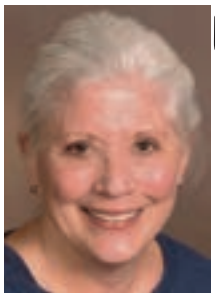

THIS 'n' THAT

by Carol Bogart

They Never Forget Who Saved Them

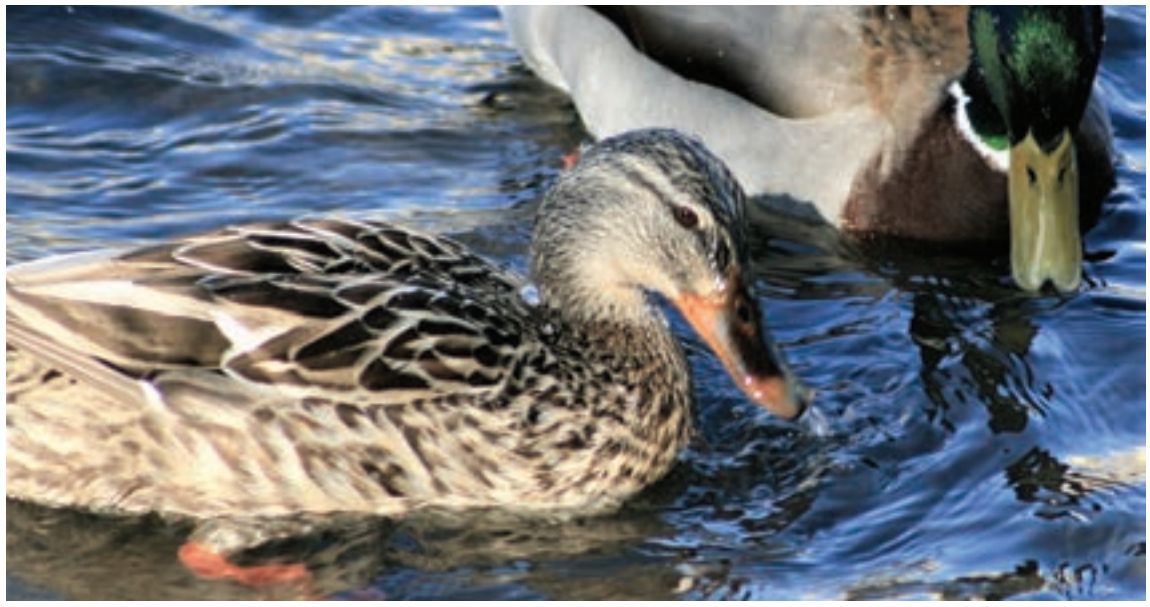

PHOTO COURTESY OHIO DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Adult Mallards. The duckling rescued at my West Sac complex proved to be a female. She looks like this one.

First let me say I played only a supporting role in the rescue of the West Sac duckling. My son, then living with me as my caregiver, and a warm-hearted neighbor, Lydia, took turns caring for the tiny duck. It attached to both of them. Lydia fed it and soothed it with lullabies. When it perched on Mike's neck, it 'groomed' his hair.

Lydia gave it a name that, in Belarus, she said meant "Stephen." Michael named it Howard. It mostly lived with Lydia but Mike had privileges. (It was he who actually rescued 'Howard' from a manhole drain pipe in our parking lot.) Hanging upside down, showed it how to get out of the pitch black pipe using a pen light and tapping to guide it to the entrance. When it came out, he handed it up to me and I handed it to Lydia.

I thought two 'moms' (Lydia and Mike) were enough. I'm a believer that wildlife should stay wild. Within two weeks, the duckling, who'd been following Lydia around in her apartment, was in a pen. Too many 'accidents' on her carpet.

The then-manager said the ducking had to go. A Wildlife Care Association (Sac County at McClellan) volunteer came and got the duckling. We knew it was for the best. And tried not to cry.

The duckling was transferred to International Bird Rescue in Cordelia. When she (yes, Stephen-Howard proved to be a girl) could fly, she was released with others about as big as she was. And that, we thought, was the end of the duckling saga.

Nope.

One spring, several years ago, before our pool was open for the season, two Mallards – male and female – showed up. That evening, the duck couple was at one end of the pool; Lydia went to the other, and began softly singing the lullaby she once sang to a frightened duckling.

The female Mallard came right to her.

I tried speaking to the ducks. The duckling knew my voice, too, from the time it spent with Michael. Sure enough, it paddled close. I smiled and said, "Hi, Howard."

What would happen this year, I wondered.

Last spring, Stephen-Howard hatched a brood and took her ducklings in the pool. Soon after, I heard Howard's frantic quacking. She was standing next to Lighthouse as the then-manager crossed it carrying a big cardboard box. The box was peeping. A car was coming.

I ran past Howard, held out my arms, and she started walking across the street. Seeing me, the car slowed down. I pointed to the duck following the peeping box. The driver smiled and stopped. The manager, on his side, waited. A kind man, he was red in the face and frustrated. "I've been at this for two hours!!" he told me and kept on going. Howard was right behind him.

At the far end of what was then an old parking lot, he set the peeping babies free. Would they survive in an abandoned golf course full of predators – hawks, raccoons, skunks, coyotes, feral cats? I thought, "God, please protect them."

So. Would there be ducks on the pool this year? In April, there were three. A stunning drake, a younger male, and a full grown female. After a few days, the big drake left. A week or so later, the pandemic-closed pool was empty.

Last week, coming from the garden about 8 p.m., I saw a Mallard drake and hen pecking around in the grass. Slowly, I approached them. About a foot away, I stopped. The female duck made eye contact. "Howard?" I said. The male backed away and quacked, alarmed. Howard peeped. Her baby voice. She knew me.

The two pecked around a little more. Howard flew off. Her youngster followed her. Headed, I think, to the private lake at the Rivers.

Need advice on what to do if you rescue a baby bird or animal? First, give the parent bird or animal time to help it. If it's truly orphaned (or injured), call WCA (the Wildlife Care Association 1-(916) 965-9453) for the best time to bring it. Questions, comments? Contact Carol Bogart at carol@bogartonline.com.

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‘No fishing’ rule at William Land Park draws further reaction

Locals, others hope for lifting of fishing ban at park



Photo courtesy of Ronald Fong

Land Park resident Ronald Fong holds a fishing pole near a “no fishing” sign at William Land Park.

By LANCE ARMSTRONG

A group of local residents and former Sacramento area residents, with experience fishing at William Land Park, last week spoke against the ban on fishing in the park’s ponds.

In an article published in the May 13 edition of the Land Park News, Tony Ulep, Sacramento city parks superintendent, noted that the park’s fishing ban was instituted two years ago, and that additional “no fishing” signs were recently posted at this park.

He also explained why the decision was made to prohibit fishing at William Land Park.

“Two years ago, we had a meeting – so, the parks’ department; the manager (and two superintendents) – with the (city) animal control manager,” he said. “We were getting a lot of complaints that the ducks and geese were getting (fishing hooks) impaled into their beaks or their bills (and) their feathers and their wings, and they were getting wrapped up with fishing line.”

To emphasize this issue, Ulep sent this paper a link to an online news story about a Canada goose that was impaled by a fishing hook and rescued at William Land Park last March.

The same report, which was published by CBS13, mentions that two weeks earlier, another bird was rescued after it was found dangling by fishing line in Elk Grove.

Ulep this week told the Land Park News that he was recently informed that people continue to fish at William Land Park, despite its posted “no fishing” signs.

“We have a concerned citizen that cares for the wildlife at (William) Land Park (who said) there is still fishing going on there and it’s still harming the wildlife by (people) not picking up the hooks or the fishing line,” he said.

Land Park native Ronald Fong, who organized the group that is protesting the park’s fishing ban, told the Land Park News last week that he is very concerned about the park’s ban on fishing.

“The kids don’t have any place to go to,” he said. “It’s urban fishing. You don’t have to go to the river. Your parents can drop you off (at the park). It’s a safe zone.”

Fong, a 1967 graduate of C.K. McClatchy High School, noted that he began fishing at the park when he was 6 years old and that his memories of fishing there are very special to him.

“It basically taught me the basics of fishing,” he said. “You started catching carp and bluegill and all that. It started my love of fishing. So, it’s very sentimental to me, and you can start the joy of fishing right there, catching small fish that are planted (by birds) in the pond.

“(Fishing at the park) keeps you out of trouble, because you’re not doing anything that’s wrong.”

Also memorable to Fong is the park’s former fishing derby event. He said he would donate $500 per year to the derby, if it returned to the park.

Fong, who most recently fished at William Land Park last year, added that he never used to hear anything about fishing being an issue at this park.

“I’m 72, so the first 50 years, no one complained about this, at least,” he said. “So, what’s happening is more and more people are using the park, and more and more people are feeding the geese that are wild geese that really don’t belong here.

“I’ve seen the population of geese maybe go up from, I don’t know, 50 to 300 during the pandemic. Everybody’s got no place to go, so the free zone is the park, and everybody goes down there and feeds the geese. So, that would lead to more geese getting injured, because you’ve got more geese and ducks there that normally aren’t there.”

Kacie Young, who grew up in the Pocket area and graduated from John F. Kennedy High School in 2008, fished with her father and uncle at William Land Park during the early 1990s.

Young addressed the topic of birds getting injured by fishing line and hooks at this park.

“I understand both sides that it is a safety concern for the environment and for the people that go to the area, but I also feel like the fishermen are pretty responsible or at least should be held responsible in certain cases like that,” she said. “I do think fishing is an important part of (William) Land Park. I think it adds to the family values of the area.”

South Land Park resident Willie Louie, a 1967 graduate of McClatchy High, also spoke against the park’s fishing ban.

“Many of us in our generation learned to fish there, and that’s why it kind of surprised me that somebody can come along and put a ‘no fishing’ sign up there without discussing it with the public,” he said. “I know there are a few individuals that are (dedicated) to that, having to protect this, this and that, but they overlook the memories of kids.

“I can’t believe there’s that many ducks and birds that are getting killed by fishing hooks. It can happen, yes, but to put a restriction on fishing there because of that, I’m not a believer in that.”

see fishing page 9

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Fishing:

continued from page 8

South Sacramento resident Rich Alcartado, a 1968 Hiram W. Johnson High School graduate who grew up visiting William Land Park in the 1950s and 1960s, noted that he was surprised to learn about the park's birds being injured by fishing lines and hooks.

"I've never seen that when we were down there, and there were always ducks and geese down there," he said. "Where do these kids go now (to fish)?"

South Land Park resident Kim Deeks-Lederer, a 1998 McClatchy High graduate, grew up participating in fishing events at the park.

Deeks-Lederer mentioned that she is disappointed that she cannot take her son to fish at William Land Park.

"A lot of places along the river aren't exactly safe," she said. "Homelessness is a huge problem in Sacramento, and so, I don't feel comfortable taking him down to (the west end of) Broadway, where the boat ramp is there, especially by myself as a single female."

She also spoke about the issue of birds getting injured by fishing line and hooks at the park.

"If it was a big of a deal as they say it is, we never heard it," Deeks-Lederer said. "It's never been in the news, it's never been in a newspaper. I take my kids to Fairytale Town and the zoo all the time. They have never seen a duck or a goose or anything with fishing line in it."

Pocket area resident Cecilia Lew also shared her thoughts on the park's fishing ban.

"It's not good," she said. "When (her kids) were little, I used to take them with my friend's kids (to William) Land Park to the little pond and also to Southside Park. I think it's beneficial to the children that they have some place close by that they can learn how to fish."

Lew suggested that the park district limit fishing to kids, 12 to 15 years old and younger.

"It would be good for the kids to continue (to) fish there, instead of closing the whole area for anybody to fish," she said.

Galt resident Jean Warren mentioned that she has fond memories of bringing her children to the park to go fishing in the early 2000s.

"It was a wholesome, easy outing that I could do with my kids that I felt comfortable doing," she said. "They love fishing, but to go to the river, that's a lot of work to go to the river.

"(The ban on fishing at this park) upsets me, because it's a wholesome-type activity that anyone can do with their kids, and it was a place that was safe."

Land Park resident Maury Hatch, a 1982 graduate of McClatchy High, said that he used to fish at William Land Park twice per week, and that before the COVID-19 pandemic, he provided fishing instruction for kids at the park.

Hatch, who makes a living in the fishing industry, shared his initial reaction to learning about the park's fishing ban.

"When this thing first came to light, I saw the signs and just thought it was another thing that happened in California, that they're cracking down on everything," he said.

Hatch added that he observed a change in the type of people who fish at the park.

"Over the years, especially the last 10 years, it seems like it went from a place where kids fished there to a place that adults fished there, kind of for subsistence fishing, instead of fun fishing," he said. "It's my understanding that there was so much 'catch and keep' fishing by this new wave of fishermen that they kind of fished the place out.

"When we were little kids, we never kept the fish there. We hooked the fish, took a good look at it, studied it a little bit and threw it back to catch it another day."

Hatch concluded that his "strongest suggestion" would be for the park district to allow fishing for kids, 16 or 17 years old and younger.

"It seems like it would bring it back to more of a fun thing, less serious, and you wouldn't get the crowds there (fishing). I think it should be a catch and release fishery, and all for the youth."

Asked whether fishing will ever be allowed at William Land Park again, Ulep provided some hope to those who support that action.

"As of currently, probably not, and that's just because of the fishermen not being responsible by being careless and leaving their hooks out and entangling the wildlife (with fishing line), and now we have rescue groups getting involved," he said. "As of today, no (fishing at William Land Park), but it could possibly change later."



Photo courtesy of Maury Hatch

Left to right, Land Park residents Asher Drucker, Ward Culliton and Maury Hatch stand with fishing poles along the bank of a pond at William Land Park.



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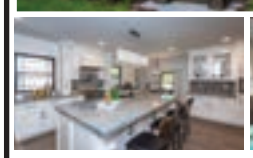

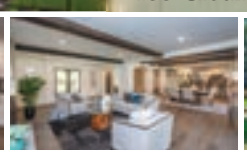



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1. What does "Una Paloma Blanca" mean?
2. Who released "Sixty Minute Man"?
3. Which band member developed the Starchild persona for KISS performances and sported a star over his right eye?
4. Which artist released "Love Hangover"?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "If her Daddy's rich, take her out for a meal, If her Daddy's poor, just do what you feel."

Answers

1. That's Spanish for "white dove." Dutch songwriter George Baker says it was about a poor farmer who sits thinking of being a free bird. It was Billboard's No. 1 easy-listening single for 1976.
2. Billy Ward and the Dominoes, in 1951. The song was banned by radio stations because of its sexual content, but it opened the doors to similar songs when rock and roll took off.
3. Paul Stanley, co-writer for many of the group's songs. The star was chosen after a brief experiment with a bandit mask.
4. Diana Ross, in 1976. The song was used in a bar scene in the film "Looking for Mr. Goodbar."
5. "In the Summertime," by Mungo Jerry in 1970. The record was released as a maxi single, which means it was played at 33 1/3 rpm instead of 45, with two songs on each side.

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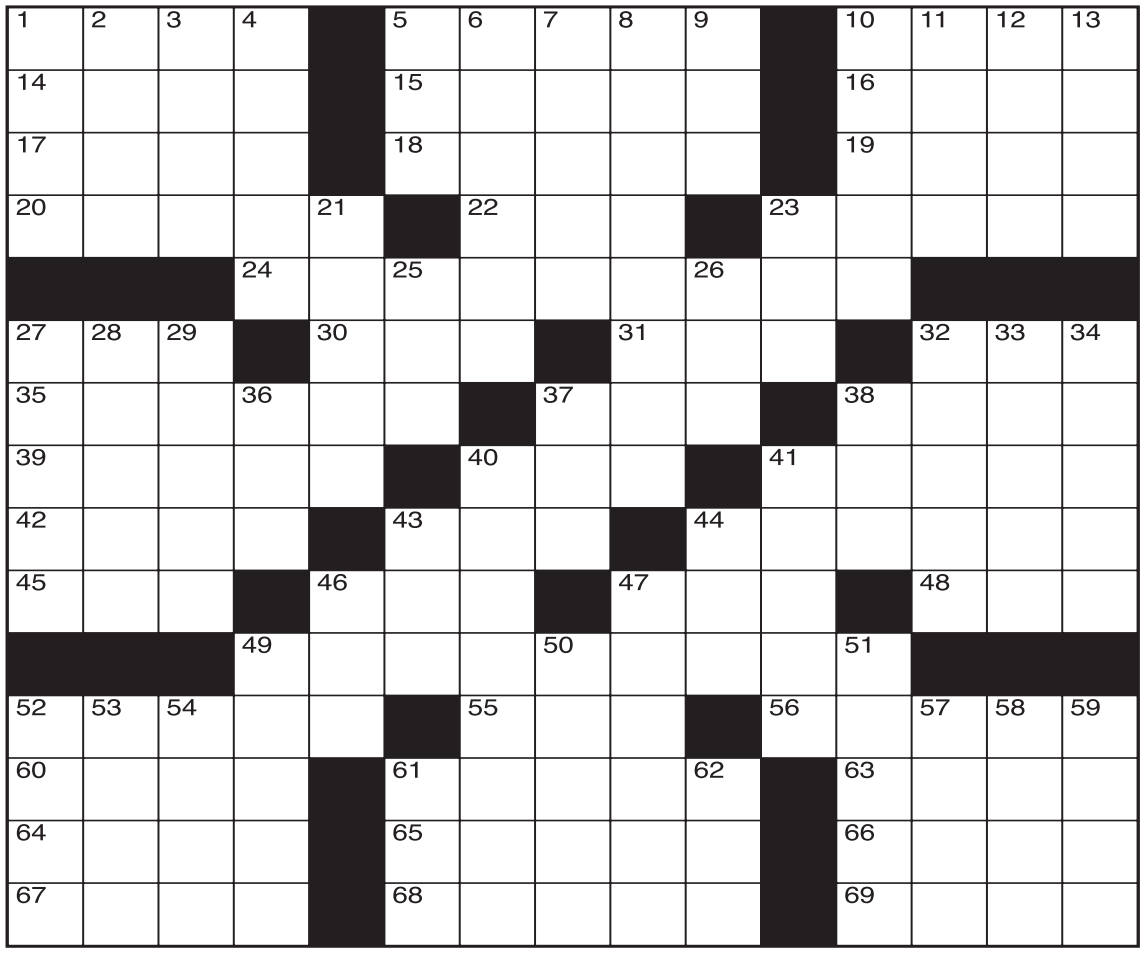
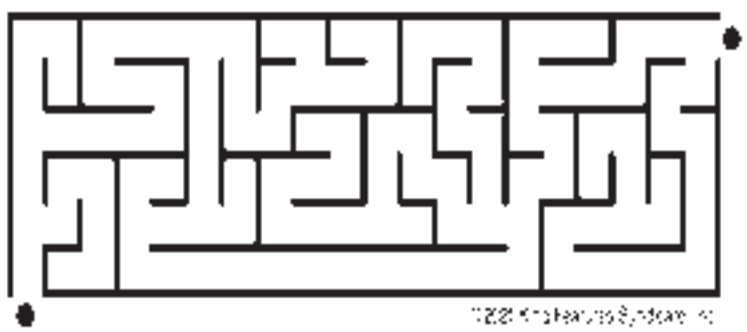
CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS
1. Fashion accessory
5. Subatomic particle
10. Ethnic group of the Philippines
14. Popular cookie
15. Fabric
16. Alcoholic liquor
17. Peter __, Dutch portrait painter
18. Longtime Chicago mayor
19. A famous "Lady"
20. Islamic calendar month
22. Rocky peak
23. Polio vaccine developer
24. Songs sung in open air
27. Military movements
30. Male parent
31. Beloved hot beverage
32. Female sibling
35. Tackled the QB
37. Set a dog on someone
38. Long live! (Spanish)
39. Porticos
40. Pouch
41. Smooth fabric
42. Enough (archaic)
43. Institute legal proceedings against
44. Scarred
45. Draw from
46. Brother or sister
47. Body part
48. Commercials
49. London soccer team
52. Satisfied
55. Surgical technique (abbr.)
56. Fencing sword
60. French industrial city
61. Intellectual property organization (abbr.)
63. Helps to carry food
64. "Rule, Britannia" composer
65. One-time Empress of the Roman Empire
66. Intestinal pouches
67. None better
68. "WandaVision" actress
69. Comedic actress Kathryn

CLUES DOWN
1. Fifth notes of major scales
2. Region
3. Your consciousness of your own identity
4. Georgetown athletes
5. They follow A
6. Spoke
7. Hairdressers' domain
8. Extravagantly theatric
9. End-blown flute
10. Heroic tales
11. Member of a Semitic people
12. Members of a priestly caste
13. Southern Ghana people
21. Counsels
23. Body of water
25. Awesome!
26. Calendar month
27. Native of region in Caucasus
28. Indian city
29. Exclusive
32. Alaskan town
33. Covered with ivy
34. Loose granular substances
36. Native American tribe
37. Written American English
38. Holiday (informal)
40. Add up
41. Small brown and gray rails
43. Get off your feet
44. Express disgust
46. Surface of the ground
47. Put into a silo
49. Belief
50. British noblemen
51. Tennis game
52. Dry, protective crust
53. Swiss river
54. Large integers
57. La __ Tar Pits, Hollywood
58. Every one of two or more
59. "Deadpool" actor Reynolds
61. Earlier
62. Peter's last name

Kids' Maze





Police Logs

The news items below are collected from police dispatchers' notes and arrest reports. The information in them has often not been verified beyond the initial reports. All suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

THURSDAY, JUNE 3

(Burglary - Investigation): 7200 Block of Freeport Boulevard at 12:37 a.m.

Officers responded to a report of a burglary at a business. Evidence of a burglary was observed. A crime report was generated.

(Carjacking - Investigation): 4500 Block of Mack Rd at 2:59 a.m.

Officers responded to a report of a carjacking. The suspects physically assaulted the victim and stole the victim's vehicle. A crime report was generated.

FRIDAY, JUNE 4

(Arson - Arrest): 2700 Block of Ramp Way at 10:33 a.m.

Officers responded to a report of a subject lighting several small brush fires. The fire department extinguished the fires. Officers located the suspect in the area who was arrested for arson and narcotics charges.

(Vehicle Pursuit - Gun Arrest): 7800 Block of Richion Drive at 5:26 p.m.

An officer attempted to conduct an enforcement stop on a vehicle. The vehicle fled, leading to a pursuit. The suspect vehicle collided with a parked vehicle at which point the driver fled on foot. No injuries were reported from the collision and officers were able to apprehend the driver. During the investigation, a firearm was located. The driver was arrested for pursuit and weapons charges.

SATURDAY, JUNE 5

(Robbery - Investigation): 2500 Block of Riverside Blvd at midnight.

Officers responded to a report of a robbery. The suspects assaulted the victim and attempted to steal the victim's personal property. The victim was transported to a local hospital with serious but non-life-threatening injuries. A crime report was generated.

(Shooting - Investigation): 2600 Block of Kit Carson Street at 4:07 a.m.

Officers responded to a report of a shooting. Evidence of a shooting was located at the scene. One male adult victim later showed up at a local hospital with a non-life-threatening gunshot wound. A crime report was generated.

(Traffic Stop - Gun Arrest): Tangerine Avenue/Mack Road at 4:17 p.m.

Officers conducted an enforcement stop on a vehicle. During the investigation, a firearm and evidence of marijuana sales were located. The occupant was arrested for charges related to illegal firearm possession and marijuana sales.

(Vehicle Collision): 3700 Block of Shining Star Drive at 6 p.m.

Officers responded to a report of a vehicle collision in which a vehicle collided with two residences. The driver of the vehicle sustained minor injuries and was transported to a local hospital for treatment. A collision report was generated.

(Stolen Vehicle - Arrest): 6100 Block of Mack Road at 9:56 a.m.

Officers responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the area. Officers conducted an enforcement stop and the driver was arrested.

SUNDAY, JUNE 6

(Shooting - Investigation): 700 Block of McClatchy Way at 3:24 a.m.

Officers responded to a report of a shooting. A residence appeared to have been struck by gunfire however no injuries were reported. A crime report was generated.

(Suspicious Circumstances - Arrest): 2600 Block of 51st Ave at 0750 hours.

Officers responded to a report of suspicious circumstances in which a subject was trespassing at a residence. The subject fled from the residence when confronted by the victim. Officers located the subject in the area. The subject was found to have a felony warrant and was arrested for trespassing and the warrant.

(Robbery - Investigation): 2500 Block of Kit Carson St at 5:37 p.m.

Officers responded to a report of a robbery. The suspects, one of which was armed with a firearm, stole the victim's property and then fled on foot. A crime report was generated.

(Shots Fired - Investigation): 7800 Block of Stockton Blvd at 12:24 a.m.

Officers responded to a report of shots fired. The suspect fired a gun during an altercation and then fled the area. No injuries were reported. A crime report was generated.

MONDAY, JUNE 7

(Suspicious Circumstances - Arrest): 2200 Block of Hooke Way at 9:44 a.m.

Officers responded to a report of suspicious circumstances in which subjects were reported to have broken into a vacant residence. Two subjects attempted to flee from the scene but officers were able to safely detain them. Two suspects were arrested for burglary charges.

(Stolen Vehicle - Arrest): Florin Rd / 29th St at 10:06 p.m.

An officer located an occupied stolen vehicle. An enforcement stop was conducted, and the driver was arrested.

TUESDAY, JUNE 8

(Foot Pursuit - Gun Arrest): Seavey Cir / McClatchy Way at 9:01 p.m.

Officers attempted to conduct an enforcement stop on a subject. The subject fled on foot leading to a foot pursuit. While fleeing, the subject discarded a firearm. Officers established a perimeter and were able to locate the suspect who was arrested.

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C.K. McClatchy commencements first held in 1938

Class of 2021 graduates to receive diplomas at live, in-person event

By LANCE ARMSTRONG

With another class of C.K. McClatchy High students preparing for their graduations this summer, the timing is good to take a trip down memory lane to the early years of the school and its commencements.

But before heading down that lane, it is noteworthy to mention that the Class of 2021 will have an in-person, live graduation.

Its predecessor – the Class of 2020 – had their graduation ceremonies suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Commencement exercises for this year's McClatchy High graduating class will be held at Sutter Health Park – formerly Raley Field – in West Sacramento on June 11, beginning at 11 a.m. Each graduating student will receive three tickets to distribute to those who they would like to attend the ceremony. The event will also be available to view live online.



Photo by Lance Armstrong

C.K. McClatchy High School is located at 3066 Freeport Blvd.

Recognizing McClatchy's early years

C.K. McClatchy High School, opened in 1937, with students from the very large Sacramento High student body.

The school, which is located at 3066 Freeport Blvd., operates in one of the Land Park area's most classic structures: a two-story building with Spanish-style craftsmanship, consisting of cream-colored walls and a red tile roof.

Also adding to the character of the building, which includes a dominant, dual-column center, are large, lion statues, which flank each side of the front entryway to the school. Leo the lion was selected as McClatchy's mascot prior to the school's opening.

The school was named C.K. McClatchy High School in honor of the former Sacramento Bee owner and editor, who died in 1936.

Early-day McClatchy students were led under the direction of the school's first principal, Samuel A. "Sam" Pepper. He served in that role from 1937 to 1962.

Pepper, a Denver native who moved to Sacramento in 1928, was active in the planning of the school and was present for McClatchy's dedication and opening in 1937 and many other events, including the school's first graduation ceremony.

Because McClatchy High was Sacramento's second high school, all of the city's high school graduates previously received their diplomas during a single ceremony.

The last of those commencement exercises was the Sacramento High School graduation ceremony at Sacramento Stadium – today's Hughes Stadium, on the campus of today's Sacramento City College – on June 10, 1937.

Preceding the commencement exercises of McClatchy's first graduating class – the January Class of 1938 – seniors attended the school's first graduation dance.

The dance, which was held at the Eastern Star Temple, at 2719 K St., on Jan. 24, 1938, featured dancing to the music of Frank Gordon's orchestra, which performed 10 popular songs selected by McClatchy students.

Those songs included "Rosalie," "Ebb Tide," "In the Still of the Night" and "I Double Dare You."

McClatchy High's auditorium was the scene of the school's first graduation ceremony, on Jan. 27, 1938.

The event, which began at 8 p.m., included commence-

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S	A	S	H	■	B	O	S	O	N	■	S	A	M	A
O	R	E	O	■	C	R	A	P	E	■	A	R	A	K
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B	E	S	T	■	O	L	S	E	N	■	H	A	H	N

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ment speeches by Catherine Grover and Robert MacPhee, an invocation by the Rev. Lawrence A. Wilson, pastor of the Pioneer Memorial Congregational Church (2700 L St.).

The class was presented by Pepper to city Board of Education President Mildred Bevil, who handed a diploma to each of the 107 graduates during the ceremony.

In his own writings, Pepper, in January 1938, bid farewell to McClatchy's first graduating class.

A portion of those words read: "Sooner or later, every young person is bound to ask himself the question(s), 'Why am I alive?' 'What is the purpose of my being on Earth?'

"(Those questions demand) an adequate answer. I hope you will realize this and hope you will preserve yourselves to meet this problem, which is yours and yours alone. This is my sincere wish to the first graduating class of the C.K. McClatchy High School."

The day following this first commencement, 177 junior high school graduates became sophomores at McClatchy. Those schools were California Junior High School (101), Stanford Junior High School (74) and Lincoln Junior High School (2).

More than 200 seniors graduated from McClatchy High at the Sacramento Memorial Auditorium, at 16th and J streets, during the evening of June 8, 1938.

Entertainment included singing by a chorus of graduating seniors. They sang "The Green Cathedral," by Carl Hahn; "I Love Life" by Mana-Zucca Cassel; and "Auf Wiedersehn" by Sigmund Romberg.

Also performing was the high school's orchestra, which played "Die Fledermaus" by Johann Strauss; and "War March of the Priests" by Felix Mendelssohn.

The Rev. Edwin T. Cornelius, pastor of First Christian Church (2703 N St.), gave the invocation.

In addressing the June Class of 1938, Pepper wrote: "Although you have spent only one year in this institution, I feel certain that your interest in this school will never wane. We shall appreciate your counsel and suggestions.

"I hope the future has something in store for you, and that this something is achievement and happiness."

Another 153 graduates received diplomas during the evening of Feb. 1, 1939, at McClatchy's third semi-annual commencement, which was held at the Memorial Auditorium.

The event, which was attended by nearly 3,000 family members and friends of the graduates, began with a lighted candle march by 32 girls who were dressed in evening attire.

Passing along the path of the candles were the graduating members of the school's February Class of 1939.

The evening program included an invocation by the Rev. Gordon A. McGrane of the Fremont Presbyterian Church (933 46th St.), speeches by class orators Barbara Elwert and Earle Russell, solos sung by Helen Belsel and Edwin Rowe, and accompanied by Gloria Nossi, who were all members of the graduating class.

That class was unique, in that its members spent a year and a half attending Sacramento High and a year and a half attending McClatchy High.

On Jan. 31, 1939, members of the June Class of 1939 participated in the high point of their social activities: The Senior Ball at the Eastern Star Temple.

In an election held, in February 1939, to replace the outgoing student body officers, Chuck Wilde was elected president, and Mary Tregallas was chosen to serve as secretary for the second semester of the school year.

The fourth semi-annual commencement exercises in McClatchy's history were held at the Memorial Auditorium the following June.

Charles C. Hughes, superintendent of schools and whose name is memorialized through Hughes Stadium, served as the master of ceremonies of that graduation program.

With the conclusion of the 1930s, McClatchy High continued to build on its then-early history, as it moved forward in expanding upon what would become a tradition of a respected educational institution of more than eight decades.

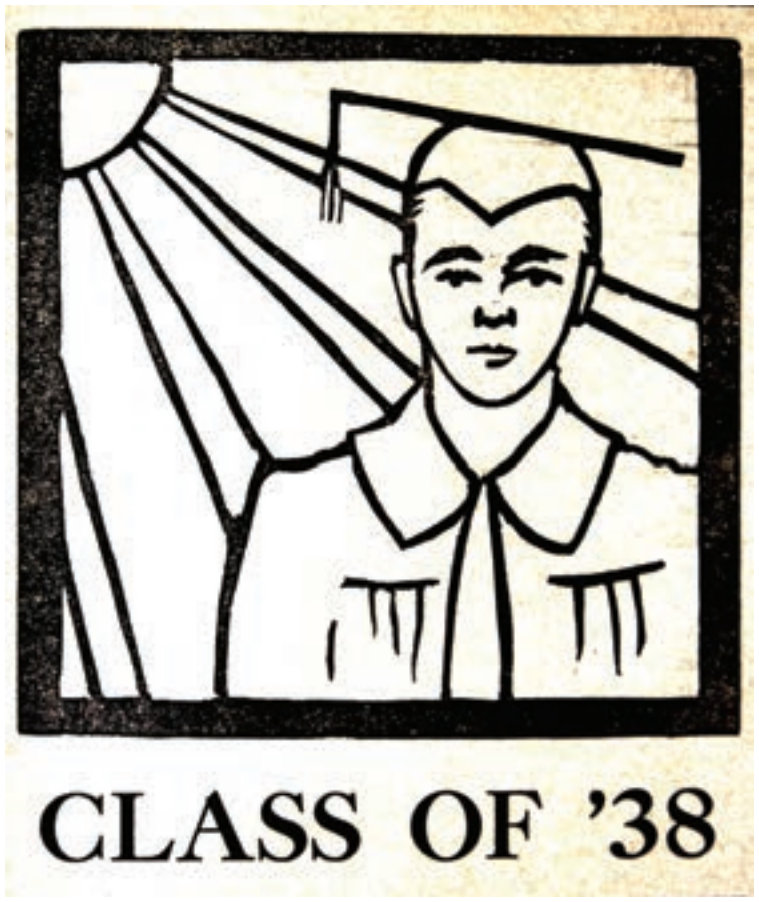
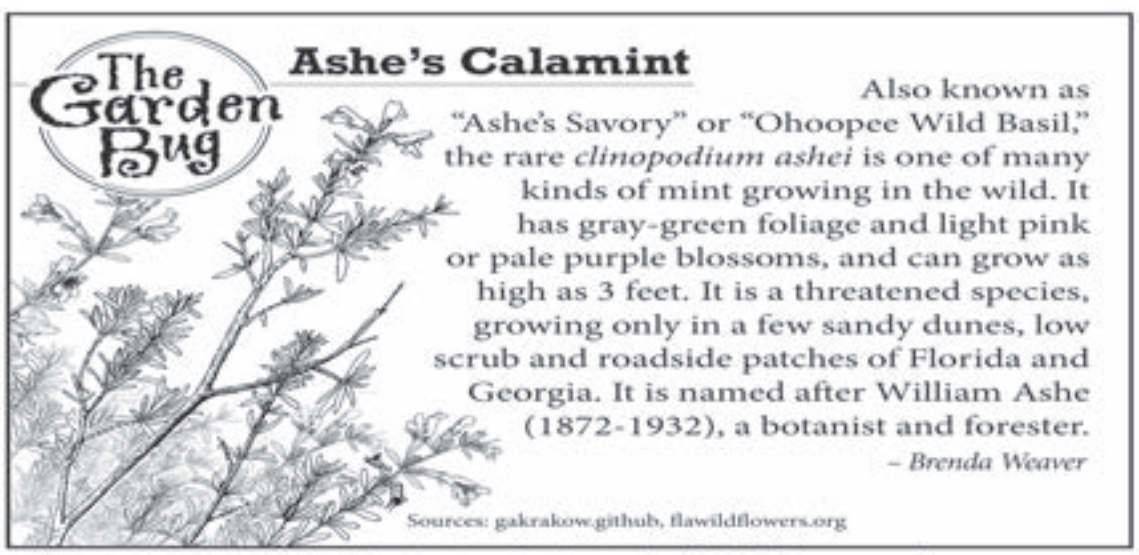


Photo courtesy of Lance Armstrong Collection

The first C.K. McClatchy High School commencement exercises were held in 1938.



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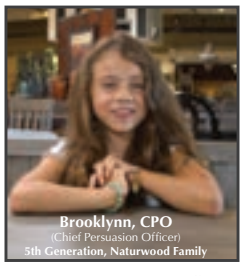

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