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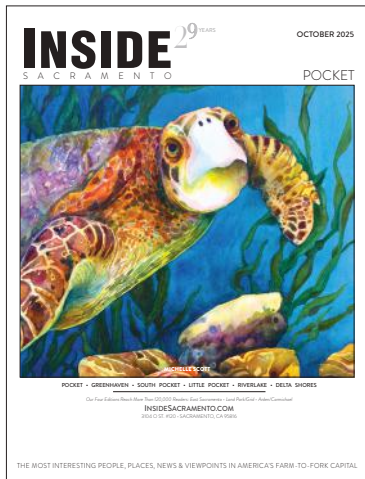
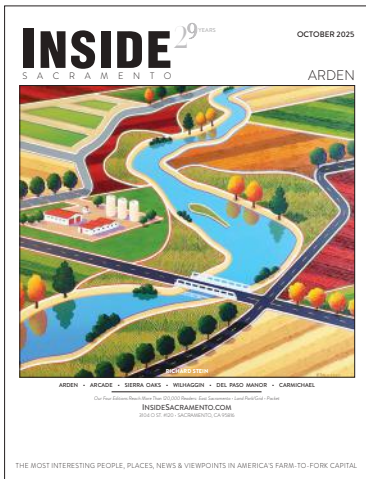
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INSIDE

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COVER ARTIST

MEL SMOTHERS

Mel Smothers is an American contemporary artist who evolved during the Pop Art movement of the 60s and 70s alongside Andy Warhol and Wayne Thiebaud. His work has exhibited in museums and galleries internationally, including his "I Painted Over Andy Warhol" and "After Dorothea Lange" series that transform and embellish paintings by the Masters. Shown: "I Painted Over Andy Warhol #346," oil, 48 inches by 54 inches. This piece is available for \$950. Archival Gallery will showcase work by Richard Stein and Mel Smothers in October. Visit melsmothers.com.

100%
LOCAL

OCTOBER 2025

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Progress At Last



NEW LEADERSHIP POINTS TO
HOMELESSNESS SOLUTIONS



Mayor Kevin McCarty and Councilmember Roger Dickinson tour a new tiny home.

Homelessness continues to escalate with 187,000 people living on California streets or in shelters in January 2024, a 55% surge since 2016.

Despite \$24 billion spent from 2019 to 2023, the state accounts for 24% of U.S. homeless and 45% of unsheltered individuals, far exceeding its 11.6% population share.

Within this crisis sits Sacramento. Dangerous encampments, junk-filled streets, violence and public drug use are daily experiences for people living in desperation.

CH

By Cecily Hastings
Publisher's Desk

Golden Together is a California political movement founded by conservative commentator Steve Hilton. The organization's January 2025 report, "Ending Homelessness," authored by Edward Ring, blames ideological policies such as Housing First. Golden Together proposes bold reforms to achieve zero street homelessness. Hilton is running for governor in 2026.

Housing First dates from 19th century Europe. It prioritizes permanent, unconditional subsidized housing without requirements for sobriety or treatment. In the U.S., Congress mandated support for Housing First in 1999. California formalized the approach in 2016.

Unfortunately, Housing First has failed. A 14-year study shows 48% of participants died within five years. Only 36% remained housed. Housing First fuels dependency, isolates individuals and enriches the "homeless industrial complex" of nonprofits and developers

who build units at \$500,000 to \$1 million each.

Lax enforcement makes things worse. Golden Together determined the 2018 *Martin v. Boise* ruling was misinterpreted by cities to ignore anti-camping laws. Misinterpretation enabled encampments to grow.

The report shows how cascading laws worsened the crisis. Propositions 47 and 57 (passed by voters in 2014 and 2016) downgraded crimes and expanded street populations.

The 1967 Lanterman-Petris-Short Act and Medicaid's 16-bed limit hindered mental health care. Recent changes offer tools, but action lags. Proposition 36 (approved in 2024) upgrades punishment for repeat offenses. The U.S. Supreme Court overturned the *Boise* decision in 2024. Senate Bill 43 from 2023 expands conservatorships in California.

Golden Together urges repeal of Housing First and redirection of

funds to low-cost "Recovery Shelters." Tailored for addicts or families, these facilities require sobriety and counseling. They foster community support.

The report calls for enforcement of camping bans, reform of mental health laws and Medicaid waivers for larger facilities. Golden Together seeks audits of the "homeless industrial complex" to curb waste.

Also proposed are efforts to lower housing costs, reduce building and zoning regulations to increase housing stock, reduce childhood trauma and improve inmate rehabilitation.

The report concludes California can end this "third world" crisis with compassion and accountability. Golden Together urges political will to treat root causes of homelessness—addiction, illness, trauma. The group wants to reclaim public spaces, restore dignity and ensure no one sleeps on sidewalks or in doorways.

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Civic Dashboard of City and County Projects

Local Government Accountability & Monitoring by *Inside Sacramento*

FRONT STREET ANIMAL SHELTER 🙄

Increased euthanasia rates, animals released without spaying/neutering, healthy cats turned away, 1,000-plus service calls awaiting a response.

EMPTY OLD SAC WATERFRONT SITE 😞

Rio City Cafe closed after landlord—the city—failed to maintain outdoor dining deck. City loses \$250,000 annual rent from mothballed restaurant. Eighty jobs lost. **UPDATE ON OUR WEBSITE.**

EMPTY 102 ACRES FOR HOMELESS 🙄

Former CHP academy land on Meadowview Road, decommissioned 1976. City bought 102 acres for \$12.3 million for homeless services in 2022. Land sits empty and unused.

PEDESTRIAN DEATHS 🙄

More than 250 people killed by vehicles since 2017, when city adopted “Vision Zero” to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries on city streets by 2027.

AMERICAN RIVER LEVEE 🙄

Up to 700 trees and miles of habitat face destruction on American River Army Corps project, threatening wildlife and recreation. Residents want less disruptive approach to flood control and are being ignored.

TINY HOMES FOR UNSHELTERED 😊

City officials are installing 100 tiny houses for homeless people in September 2025 on Roseville Road. **UPDATE ON OUR WEBSITE.**

BICYCLE BRIDGE OVER I-5 🙄

City ordered \$12 million bike bridge at I-5 and Riverside demolished because of substandard concrete and rebar. City won't explain why quality control procedures didn't work.

SAC RIVER LEVEE PUBLIC ACCESS 🙄

Levee parkway and bike trail promised to Pocket-Greenhaven community in 1975, still not completed. City fearful of lawsuits by handful of anti-river access residents.



Use this QR Code to link to our webpage tracking the history, documents and updates to these projects each month.

For more information contact
publisher@insidesacramento.com

INSIDE

S A C R A M E N T O

Reading the 36-page report, I realized almost all these problems and ideas were examined by our Inside writers over the last nine years. In 2016, I opened our coverage with my first column on the crisis, “Is Sacramento Dying?” The column was based on the Seattle documentary film, “Is Seattle Dying?”

Since then, our streets continued to decay with human misery. Ineffective efforts by local politicians made

things worse, despite lavish and often wasteful spending.

On the state level, Gov. Gavin Newsom launched the State Action for Facilitation on Encampments Task Force, or SAFE. The program dismantles encampments on state property, beginning in the 10 largest cities, Sacramento included.

The taskforce hopes to unite state agencies specializing in emergency management, health care, social

services, land management and public safety to support local governments in clearing encampments and connecting residents to shelter, treatment and care.

The initiative follows Newsom's 2023 executive order directing encampment cleanups. The order comes after a U.S. Supreme Court ruling gave authorities approval to act. It's part of a broader strategy to expand mental health treatment, update conservatorship laws and implement the CARE Court system for adults unable to look after themselves.

By combining shelter expansion, housing development and accountability for local governments, the SAFE Task Force aims to reduce homelessness and prevent new encampments. We can only hope state and local leaders have the political will to follow through and get results.

This summer, Mayor Kevin McCarty announced the construction of 135 tiny homes at the Roseville Road Shelter and Service Campus. It's a cost-effective approach to homelessness.

McCarty says each tiny home costs about \$15,000 to \$20,000, in contrast to the \$1 million per unit for permanent supportive housing.

The local initiative aligns with a city ordinance McCarty championed to ban homeless camping at City Hall. Last month, the mayor unveiled micro village sites at four locations across town.

McCarty tells me he follows our Inside Civic Dashboard to track important issues and unfinished projects. He calls the feature his “Mayoral To-Do List” and wants city leaders held accountable for results. That's a refreshing change after eight years of the opposite attitude.

Visit Inside's Civic Dashboard at insidesacramento.com/civic-dashboard.

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Cecily Hastings can be reached at publisher@insidepublications.com. Previous columns can be found and shared at [InsideSacramento.com](https://insidesacramento.com). Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: [@insidesacramento](https://www.facebook.com/insidesacramento). ■



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 MASTERS CLUB

BLACK ARTISTS IN AMERICA

From the Bicentennial to September 11 Organized by Dixon Gallery and Gardens, Memphis

Vernette Honeywood (American, 1950–2010), Sabbath, 1977. Fabric, paper, and found objects, 20 x 47 in. The John and Susan Horseman Collection, Courtesy of the Horseman Foundation. © Vernette P. Honeywood Estate.

THROUGH JAN 11, 2026

**CROCKER
art museum**





Mural of Lina Fat by Ian Wilkinson is part of “Legends of Hospitality” series. Photo courtesy of ASlyFilm

Culinary Icons

NEW MURALS HONOR LOCAL FOOD TRAILBLAZERS

Sacramento turns a public space into a storytelling canvas to celebrate the visionaries who helped put the city’s culinary scene on the national map.

Wide Open Walls—a public art organization founded and led by David Sobon—unveiled a series of murals titled “Legends of Hospitality.”

The installation features four large-format, black-and-white, photorealistic portraits honoring the late and living legends of Sacramento’s food and hospitality community: Lina Fat, Randy Paragary, Biba Caggiano and Darrell Corti.

Their influence ignited the farm-to-fork movement, ushered in the Legends of Wine festival, helped gain

Michelin Guide recognition and earned Sacramento’s debut as the host of Terra Madre Americas, the international celebration of sustainable food culture.

The murals are in Jazz Alley behind the Sheraton Grand Hotel as part of a fully lit pedestrian corridor.

“Public art should tell stories that matter to the people who live here,” Sobon says. “These legends helped define what hospitality means in Sacramento—not just great food, but generosity, creativity and community.”

WRITERS GALA

California Writers Club Sacramento holds its “100 Years of Writing Excellence” centennial gala Saturday, Oct. 18, at North Ridge Country Club in Fair Oaks.

Speakers include editorial cartoonist and columnist Jack Ohman and 102-year-old award-winning author Kiyo Sato. Greater Sacramento Literary Awards will honor organizations that support writing goals for adults and children. An exhibition of rare books

written by members from as early as 1914 will be on display.

For tickets, visit sacramentowriters.org.

RUNNING BLADES

The Dave McGillivray Finish Strong Foundation fitted 12 Shriners Children’s patients with free running blades at the C.K. McClatchy High School track. The event was part of the foundation’s “Running Is a Right” program.

“Any day you’re able to provide a child with the tools and training they need to get off the sidelines and into the game is a good day,” says Brooke Rasch, creator and chair of “Running Is a Right.”

For information, visit davemcgillivrayfoundation.org.

HOLIDAY SINGERS

The Capital Chorale looks for singers of all voice types to join Christmas music rehearsals beginning

Thursday, Oct. 23, at 6:30 p.m. at Pioneer Congregational Church.

The concert, “A Festival of Lessons and Carols,” is Friday, Dec. 19, at 7 p.m.

To be included in the singer roster, email Music Director Elliot Jones at musicdirector@pioneerucc.org. For information, visit pioneerucc.org.

HAUS OF COMEDY

Calling All Dreamers 2024 runner-up Haus of Comedy, owned by Sacramento native Jessilee Windhaus and Andy Sarouhan, opens in the historic F.W. Fratt Building at Second and K streets in Old Sacramento.

The venue will soft launch this fall with a grand opening in January.

Haus of Comedy features high-energy, improvised comedy in the style of “Whose Line Is It Anyway?” alongside stand-up, sketch, drag and other live performances. Improv classes and private coaching are also available.

For information, visit callingalldreamers.org.

JL

By Jessica Laskey
Out & About



First meeting of California Writers Club Sacramento at Senator Hotel, 12th and L streets, on Oct. 31, 1925.

FORMER FOSTER

Housing and support program AcademySTAY celebrates its first former foster youth client graduating from trade school—just 10 months after opening in October 2024.

Before moving into AcademySTAY, 20-year-old Rome was unhoused, navigating early adulthood on his own with no stable housing or support. After joining the program, he studied framing, roofing, drywall and construction math, and earned a certification in carpentry.

“They’re helping me find a job and I’m ready to do more school if needed,” he says. “I’m not shying away from it.”

Every year, 250 to 300 area youth age out of foster care. Nearly half face homelessness within 18 months. AcademySTAY provides former foster youth ages 18 to 24 with safe housing, life skills coaching and a path to college or career training.

For information, visit academystay.org.

WORLD CUP ARTIST

Graphic artist LeRoid David, featured in a recent edition of Inside Sacramento, celebrates a big win. His artwork was selected for the FIFA World Cup 26 San Francisco Bay Area host city poster.

David works for Sacramento County’s Public Administrator/Guardian/Conservator office helping vulnerable adults and seniors.

“We aren’t just 9-to-5 workers here at the county,” David says. “We’re parents, artists, volunteers, people with lives who care about this community.”

SCHOOL TRANSFORM

PS7 Elementary School in South Oak Park reopened after a \$34 million transformation by St. Hope Public Schools.

The project modernized the elementary school with 31 new classrooms and an administration building, renovated the multipurpose room and kitchen, and reconfigured the front entrance, accessways and parking to ensure safe drop-offs and pick-ups.



PS7 Elementary School in South Oak Park reopens after major renovations.



Andy Sarouhan and Jessilee Windhaus open Haus of Comedy in Old Sacramento. Photo courtesy of Downtown Sacramento

Renovations include new hardscape, landscape, playground, fields and basketball courts.

For information, visit sthope.org.

NEW TINY HOMES

Students in the Cosumnes River College construction technology program put their skills to work for the community, building two tiny homes for families who want to transition out of homelessness. The project was a collaboration with We Force Inc. and Safe Harbor.

“We’ve talked about how we can use our capacity at the college and this program in particular to fill a need in our community, and this is something that our students can feel proud of being a part of,” Ryan Connally, construction technology professor, says.

FREE BOOKS

Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library launched in Sacramento through

a partnership with United Way California Capital Region, Sacramento County Office of Education and Dollywood Foundation.

County children from birth to age 5 receive one free book in the mail each month, regardless of family income.

“We’re giving families the tools to build strong reading habits from the start,” David Gordon, county superintendent of schools, says. “This program supports our Sacramento County READS literacy initiative and reflects our commitment to literacy, equity and early learning.”

Sacramento County residents sign up at yourlocalunitedway.org.

Jessica Laskey can be reached at jessrlaskey@gmail.com.

Submissions are due six weeks prior to the publication month. Previous columns can be found and shared at InsideSacramento.com. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: @insidesacramento. ■



Demolition crews left rebar and rubble in Bee's former pressrooms at 22nd and Q streets.

Photo by Dick Schmidt

Behind the old building rose a new administrative center, curving around the relic in a bow to the city's past.

Some towns would have demolished the 1908 structure and expanded its footprint for a glass and steel monument to bureaucracy run amok. Not Sacramento, which honors history at Ninth and I streets. Or Eye Street as newspapers called it.

There are more good examples. City Council's decisions to save and restore Memorial Auditorium and the Southern Pacific train station show a commitment to preservation, damn the expense. Both halls arrived in 1926, a proud year for Sacramento. Today those buildings are treasures.

Let's measure the psychic cost of demolition. Consider the loss of legacy and historical connection. When old pillars and fountains tumble, dreams disappear. But before nostalgia settles in, weigh the value of what rises from the dust.

Maybe the Alhambra Theatre could have survived another 50 years as a movie palace. Who knows? The Tower Theatre, opened in 1938, chopped itself into three auditoriums and became a successful art house, circa 2025. The 1912 Crest succeeds now as a movie theater and event site.

The harder question is which iteration provides better value to today's community, a lovely Moorish theater or a supermarket and parking lot?

In 1964, Edmonds Field baseball park at Broadway and Riverside Boulevard disappeared. The site became a Gemco membership department store. Today it's a Target with theft issues. Does anyone miss foul balls on Broadway?

The land where the Bee stood for 74 years was Buffalo Brewery before the McClatchy family took over. Imagine the howls when the bottling lines fell silent.

Next up for 2100 Q are 61 townhomes and 60 single-family homes. More valuable than a newspaper? Dumb question, circa 2025.

R.E. Graswich can be reached at regraswich@icloud.com. Previous columns can be found and shared at InsideSacramento.com. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: @insidesacramento. ■

Ashes to Ashes

BEE BUILDING IS BULLDOZED, BUT CITY MOVES ONWARD

Show me a city that doesn't demolish old buildings, and I'll show you a graveyard. Progress cries out for rubble and rebirth.

This summer, the old Sacramento Bee headquarters at 21st and Q streets joined the roster of demolished landmarks. Wreckage never rests in a city hungry for growth.

Despite protests and lawsuits, the decrepit annex to the State Capitol was torn down in 2023. East Sac elders still dream about the Alhambra Theatre and its Moorish pillars and fountains,

pulverized in 1973, replaced by a supermarket.

The Bee building began its slide into obsolescence 15 years ago when the newspaper's influence and readership evaporated.

Once a citadel of the public's right to know with a circulation of more than 300,000, the Bee and its fortress ceased to matter when the public moved online and stopped subscribing to the paper.

A half-dozen Caterpillar and Volvo crawling excavators knocked down the pressrooms and loading docks near 23rd Street. The machines chomped and scraped westward to the newsroom, cafeteria, library, doctor's and business offices.

Soon the 1951 Streamline Moderne former headquarters of McClatchy newspapers were a pile of twisted rebar, broken concrete and shattered bricks.

I have no clue what it's like to run a crawling excavator and destroy a building. I wonder whether demolition

crews are susceptible to post-traumatic stress and eligible for counseling.

I know colleagues from my time at the Bee—I spent 35 years in the newsroom—who wept over the dismemberment. It was home, symbolic of our labor and values. Those tears were really for us, not the building.

Not counting the destruction at 2100 Q St., the city likes to save old buildings. Historic sensitivities blossomed in the early 1970s when Sacramento created a preservation program to protect culturally significant landmarks.

A 1972 state law called the Mills Act gives tax breaks to people who sink money into historic structures. City Hall offers a website where residents can type an address and see if a building is historically relevant or worth fixing.

Historic City Hall, built in 1908, sets a good example. The landmark clocktower, offices and meeting chambers were restored in 2005.

RG

By R.E. Graswich
City Beat

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Aniko Kiezel

Check Mate

HOW CITY OUTSMARTED BIKE TRAIL OPPONENTS



Megan Johnson

I don't have much use for social media. Deleted my accounts years ago. But I'd like to see what TikTok can do with an Environmental Impact Report.

Despite their reputation as weapons exploited by self-interested neighbors and extortionist labor unions—all true—environmental reports dispense useful information. I've read dozens. Learned something every time.

Trouble is they are tough to read—ponderous, repetitive, silted. No narrative energy. No character development. Just facts presented in proscribed formats. Boxes checked, dry as cotton.

Which is why I waited three months to tackle the city's new environmental report on the Sacramento River

RG

By R.E. Graswich
Pocket Beat

Parkway Project, otherwise known as the levee bike path.

I considered feeding the report into AI for instant gratification. But since it's only 143 pages, a Post-it note as these things go, I sat under a grapefruit tree and read every word.

And loved it.

City Senior Engineer Megan Johnson and consultants who produced the report condensed the 50-year battle for levee access into five chapters. They set the scene and explained why the bike trail matters. They examined whether environmental problems could result from the pathway. They described how to resolve such problems, if necessary.

Brilliantly, the authors showed there are no environmental problems with the bike trail. Nothing to fix once people start walking and cycling along the river from Old Sac to Freeport. Nothing new since the last river bike path environmental report in 1997.

"On the basis of substantial evidence from the administrative record, (the city finds) that no subsequent or supplemental EIR or negative declaration is required," the report says.

In other words, no reason to stop the bike trail.

As much as I enjoyed the report, I would have written it differently.

I would have pointed out the only reason we wasted 50 years waiting for a bike trail is because a few property owners in Pocket and Little Pocket swore oaths to keep the community off the levee.

The property owners decided they owned the levee. They ignored reality—the Central Valley Flood Protection Board holds title and controls everything that happens along the river.

No matter, a handful of residents begged, charmed and threatened city and state officials to block public access. They convinced politicians to support levee gates and fences. They created stories about their safety imperiled by marauding thieves and motorcycle gangs.

When those strategies collapsed, they resorted to legal threats. They warned they would sue the flood board for letting people walk on the levee.

Surprisingly, the flood board yielded. It allowed a new batch of temporary private fences to block levee access two

years ago, after permanent fences were torn down.

On the bright side, flood officials haven't approved requests for new permanent levee fences. The flood board wants the city to finish the bike trail and end the drama.

That's what I would have written.

The city's environmental engineering team took a smarter approach.

By making the document an addendum to the 1997 Sacramento River Parkway Plan, the new report destroys the opposition's ability to raise challenges.

The report from 28 years ago is sacrosanct, immune from dispute. The 2025 report is simply an addendum. It proves the bike trail's impact hasn't

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changed. The authors leave no room for NIMBYs to file credible protests against the project.

At last, the gates are locked in the public's favor.

"The proposed project does not require any revisions to the prior 1997 (report) because no new or substantially more intense or severe significant environmental impacts or potentially significant environmental impacts would result from the proposed project," the new report says. There's a killer sentence.

I was worried about the new environmental report. Worried it would

give a few malcontent NIMBYs near the river another chance to delay the bike trail. Another chance to pour sand in the gears of public access.

See TikTok for videos of gears spinning freely.

For previous stories on Sacramento River levee access, visit insidesacramento.com/civic-dashboard.

R.E. Graswich can be reached at regraswich@icloud.com. Previous columns can be found and shared at InsideSacramento.com. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: [@insidesacramento](https://www.facebook.com/insidesacramento). ■

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BATTLE LINES

TAKE IT FROM A GUY WHO KNOWS: GERRYMANDERING STINKS

Gov. Gavin Newsom's initiative to redistrict in California before the next census sets a dangerous precedent. His goal is flagrant gerrymandering.

California Republicans object to Newsom's move, saying it violates the State Constitution. They have a point.

But you don't hear them complain about the Texas Legislature's efforts to give Republicans a five-seat boost in upcoming congressional races.

Gerrymandering is the art of drawing political boundaries to benefit political interests. I know something about this.

I lost my City Council seat in 2022 when my home was drawn out of my council district.

The move left East Sacramento voters without city representation for more than two years.

This was done not by partisan legislators, but by an "independent" redistricting committee. My experience shows "independent" commissions aren't a panacea.

They are subject to political pressures. They may not be informed about neighborhood continuities, geography and constituents.

When my East Sac district was redrawn, the final map wasn't even published for public consideration before adoption.

Newsom and fellow Democrats admit redrawing maps to favor their party is an extraordinary maneuver. They say the stakes are so high—thanks to actions by President Donald Trump and his administration—that action is needed to preserve democracy. They placed Proposition 50 on the November ballot to let Californians decide.

What does gerrymandering do? It destabilizes electoral boundaries, reduces minority representation and weakens community continuity. It gives political parties extraordinary influence over election outcomes. It's rule by partisan politics.

To combat the damages of gerrymandering, Congress introduced the "For the People Act" in 2019 and 2021. The proposal includes:

- Creating independent commissions for redistricting, removing state legislatures from the process.

- Setting rules for map drawing, focusing on compactness, contiguity and considerations for communities.

- Increasing transparency through public input and requiring publicly circulated maps before finalization.

The bill passed the House but was blocked by Senate Republican filibusters in 2021.

Gerrymandering came before the Supreme Court in 2019. The Republican-appointed majority decided claims of partisan gerrymandering are beyond the scope of federal courts.

The ruling opened the gates for the gerrymandering we've seen in Texas and other states and now proposed in California. What a mess!

Despite my experience, there are better alternatives to having politicians set boundaries. Voters should select their representatives, not the other way around.

The right to vote and free and fair elections are the foundations of democracy. Gerrymandering undermines that foundation.

Your vote in November will hinge on whether you feel democracy is imperiled by the Trump administration.

There's much to think about: the Jan. 6 insurrection, defunding of education, defunding of public broadcasting, defunding of many social safety nets, weakening of checks and balances in federal government, and the president's criminal convictions.

How should California react to Texas? Do two wrongs make a right? You need to decide.

I keep hearing Mark Twain: "Never argue with stupid people. They drag you down to their level and beat you with experience!"

This applies to both political parties. But I have no doubt Californians will rise to the occasion in November.

Jeff Harris represented District 3 on City Council from 2014 to 2022. He can be reached at cadence@mycci.net. Previous columns can be found and shared at InsideSacramento.com. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: @insidesacramento. ■

JH

By Jeff Harris
City Realist

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Bill Cerruti
Photo by Linda Smolek

CULTURE KEEPER

CENTER PRESERVES CITY'S ITALIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE

JL

By Jessica Laskey
Meet Your Neighbor

Bill Cerruti just returned from his annual trip to Italy. It was work and play.

Cerruti and his wife, a native of Lucca, lead tours as part of their work running the Italian Cultural Society, which they founded in 1981.

As a young man, a proud Italian American and East Sacramento native, Cerruti searched for a cultural organization to meet other young Italians and stay in touch with his roots. When the Italian American club system didn't click with him, he started his own group.

"I got so into it and it grew really fast," Cerruti says. "We rented space at Sierra 2 and rehabbed the room and became a program machine immediately because I was good at it. I had connections all over the country—film directors, you name it."

The Italian Cultural Society offers concerts, dance troupes, festivals, exhibits, language classes, a radio show and tours to help Italian Americans reconnect with their heritage.

"We promote a sense of community by providing cultural programs that reflect Italian American traditions, not just Italian traditions," Cerruti says. "Italians in America developed their own culture that was different than Italians from Italy."

The Italian Cultural Society offers a place for younger people to congregate. At first, the organization attracted offspring from the last wave of Italian immigration after World War II, people in their teens, 20s and 30s who were "our main workforce for decades and an integral part of everything we did," Cerruti says.

The society outgrew Sierra 2 and built its own center after raising \$2 million. The Carmichael Italian Center and Museum opened on Fair Oaks Boulevard in 2007.

"One of the best days of my life was me and my wife dancing on the cement pad the day they poured it," Cerruti says. "It was a dream come true."

Since then, the center has grown despite recessions and a pandemic. It still offers language classes on Zoom and in-person.

And Cerruti hasn't stopped. The retired lawyer is an advocate for Italian American issues. He's chair of a governor-appointed commission and sponsors legislation.

In 2021, he successfully campaigned to get East Sac between 48th and 59th streets and J Street and Folsom Boulevard designated Little Italy.

Education is important for Cerruti, even as immigration slows from Italy.

"Behind everything we do is education," he says. "We want people to know who we are and to share our rich culture. Growing up in America, you don't have that cultural support. American society is tough. In Europe, you're born into your community, you don't have to go seek it. Americans are isolated from one another."

He continues, "The center is very welcoming. The minute you walk in, you can tell. So is our culture. It's a beautiful thing. So many people tell us we've changed their lives. They've rediscovered their ancestral roots and their own identities. We bridge those two worlds."

For information, visit italiancenter.net.

Jessica Laskey can be reached at jessrlaskey@gmail.com. Previous profiles can be found and shared at insidesacramento.com. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: [@insidesacramento](https://www.instagram.com/insidesacramento). ■



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In The Same Boat

ROWER STARTS CLUB FOR FELLOW CANCER SURVIVORS



Shari Lowen
Photo by Linda Smolek

On the water, rowers can't think about much else. Rhythm and teamwork take concentration. Or as Shari Lowen puts it, when you're in the boat, you're in the boat.

This works for Lowen and her fellow ROWsist members. Lowen founded ROWsist rowing group within the River City Rowing Club in 2023 for cancer survivors like herself.

She wanted to "give people who've been through cancer an opportunity to use their bodies and minds" along with "the community and emotional aspect of doing something together."

Lowen was diagnosed with lung cancer in 2021. Never a smoker, she was confounded by the news, especially when cancer was discovered during tests on her heart, not lungs. But she sees it as "one of those lucky things."

She was lucky. Caught early and operable, the cancer required no follow-up treatment.

But surgery knocked Lowen back in her fitness journey. A confirmed "couch

potato" in high school and college, she eventually discovered distance running and marathons. When sidelined by injury, she looked for new ways to stay active.

Then she saw an ad for River City Rowing Club. After her first day on the water in 2011, she was hooked.

Lowen does sweep rowing (with one oar) and sculling (two oars). ROWsist members often do sweep rowing in four- and eight-person boats with a coxswain—a captain who steers and directs from the stern, facing forward.

Lowen needed months to rebuild endurance and strength to "almost" pre-diagnosis levels. She started with short walks in her Woodlake neighborhood, then longer walks, then short jaunts on an indoor rowing machine and finally longer sessions on the water with the rowing club in West Sacramento.

As she worked back into peak form, she wanted to give fellow survivors a taste of the focus and freedom she felt on the water. She founded ROWsist with just a few members. It's grown to 14.

"The No. 1 reason people enjoy it is community and the sense of accomplishment, doing something you never even considered doing, and here you are out there rowing and enjoying time on the water," she says.



Members of the ROWsist rowing group.
Photo courtesy of ROWsist

New members sign up at the start of each month and must pass a swim test or wear a floatation device and get medical clearance.

Coaches take time to get new members up to speed and make accommodations for physical needs or limitations.

While members pay monthly dues to cover coaching, equipment and "keeping the lights on in the boathouse," Lowen is determined to dispel the idea that rowing is elitist. She offers scholarships for people who can't afford the fees.

She wants to give fellow cancer survivors a place to forget their cares,

concentrate on nature's beauty and spend time with new friends.

"Some people may hesitate because of the early hours, but so many of us say we now love to get up at O-dark-hundred to enjoy being on the water and the sunrise and being part of the community," Lowen says.

For information, visit rivercityrowing.org/rowsist or email rowsist@rivercityrowing.org.

Jessica Laskey can be reached at jessrlaskey@gmail.com. Previous profiles can be found and shared at InsideSacramento.com. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: [@insidesacramento](https://www.facebook.com/insidesacramento). ■

By Jessica Laskey
Giving Back: Volunteer Profile

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HOSPICE IS OPEN, BUT RAISING MONEY NEVER STOPS

YoloCares CEO Craig Dresang (center) is joined by former Sacramento City Council member Jeff Harris (second from right) and Sacramento County Supervisor Phil Serna (right) and others at the ribbon-cutting for the opening of Joshua's House.

Photo by Eleakis & Elder Photography

The handful of residents at Joshua's House in North Sacramento, believed to be the first hospice on the West Coast to serve the homeless population, can finally experience the comfort, dignity and respect elusive for people living on the streets.

The new facility on Larchwood Drive began caring for its terminally ill residents this summer. The site is owned and operated by YoloCares, a nonprofit hospice provider.

As Inside columnist Jeff Harris detailed last month, Joshua's House founder Marlene von Friederichs-Fitzwater worked years to line up

political support, find the best location and secure \$3.5 million needed for the facility. Controversies followed from concept to reality.

"There were many times when I thought it was impossible and would never happen, but then something wonderful would occur and we kept going," Friederichs-Fitzwater tells me.

Today the six modest single-story buildings accommodate up to 15 patients and staff. With Joshua's House operational, a new big challenge never goes away: raising money to provide expensive, essential services.

Federal programs pay a hospice such as Joshua's House per-patient daily rates of \$260, YoloCares CEO Craig Dresang tells me.

He explains, "For that per diem, we are required by law to provide a physician, a nurse for the patient, a nursing aide who makes several visits a week to bathe the patient and take care of personal needs, a social worker,

a chaplain or spiritual care person for the patient, a professionally trained volunteer who can maybe read to the patient, spend time, play games.

"We are also required to pay the costs for all the durable medical equipment, which is a hospital bed, oxygen, adult briefs. All of that and all the prescriptions related to the diagnosis. That's why we fund raise, because we provide that higher level of care and because we are a nonprofit. And we also have to provide 13 months of bereavement support for the patient's family."

Joshua's House has a \$1 million annual budget. That means a lot of

fundraising for YoloCares, a NorCal group that finds motivation deep within its core values.

"I believe, as my organization and I know the founder believes, that every person in our country deserves dignity, compassion and respect at the end of life regardless of anything," Dresang says. "This project is perfectly aligned with who we are as an organization, and we are delighted to finally be able to serve the community."

Dresang was on the Joshua's House board during the planning stages. YoloCares assumed ownership after Friederichs-Fitzwater told him

GD

By Gary Delsohn
Building Our Future

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YoloCares was the only organization she could trust in the role.

“We have been around almost 50 years and provide world-class care and a safety net for people who don’t have insurance,” Dresang says. “We are the safety-net provider for complex patients who might not be able to access care in other programs.”

The community value provided by Joshua’s House has never been in doubt.

“The great leveler is death,” Dresang says. “When people are unhoused, they really need end-of-life care and most hospices are not interested in providing that care for the homeless. It requires a lot of skill and work from your staff. These are typically high-cost patients. There are a lot of psycho-social needs. It’s not like taking care of your grandma in her home in East Sacramento.”

For information, see joshuahousehospice.org.

Gary Delsohn can be reached at gdelsohn@gmail.com. Previous columns can be found and shared at InsideSacramento.com. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: @insidesacramento. ■

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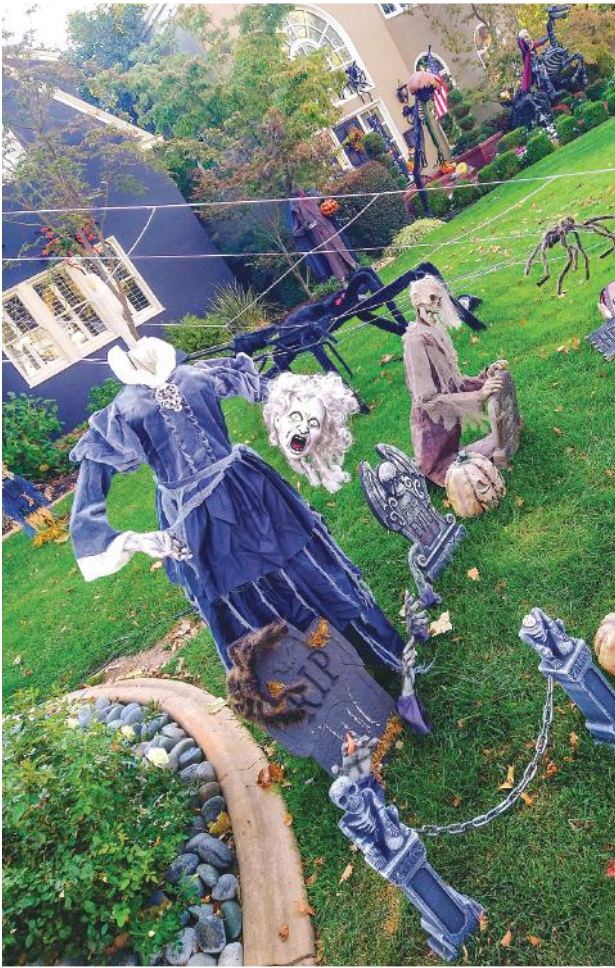
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Enjoy elegant gatherings in the formal living room or unwind in the expansive family room, complete with a cozy fireplace. Additional highlights include a private gated driveway, a two-car garage, and charming architectural details throughout.

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COUPLE'S NEW HOME DOUBLES AS AN ART GALLERY

Gwenna and Dan Howard didn't plan to move. They lived in a lovely, updated home Gwenna bought more than four decades ago. Dan moved in when they married more than 20 years ago.

The couple made many improvements over the years, even during the pandemic. "Dan owned a family steel company, and he kept his crews busy with the work on our home during the lockdowns," Gwenna says.

But Gwenna liked to check Zillow for trends. When she saw the listing for a stylish Carmichael home on a bluff overlooking the American River, she was smitten. They went to the open house and realized the place was a hot property.

A bidding war ensued, and the Howards won. "It was just perfect. It required almost zero work, and it had a pool and a gorgeous

view," Gwenna says. "All we had to do was move in. We were thrilled."

Gwenna is involved in the local arts scene, an advocate for emerging artists. She co-owned Pamela Skinner/Gwenna Howard Contemporary Gallery from 2006 to 2012.

The gallery held museum-caliber exhibitions for multiple mediums, including 80 shows featuring more than 200 artists. It played a key role in Midtown's Second Saturday art movement. Gwenna continues her arts work at Verge Center for the Arts.

The couple moved into their new home in April.

"We were very fortunate," Gwenna says. "The previous owners had remodeled the entire house five years ago, including new electrical and mechanical systems. Victoria Tanforan was the lead designer with Pacific Design Group. She did a beautiful job on the home's design."

The ranch-style home is 3,266 square feet, painted and trimmed in deep brown with a brown composition shingle roof. From the street there appears a higher pavilion roofline toward the back. Front landscaping is lush and natural with native plants. A low corten steel grid fence provides definition and privacy.

The lot slopes toward the river and exposes multiple levels of living space, all with huge windows to frame the views.



Dan and Gwenna Howard

CH

By Cecily Hastings

Open House

Photography by Aniko Kiezel



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The main floor holds a gourmet cook's kitchen, dining room, living area, two smaller bedrooms with baths and master bedroom.

The dining room—one half level up—leads to living, reading and office areas. Downstairs half a level, there's another bedroom and bathroom. The lower level contains a pool and veranda overlooking the river. The main floor living area has a long balcony with access to stairs down to the pool.

Interior finishes, calm and subtle, ring texture in tone-on-tone natural colors. Wallcovering, custom ceramic tiles and cabinetry coordinate beautifully.

The floors are wide-wood oak planks in a light brown finish. Walls are mostly off-white with window trim in black and redwood ceilings in select areas. The fireplace in the living room has a cream-colored, raked-concrete finish.

As for furniture, a few pieces came from the couple's previous home. There's also new furniture, plus some left by the former owner.



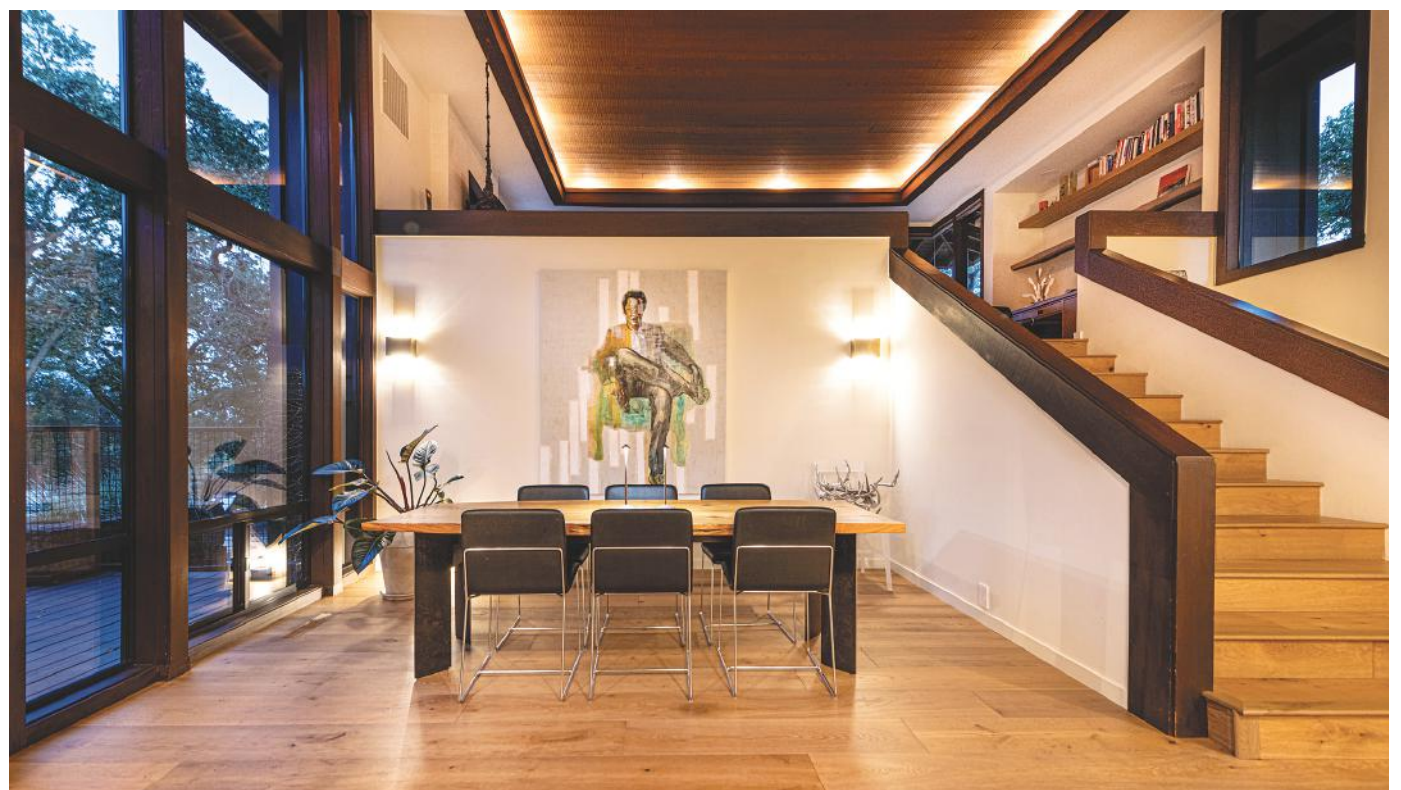
For two art collectors, the house is a perfect gallery. “It has less wall space than our previous house,” Gwenna says. “But it has larger areas to display larger art.” The couple used art installer Dave Saalsaa to coordinate and hang their collection.

Many of Sacramento’s finest artists are on display including Gerald Walburg, Anne Gregory, John Yoyogi Fortes and Ben Hunt. “I had good ideas on where things should be hung but collaborating with Dave made everything better,” Gwenna says.

Sacramento’s suburban river landscape never looked as good as what the Howards created for their new home. In the distance, river views are stunning. Fine local artwork fills in the foreground.

To recommend a home or garden, contact cecily@insidepublications.com. More photography and previous columns can be found and shared at InsideSacramento.com. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: [@insidesacramento](https://www.instagram.com/insidesacramento). ■

SACRAMENTO’S SUBURBAN RIVER LANDSCAPE NEVER LOOKED AS GOOD AS WHAT THE HOWARDS CREATED FOR THEIR NEW HOME.



Dirty Job

NOVICE RANCHERS BUILD NEW LIFE WITH OLD SOIL



Molly Taylor

A productive ranch, like a sustaining farm, starts with dirt. At PT Ranch in Lone, the Taylor family practices regenerative agriculture, which restores and revitalizes the ecosystem by caring for the soil.

Emily Taylor's father bought the ranch east of Elk Grove in the 1950s. After a career as an interior designer in San Francisco, Emily, husband Ned and daughter Molly took over the ranch. They changed the way PT Ranch operated.

Gone were chemicals and fertilizers. In their place came regenerative fields, ecologically balanced pastures to feed sheep, pigs, chickens and turkeys.

The ranch participates in an ecological verification program, which Molly Taylor describes as "a way of monitoring your property each year in terms of soil, health, biodiversity and other sort of like indicators of ecosystem function."

GM

By Gabrielle Myers
Photography by Aniko Kiezel
Farm To Fork

The family plants nitrogen-building seed mixes. No-till pasture management follows.

With rotational grazing, animals visit pastures in a sequence that considers pasture productivity and the feeding desires of each animal. The process enriches the soil through mixed manures.

Molly explains, "One flock of sheep, one herd of cattle, one drift of hogs rotate around the property according to a grazing plan, which is designed to give the pastures the rest they need to be healthy."

Along the way, the animals enjoy different pastures and increased vigor.

Taylor animals are fed an organic mix from Modesto Milling, along with grasses, acorns, weeds, grains, worms and insects found in the pastures. The ranch isn't certified organic but follows organic practices. (Many farms avoid the organic certification process due to the costs involved.)

PT Ranch conserves water with irrigation efficiency. Molly says, "We used to irrigate all of our fields through these unlined open ditches, literally in dirt ditches that would carry water, which you can imagine is incredibly inefficient, both from a water standpoint and from an energy standpoint, because you're pushing water through a dirt canal."

After receiving a grant, the family purchased an electric pump and pipes for the ditches, reducing water waste.



Farm worker Alejandro Chavez

Restoring soil biodiversity wasn't easy. The family planted a diverse range of trees and perennials that serve as "wildlife buffers and pollinator habitats," Molly says.

Perennials make pastures more sustainable and resilient. Wildlife buffers—trees, bushes and plants—protect wildlife from entering ag areas.

Now there's space for bees and hummingbirds. They increase the ranch's productivity and ensure new plants develop.

Summer into the fall, PT Ranch raises turkeys. Customers can order for Thanksgiving and pick up their orders at the ranch's fall festival, usually the Saturday before the holiday.

PT Ranch offers quarter, half or whole hogs and whole turkeys, plus cuts of pork, lamb, chicken, seasonal vegetables and olive oil pressed from family trees. PT Ranch meat is available at Corti Brothers and Magpie Cafe. Visit ptranch.co.

Gabrielle Myers can be reached at gabriellemyers11@gmail.com. Her book of poetry, "Break Self: Feed," is available for \$20.99 from fishinglinepress.com. Her new book, "Points in the Network," has a mid-October publication date. Previous columns can be found and shared at insidesacramento.com. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: [@insidesacramento](https://www.facebook.com/insidesacramento). ■



WITH ROTATIONAL GRAZING, ANIMALS VISIT PASTURES IN A SEQUENCE THAT CONSIDERS PASTURE PRODUCTIVITY AND THE FEEDING DESIRES OF EACH ANIMAL.



Small Wonders

A'S PROVE THIS TOWN DOESN'T NEED MAJOR LEAGUES



It's not West Sacramento, but this minor league baseball stadium in Albuquerque gets reconfigured for joyful soccer matches.

I went to a minor league soccer game this summer and had the best time ever. Better than a thousand big league games I watched as a sportswriter freeload on a press pass.

The game was in Albuquerque at a place called—deep breath—Rio Grande Credit Union Field at Isotopes Park. A minor league baseball yard. Newer, upscale cousin of Sutter Health Park in West Sacramento.

The home team, strutting in black and gold flecked jerseys, was New Mexico United of the United Soccer League Championship level. Rival to Sac Republic.

I forget the score. Had to look up names for the stadium and league. Nobody at the game mentioned formal names. Names didn't matter.

The soccer was rubbish. Filled with missed chances and players obsessed with fouls. After any contact, microscopic or incidental, men dropped

like sandbags and thrashed in agony. Then they rose and dashed away, miraculous recoveries.

It was all joyfully meaningless. The stadium's clunky name. The league's silly English-style appellation. The referee-baiting theatrics.

What mattered was the experience—the fun that comes from cheering alongside 10,000 strangers, the rush fueled by spontaneous celebrations over something everyone knows is pointless and forgettable.

The game was a community party without pretense.

I paid \$28 for a ticket and never found my seat. After the beer line, I stood next to a high-top table in Pepsi Porch and was adopted by a local guy and his two teenage kids.

The kids explained why United was better than its mediocre record. Dad said he liked minor league soccer because of the positive energy. No argument here.

Optimism enveloped the park like invisible fog. The crowd was jubilant without malice or arrogance. The United raced through 90 minutes, sloppy but successful. The crowd bounced away on a cloud, home team winners.

For decades I've said Sacramento doesn't need major league sports. Minor leagues are better. Cheaper,

more accessible, healthier, friendlier experiences, lower stress, fewer problems ignited by the rancor that haunts devout fandom.

This summer, the A's proved the point.

The major leagues spent decades convincing fans to believe games between the A's and Los Angeles Angels were treasures far more valuable than games between, say, the River Cats and El Paso Chihuahuas.

Sacramento ducked the brainwashing. Fans loved the River Cats. Then the A's arrived, armed with zero-sum, Major League Baseball economics.

Sharing the ballpark with big leaguers, the River Cats delivered similar entertainment with less anxiety and cheaper buy-in. The minor league advantage: nobody cares who wins.

This summer, I heard from people who learned the brutish realities of Major League Baseball. They were guest services employees at Sutter Health Park.

Before the A's arrived, guest services crews found pleasure in their jobs. Work was enjoyable. River Cats fans were friendly, appreciative and well-behaved. Customer and employee experiences were safe and fun.

Things changed when the A's blew in from Oakland. Unpleasant encounters

became common between guest staff and rude, aggressive MLB fans.

Ushers told me about getting cussed out when they tried to check tickets. When managers were summoned, the bosses tended to brush aside bad fan behavior and support customers over staff.

Big league sports bring out the worst in many fans. Winning ignites insanity. Behold the shattered shop windows and charred vehicles when a team wins a Super Bowl, World Series or NBA championship.

I was at a hockey game in Los Angeles last October when the Dodgers won the World Series. I saw hundreds of cops flood South Park where the Lakers and NHL Kings play. Cops lined up to confront thousands of converging fans thirsty for mayhem.

Not to be denied, the crowd moved north and torched a city bus.

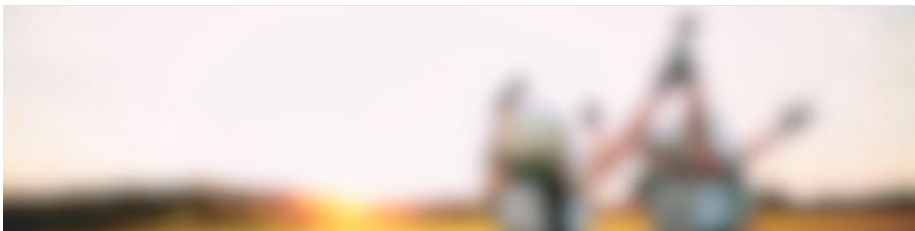
If the River Cats or Republic or New Mexico United win a championship, the streets of Sacramento or Albuquerque will stay safe.

Those teams are minor league. They're just for fun.

R.E. Graswich can be reached at regraswich@icloud.com. Previous columns can be found and shared at InsideSacramento.com. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: @insidesacramento. ■

RG

By R.E. Graswich
Sports Authority



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Debbie Tillotson (left) and Linda Massaro at homeless camp off Highway 160.

What's It Going To Take?

LIVES LOST WHILE CITY SHELTER SITS ON GRANT MONEY

Buttercup lives on a 3-foot tether in a homeless camp near Downtown. The tan, mixed-breed dog is 3 years old. She's had three litters—24 puppies.

Buttercup is one of three dozen dogs who have lived and died in a lineup of tattered tents off Highway 160 over the last three years.

In that time, 155 puppies were born. Forty-nine died, 65 were sold or traded, 25 are gone.

"Gone means the puppies just disappeared," Debbie Tillotson says.

For three years, Tillotson and friend Linda Massaro have provided food, water, bowls, bedding, harnesses and other necessities—at their own expense—to dogs kept by unhoused people.

Tillotson reports dogs have been hit by cars, poisoned and stolen. Two choked when their leads became tangled. Two died in a campfire.

Yet the city's Front Street Animal Shelter has almost \$84,000 in unspent state funds earmarked for spaying and neutering homeless community pets.

In 2023, Front Street received two \$53,500 grants to spay/neuter animals of unhouse residents.

Shelter Manager Phillip Zimmerman spent the first grant on in-house spay/neuter, which he says is less expensive than using outside vendors.

Zimmerman anticipated using the second grant for surgeries at local high-volume spay/neuter clinics, such as Sacramento SPCA. But "they all had limited spay/neuter capacity, so we were having difficulty expending all of the funds," he says.

The grant expired Dec. 14, 2023. Zimmerman received an extension to June 6, 2025—and another to June 30, 2026.

Coupled with a third \$40,000 grant, Front Street has \$83,943 in unspent funds to alter pets of homeless residents.

"Even if he feels his crew is less expensive to use than outside vets, wouldn't a reasonable director work to increase the outreach, to increase the surgery numbers among the homeless?" asks attorney Hilary Bagley, a member of the city's Animal Wellbeing Commission.

"He knows they are breeding like crazy and swapping puppies for drugs," she says.

In 2024, Front Street received a fourth grant for \$165,215 for intake prevention and foster programs. Again, the shelter "provided in-house spay/neuter services for these programs at a much lower cost," Zimmerman says.

Not being able to use the funds at private clinics, the grant expired. Zimmerman received an extension to June 30, 2026. The leftover money is \$26,195.

Unused spay/neuter funds from three grants—\$110,138—sit in Front Street's coffers.

And the animals keep coming.

In 2023, Front Street took in 4,116 stray dogs and 3,610 stray cats. In 2024, the shelter received 4,509 stray dogs and 3,947 stray cats.

So far this year, Front Street took in 3,217 stray dogs and 3,015 cats—and has killed 1,374.

"Front Street's leadership sees every day how the lack of spay/neuter affects the pet population of our community," Tillotson says. "It seems strange they have thousands of dollars earmarked specifically for spaying/neutering the dogs of the homeless and have not used it. Could it be that they really don't care about animals of the homeless?"

Zimmerman says, "our organization and many others have had struggles

with expending funds specifically related to spay/neuter because of the backlog of spay/neuter availability."

A national high-volume MASH (Mobile Animal Sterilization Hospital), now used by Front Street and the county's Bradshaw Animal Shelter, had limited availability at the time, Zimmerman says.

However, Bradshaw managed to spend a \$200,000 grant on four MASH clinics in 2024.

What about low-cost mobile clinics, such as SNIP (Spay Neuter Imperative Project)? The mobile clinic has spayed/neutered nearly 100,000 animals throughout California.

"SNIP was not in compliance with the California Attorney General at the time and could not provide workers' compensation proof to the city, which is a requirement," Zimmerman says.

Earlier this year, Zimmerman, with support from Assistant City Manager Michael Jasso, called off a SNIP clinic arranged by local animal advocate Julie Virga with Fix Our Shelters, a nonprofit watchdog group.

"The city of Sacramento absolutely contracts with nonprofits 'not in good standing' with the Attorney General's Office," Virga says. Fix Our Shelters pulled records and found the city contracted with 16 delinquent nonprofits in 2024 and 2025.

In 2023, soon after Front Street received the first \$53,500 grant, Virga arranged for the founder of Elevation Mobile Animal Spay & Neuter Clinic to assist the city shelter with altering "animals of the unhoused that are literally breeding out of control in our neighborhoods," Virga says.

Zimmerman rejected the offer, citing an expired veterinary premise permit.

"The idea was to bring a contract team to Front Street," Virga says. "Front Street already had a posted premise permit."

Zimmerman still refuses the mobile clinic SNIP and help from Elevation.

For the unspent funds, Zimmerman is "hoping" to hold a MASH clinic and hire a contract veterinarian to perform more in-house spays/neuters.

Three years and hundreds of puppies later—what has taken so long?

For previous stories on Front Street Animal Shelter, visit insidesacramento.com/civic-dashboard.

Cathryn Rakich can be reached at crakich@surewest.net. Previous columns can be found and shared at insidesacramento.com. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: @insidesacramento. ■

CR

By Cathryn Rakich
Animals & Their Allies

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6018 VIA CASITAS	\$235,000	1929 KEITH WAY	\$445,000	3743 COLLEGE AVE	\$2,035,000	159 QUASAR CIR	\$343,000	3232 STREVEL WAY	\$476,000
4038 GROVER CT #4	\$240,000	95816		1743 11TH AVE	\$3,000,000	7428 AMHERST ST	\$360,000	1129 COMMONS DR	\$500,000
5906 VIA CASITAS	\$275,000	2117 S ST #208	\$382,000	95819		7568 29TH ST	\$380,000	279 MUNROE ST	\$509,000
3994 PARK CIRCLE LN #B	\$313,750	2117 S ST #204	\$545,000	5409 S ST	\$430,000	2592 FERNANDEZ DR	\$380,500	1912 RICHMOND ST	\$510,000
6038 CASA ALEGRE	\$319,000	320 24TH ST	\$569,000	5401 J ST	\$560,000	2534 49TH AVE	\$385,000	401 DUNBARTON CIR	\$549,000
3987 OAK VILLA CIR	\$325,000	1516 23RD ST	\$572,000	112 FALLON LN	\$640,000	1430 38TH AVE	\$411,250	3008 EL PRADO WAY	\$555,000
4014 KNOLL TOP CT	\$339,000	3225 D ST	\$600,000	1749 41ST ST	\$650,000	2621 WOOD VIOLET WAY	\$415,000	1001 DUNBARTON CIR	\$575,000
4809 MARCONI AVENUE	\$349,000	1278 33RD ST	\$653,000	518 LOVELLA WAY	\$650,000	2652 FERNANDEZ DR	\$417,000	712 ELMHURST CIR	\$588,000
3040 CALIFORNIA	\$430,000	1708 37TH ST	\$760,000	1744 41ST ST	\$675,000	7576 21ST ST	\$427,500	1733 BONNIE WAY	\$635,000
6716 RAPPAHANNOCK WAY	\$450,000	3438 FORNEY WAY	\$879,000	3927 D ST	\$677,000	7024 TAMOSHANTER WAY	\$430,000	1220 COMMONS DR	\$666,000
5905 MARLIN CIR	\$465,000	2321 H ST	\$978,000	1925 51ST ST	\$695,000	7548 ASHWOOD WAY	\$450,000	1617 UNIVERSITY AVE	\$670,000
3338 PARKS LN	\$465,000	1109 39TH ST #B	\$1,485,000	3818 BREUNER AVE	\$705,000	1972 63RD AVE	\$450,000	2430 PAVILLONS PLACE LN #303	
6036 ELLERSLEE DR	\$470,000	95817		5622 SPILMAN AVE	\$739,000	2300 WORSHAM AVE	\$460,000	\$677,500	
5432 HESPER WAY	\$475,000	3041 SAN CARLOS WAY	\$365,000	5133 DOVER AVE	\$750,000	2971 BEESTON AVE	\$463,000	2430 PAVILIONS PLACE LN #401	
6441 SAINT JAMES DR	\$475,000	3765 Y ST	\$415,000	172 45TH ST	\$790,000	2641 51ST AVE	\$470,000	\$744,000	
6243 SILVERTON WAY	\$480,000	3105 SANTA CRUZ WAY	\$430,000	551 PALA WAY	\$865,000	2111 ARLISS WAY	\$473,000	95831	
4700 LUE LN	\$505,000	2632 36TH ST	\$482,000	861 54TH ST	\$930,000	1515 POTRERO WAY	\$485,000	6990 RIVERBOAT WAY	\$430,000
8205 CAMINATA LN	\$507,900	2743 KROY WAY	\$510,000	1641-1637 53RD ST	\$975,000	4925 HELEN WAY	\$527,000	7043 CATLEN WAY	\$565,000
6130 WINDING WAY	\$510,000	2825 38TH ST	\$520,000	5318 N ST	\$1,010,000	2043 16TH AVE	\$550,000	382 LITTLE RIVER WAY	\$573,500
3831 MISSION AVE	\$520,000	2425 42ND ST	\$557,500	859 53RD STREET	\$1,025,000	5424 VIRGINIA WAY	\$582,500	7527 ISLAND WAY	\$585,000
5019 BOWMAN OAKS	\$547,000	2756 35TH ST	\$582,000	5132 T ST	\$1,099,000	2201 19TH AVE	\$587,000	8081 LINDA ISLE LN	\$601,000
4519 ONYX WAY	\$565,000	10 GOVERNORS CT	\$582,000	4509 D ST	\$1,100,000	1452 OREGON DR	\$620,000	1249 EL ENCANTO WAY	\$630,000
4609 JAN DR	\$567,500	3034 9TH AVE	\$645,000	417 SAN ANTONIO WAY	\$1,200,000	5456 PARISH CT	\$650,000	708 RIVERLAKE WAY	\$635,000
6251 SILVERTON WAY	\$575,000	2108 GERBER AVE	\$665,000	561 46TH ST	\$1,399,000	6025 HOLSTEIN WAY	\$720,000	6641 GLORIA DR	\$639,900
6406 TEAL WAY	\$581,000	3917 MILLER WAY	\$750,000	1348 44TH ST	\$1,475,000	1221 35TH AVE	\$739,000	1332 VALLEY BROOK AVE	\$670,000
4501 MARBLE WAY	\$589,000	4133 U ST	\$800,000	841 43RD ST	\$1,590,000	830 PROW CT	\$750,000	35 PEBBLE RIVER CIR	\$672,000
3409 BROOKSIDE	\$590,000	5025 U ST	\$829,000	95821		4901 CRESTWOOD WAY	\$775,000	10 DE SART CT	\$692,000
4700 COTTAGE WAY	\$595,000	95818		2561 FULTON SQUARE LN #59	\$240,000	967 PIEDMONT DR	\$860,000	254 RIVERTREE WAY	\$745,000
3825 MAUDRAY WAY	\$665,000	320 1ST AVE	\$349,950	2621 DARWIN	\$409,999	4201 MOSS DR	\$1,625,000	291 AUDUBON CIR	\$850,000
5409 BRANINBURG CT	\$710,000	451 TAILOFF LN #202	\$370,000	2371 SAINT FRANCIS DR	\$423,000	95825		95864	
5226 GLANCY DR	\$747,500	270 LOG POND LN	\$446,000	2817 CLOVER LN	\$435,000	1326 OAK TERRACE CT #16	\$109,000	1016 HAMPTON RD	\$390,000
6320 EASTMONT CT	\$750,000	2100 25TH ST	\$460,000	2249 TULIP WAY	\$452,000	923 FULTON AVE #447	\$120,000	3120 BERKSHIRE WAY	\$420,000
5229 SHELATO WAY	\$815,000	719 FLINT WAY	\$483,000	3108 CREST HAVEN DR	\$480,000	2292 WOODSIDE LN #16	\$140,000	4428 JUNO WAY	\$465,000
5940 SARAH CT	\$850,000	2217 24TH ST	\$545,000	3825 ROBIE LEE WAY	\$515,000	2229 WOODSIDE LN #8	\$150,000	3136 CHELSEA RD	\$499,999
1064 SAND BAR CIR	\$915,000	451 TAILOFF LN #401	\$617,500	4536 MCDONALD DR	\$535,000	871 WOODSIDE LN E # 4	\$155,000	4312 VULCAN DR	\$515,000
5417 SHELLEY WAY	\$939,000	2736 4TH AVE	\$649,000	3224 MONTCLAIRE ST	\$555,000	3140 VIA GRANDE	\$225,000	1824 MARYAL DR	\$550,000
3543 SERRAMONT CT	\$1,475,000	2355 VETERANS FIRST AVE	\$655,000	4156 DENA WAY	\$645,000	2434 LARKSPUR LN #290	\$250,000	2224 IONE STREET	\$555,000
3710 SUTTER HILL LN	\$1,540,000	3616 24TH ST	\$662,000	2800 CALLE VISTA WAY	\$650,000	1520 HOOD RD #C	\$265,000	4518 THOR WAY	\$585,000
3320 EDGAR LN	\$1,700,000	2717 HARKNESS ST	\$680,000	3300 CLUB LN	\$750,000	1019 DORNAJO #214 WAY #214	\$265,000	4330 BAYWOOD WAY	\$600,000
1366 PARS OAK LN	\$2,125,000	2609 4TH AVE	\$715,000	4555 S PARK DR	\$762,000	\$265,000		3600 MAPLEWOOD LN	\$663,460
95815		1504 V ST	\$740,000	3250 BONITA DR	\$799,000	3142 VIA GRANDE	\$285,500	2910 JOSEPH AVE	\$859,000
2560 SELMA ST	\$135,000	1040 9TH AVE	\$760,000	4527 EDISON AVE	\$930,000	2403 POST OAK LN	\$287,000	3101 AMERICAN RIVER DR	\$912,000
2740 FAIRFIELD ST	\$280,000	3629 CROCKER DR	\$820,000	3191 MORSE AVE	\$1,175,000	3120 VIA GRANDE	\$300,000	540 WILHAGGIN DR	\$1,050,000
2818 PLOVER ST	\$300,000	1006 YALE ST	\$885,000	95822		617 WOODSIDE SIERRA #3	\$325,000	2921 LAUREL DR	\$2,400,000
481 ELEANOR AVE	\$320,000	1701 4TH AVE	\$890,000	1621 FRUITRIDGE RD	\$230,000	2470 NORTHROP AVE #5	\$339,900	4500 FAIR OAKS BLVD	\$2,570,000
420 ELEANOR AVE	\$325,000	2750 MARTY WAY	\$899,000	2121 ONEIL WAY	\$260,000	629 WOODSIDE SIERRA #2	\$348,500	510 KNIGHTSBRIDGE LN	\$3,350,000
1083 ACACIA AVE	\$336,000	1111 U ST	\$950,000	6060 GLORIA DR #6	\$270,000	2378 HERNANDO RD	\$350,000		
2933 ALBATROSS WAY	\$355,000	2775 LAND PARK DR	\$1,080,000			15 COLBY CT	\$390,000		
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Fall Guise



Photo by Linda Smolek

A PAIN TO SOME, BUT LEAVES LEAVE AN IMPRESSION

Admit it, until leaves transform into dazzling colors and blanket streets and lawns, they are merely a supporting cast to our magnificent trees.

Occasionally we remember to appreciate the shade provided in summer and the glorious compost that leaves spawn. Houseplant enthusiasts value leaves for helping clean the air by absorbing carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen. Every garden is enhanced and benefits from leaves.

Often, we are too busy or not interested in granting Sacramento's urban leaf canopy the respect it deserves. In truth, leaves are as Sacramento as farm to fork and tomatoes.

DV

By Dan Vierria
Garden Jabber

Fall is a reminder to admire precious leaves as they cartwheel down Land Park Drive and East Sac streets.

Some consider leaf fall an annoyance. Fall leaves are glorious, but they fill rain gutters and green bins. It's leaf season when the city unleashes The Claw to remove mountains of curbside leaves.

What happens to those leaves? The city's curbside organics recycling program turns leaves and other organic matter into free compost for gardens. The program is a perk, but it complies with Senate Bill 1383 that mandates recycling instead of landfill dumping and the resulting methane emissions.

I've found the city website hard to navigate. To find information on composting, free city compost and backyard composting, visit cityofsacramento.gov and enter "compost" in the search box.

Residents are eligible for up to two loads of compost (3 cubic yards each) per year. A truck or open-top trailer is needed for picking up compost. Each load must be a minimum of a half-cubic

yard. The city estimates a half-cubic yard will cover 50 square feet at a depth of 3 inches. That amount would be just shy of enough compost to amend a pair of standard 4-by-8-foot raised vegetable beds.

Cars and SUVs are not allowed for compost pickup, but delivery is an option. Minimum load for delivery is 3 yards. Delivery is \$85.

Backyard leaf composting just happens—slowly, if leaves are piled and left to decompose. Or rapidly, if leaves are shredded, mixed with nitrogen-rich materials and the pile is regularly turned and kept moist. Everything you need to know about backyard composting is at sacmg.ucanr.edu. On the left side of the website, click "Composting and worms."

The lifecycle of a leaf is similar to a human's. It begins as a wee bud, grows with water and nutrients, matures and enters its golden years. In the grand finale, days shorten, temperatures cool. Leaves drop and decompose.

Decomposition is performed by soil microorganisms that return nutrients back to the soil. Enriched soil rewards future plants.

Deciduous trees produce most leaf piles. These trees shed annually, reabsorbing nutrients from leaves before they fall. Popular local trees, such as maples, oaks, birch, Chinese pistache, crape myrtle and sycamores are deciduous.

Evergreens lose older leaves and needles but constantly replace them with new leaves and needles. Gardeners are fond of evergreen citrus trees. But anybody who tends citrus has experienced leaf drop.

As older leaves depart it's wise to examine the tree for other causes of leaf drop—pests, nutrient deficiencies and environmental causes (heat waves, freezing temperatures, watering irregularities).

The Sacramento Tree Foundation recommends these five trees for fall color and landscape beauty: tupelo, scarlet oak, Chinese pistache, Washington hawthorn and ginkgo.

Shuffle through leaves and enjoy the colorful public performances at Land Park, East Sac, Curtis Park, Capitol Park and River Park. Parts of the American River Parkway bike trail and McKinley Park are swipes of fall color. The UC Davis Arboretum is a short drive for a big reward.

Fill a thermal canteen with hot chocolate, grab a hoodie and spend fall days admiring our fabulous leaves.

Dan Vierria is a University of California Cooperative Extension Master Gardener for Sacramento County. He can be reached at masterg29@gmail.com. For answers to gardening questions, contact UCCE Master Gardeners at (916) 876-5338, email mgsacramento@ucanr.edu or visit sacmg.ucanr.edu. Previous columns can be found and shared at InsideSacramento.com. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: [@insidesacramento](https://www.facebook.com/insidesacramento). ■

THE SACRAMENTO TREE FOUNDATION RECOMMENDS THESE FIVE TREES FOR FALL COLOR AND LANDSCAPE BEAUTY: TUPELO, SCARLET OAK, CHINESE PISTACHE, WASHINGTON HAWTHORN AND GINKGO.

ACROSS

- 1 Some are parked overnight in neighborhoods
- 4 Years (for)
- 9 Greek letters widely seen on March 14
- 12 Nonviolent demonstration
- 15 "All ____"
- 16 Agree with a plan
- 17 Movie-rating org. rebranded in 2019
- 18 All set
- 19 Fluffy lapdog, for short
- 20 Uncluttered
- 21 Marital arrangement involving separate bedrooms
- 24 Gave temporarily
- 27 Hi-__ image
- 28 Easy money source?
- 29 __ Romeo
- 30 Accomplished
- 31 One may be played with the Oculus Rift headset
- 34 "It won't kill me!"
- 36 City campaign type
- 37 Email again
- 38 Upper limit, casually
- 39 Things to carp about
- 40 "Evil Woman" grp.

- 41 Name that sounds like the 11th letter
- 42 It knows!
- 43 Basic and boring
- 48 Like this puzzle's 56-Down clue
- 49 Ulna's limb
- 50 Edmonton hockey player
- 53 Bassoon relative
- 54 Ice cream variety with three flavors
- 57 Oodles
- 58 Finish unhappily for everyone
- 59 Medicare recipients: Abbr.
- 60 Kiddie lit "Dr."
- 61 Gossip that's spilled

DOWN

- 1 "Pokemon Sword," e.g., for short
- 2 Swerve
- 3 Fill to capacity
- 4 Tennis champion Ivan
- 5 "Er, see ya!"
- 6 __ Paulo
- 7 Caught in a bind
- 8 New England catches
- 9 Nintendo franchise whose villains include an origami king

- 10 Yiddish Singer?
- 11 Hockey shoe
- 13 Educated professionals in New York City and Los Angeles, e.g.
- 14 Kind of cable for transmitting audio and video: Abbr.
- 15 "To be honest ..."
- 22 Warmest Great Lake
- 23 What prices may do
- 24 Wild animal's home
- 25 Name that sounds like the 12th letter
- 26 Super Bowls conclude them
- 30 Movie format
- 31 Preventive shot, in brief

- 32 Dog coat clumps
- 33 Otherwise
- 35 Privy to
- 36 Polite request for permission
- 38 Like California's Shasta Lake
- 41 Entitled female complainers, slangily
- 43 Schemes
- 44 Hard work
- 45 Barn topper
- 46 Birds on Canadian dollar coins
- 47 Cheerful tunes
- 51 Coup d'__
- 52 Like a blue moon
- 55 More, in music
- 56 Code-cracking org.

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

M	I	N	T		T	H	A	T		P	U	M	A	S
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4/15

Universal Freestyle 68 by Karen Steinberg

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Sole Search

HOW NEW SHOES TURNED INTO GUILTY PLEASURE

I needed new bike shoes for my new electric bike. Not so fast, my wife Becky said. Knowing my propensity to buy shoes for all occasions, she asked me to consider using my running shoes.

“Since we moved to the foothills, I know those shoes haven’t seen much mileage,” she said.

Becky was trying to make me feel guilty for spending good money on shoes I probably didn’t need.

It didn’t work. Off I went to a Sacramento bike store, where I was greeted by a nice clerk who straddled one of those funny shoe stools with a little loading-ramp footrest.

NB

By Norris Burkes
Spirit Matters

With my foot on the shoe ramp, she helped me try on a half-dozen options. I imagined a princess looking for her CinderFella to fit a glass Nike.

Suddenly, the clerk got distracted. Her colleagues were collecting lunch orders. She didn’t want to miss out on a sandwich. And she didn’t want to ignore me.

With her attention compromised, she asked me an unintentional question: “What do you usually eat?”

I knew what happened—she was thinking about lunch while trying to fit a customer. But the question set off my guilt alarms.

I wondered if the shoe ramp was capable of measuring fat in the soles of my feet.

Obviously, the clerk didn’t mean to imply judgment about my eating habits. But it was too late.

Embarrassed guilt turned my face red. The blush was a three-alarm response.

But my guilt—the kind of guilt that fears exposure—is almost as unhealthy as my eating habits.

Unhealthy guilt invests an incredible amount of energy into concealing things. As we make efforts to hide our guilt, shirk it or ignore it, serious mental health concerns can result.

The energy we expend to blanket a problem often shapes a silhouette plain for everyone to see. The impression left from hiding guilt is often as obvious as the angelic pattern left by children playing in snow.

As I worked to suck in my gut, my unhealthy guilt made me assume the hapless shoe clerk was my accuser.

The situation made me flash to the conversation Jesus had with a woman whose murder he interrupted.

Jesus faced her accusers as they readied stones to execute her for adultery.

He sent the executors packing with a qualification: “He who is without sin may cast the first stone.”

With the disappearance of her accusers, Jesus assured her, “No man condemns you and neither do I.”

People like that part of the story but often forget Jesus turned the tables a

bit by introducing her to healthy guilt. With a dismissive mandate, Jesus added, “Go and sin no more!”

In life, healthy guilt can inspire us to strive for healthier lives. It can push us to mend relationships, work harder and commit to charity.

But good results only come as we commit to taking our life forward and sinning no more.

When the clerk rang up the sale, the damage was almost \$150. I had one thought: I shouldn’t be spending this kind of money on shoes. I’m going to have to bike 100 miles a week to justify the purchase.

The guilt was back.

Norris Burkes can be reached at comment@thechaplain.net. Previous columns can be found and shared at InsideSacramento.com. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: [@insidesacramento](https://www.facebook.com/insidesacramento). Burkes is available for public speaking at civic organizations, places of worship, veterans groups and more. For details and fees, visit thechaplain.net. ■

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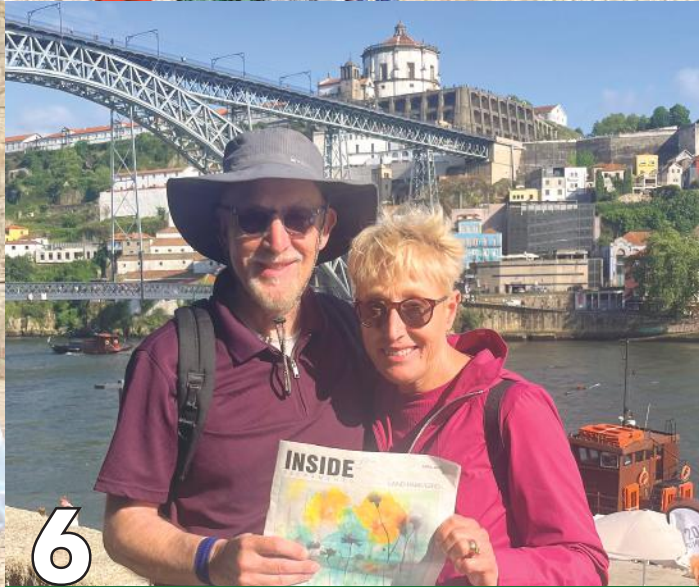
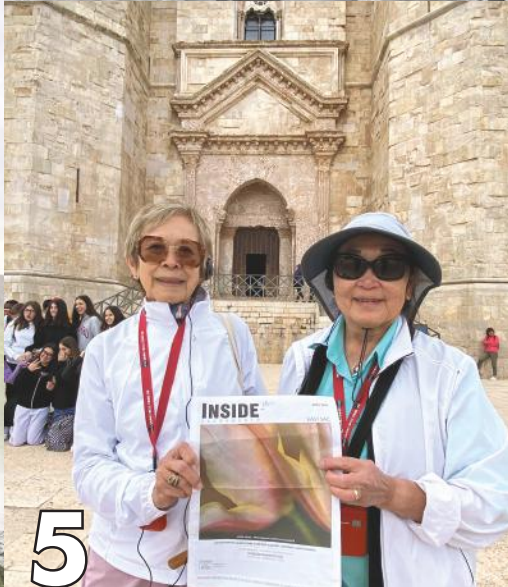
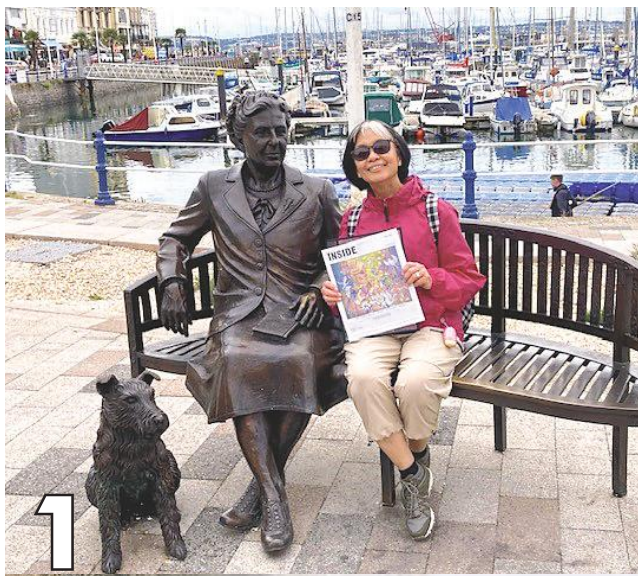
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- Pablo G. on **yelp**



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READERS NEAR & FAR

1. Claudia Locsin beside a sculpture of Agatha Christie in Torquay, Devon County, England.
2. Ron Fong and Nancy Sumampauw at the Jewel Rain Vortex, world's tallest indoor waterfall, in Singapore.
3. Laura Rosenheim at Cathédrale Notre-Dame de Strasbourg in Strasbourg, France.
4. Janis and Jonathan Lightman at Seljalandsfoss waterfall in Iceland.
5. Naomi Turner and Donna Ouchida at Castel del Monte in Andria, Apulia, Italy.
6. Dane and Karen Andrus at the Douro River in Porto, Portugal.
7. Daciel Galvan in Madeira, Portugal.
8. Anthony and Mariella Neuburger in front of tufas at Mono Lake in California.



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It Figures

JOINING ARTIST GROUP
BRINGS OUT BEST IN PAINTER



Back row: Boyd Gavin, Marcy Friedman, Pat Mahony and Jian Wang.
Front row: model Amber Mayes and Gong Yuebin.
Photos by Aniko Kiezel

It's hard to refuse a request from artist and philanthropist Marcy Friedman. Pat Mahony understands this firsthand. She recalls Friedman "confronting" her to suggest they start a life drawing class together.

Mahony's first instinct was to say no—she hadn't drawn figures since college—but she was soon convinced. Her mother recently died and Mahony felt a void.

After two weeks of hesitation, she told Friedman if a good group came together, Mahony would relent. Under Friedman's guidance, Fred Dalkey, Boyd Gavin and Jian Wang signed up. Mahony couldn't refuse.

"It's one of the best things to happen to me artistically. It changed my whole vocabulary," Mahony says.

"There is an undeniable cross-fertilization of ideas and viewpoints that comes from verbal collaboration," Friedman says. "The biggest plus is the ensuing friendships that are formed."

The eclectic group of painters met once a week to draw and paint a live model from 2011 to 2020, when the pandemic intervened. They recently reconvened to prepare for their group show on display this month at Twisted Track Gallery.

"It's a lot of work, but it's well worth it," says Mahony, who hosts gatherings at her in-home studio in Carmichael.

Mahony is glad to get back to the figure. She was "quite good" at the subject as an art major at UC Santa Barbara, but a sudden need to support her family found her laying down her paintbrushes for years as she worked in management at Sears and later as a stockbroker.

When her financial life stabilized, she resumed her love of art and took a watercolor class at Sacramento City

JL

By Jessica Laskey
Open Studio



College. She caught the eye of instructors Darrell Forney and Gregory Kondos, and Kondos “took me under his wing.” She earned a one-person show at the college in 1981 and joined her mentors at the Artists’ Contemporary Gallery.

Now her work resides in the permanent collection at Crocker Art Museum, Springfield Art Museum and Nevada Museum of Art. She’s represented by the John Natsoulas Gallery in Davis and Winfield Gallery in Carmel.

While Mahony came to be known for her riotous landscapes and serene still lifes, the drawing group helped her “jump right back in” to her love of figurative work. Now her colorful, gestural figures are an important part of her oeuvre and the group members an important part of her life.

“These people really do become your family,” she says.

For information, visit mahonyart.com and twistedtrackgallery.life.

Jessica Laskey can be reached at jessrlaskey@gmail.com. Previous profiles can be found and shared at InsideSacramento.com. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: @insidesacramento. ■

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Tots
Photos by Linda Smolek

GS

By Greg Sabin
Restaurant Insider

Chef Brad Cecchi and his team at Canon have six mentions in Michelin guides. It's easy to see why. Canon is an elegantly casual dining room that highlights every ingredient in the enterprise, whether those ingredients are on the plate, in the glass or part of the exceptional service.

Opened in 2017, Canon began as a strange room in a strange place. Almost invisible near Stockton Boulevard, the vibe was different. Experiments with dim sum-style delivery and adventures

in fermentation came and went. Now Canon is among the city's best restaurants.

The feel of Canon's dining room is modern—a big departure from the surroundings. The stark, industrial nature of 34th Street camouflages what lies within.

Canon has a high ceiling with pinewood slats and delicate chandeliers reminiscent of hachiya persimmons hung out to dry. A white marble bar top perches in front of a 20-foot-high liquor library. An open kitchen spits out noise

and joy while seasonal ingredients greet fire.

Canon is what happens when thoughtful, modern design and creative California cooking get together. It's where guests arrive in suits and gowns and T-shirts and shorts.

You'll find ingredients you've never heard of. Or order an off-the-menu cheeseburger (but please ask nicely).

There are no lines to cross at Canon. No culinary boundaries when inspirations come from around the globe. No restrictions in the creative,

**CANON IS
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OF A KIND.
EVERYTHING
ABOUT IT IS
THOUGHTFUL,
REASONED AND
INTERESTING.**

eclectic cocktail list. No traditional serving sizes.

At Canon, rules are meant to be broken.

An instructive dish on the summer menu was called “Canary Melon.” A small china bowl appeared on the bar filled with a dish unlike any I’ve experienced.

Long, wide, paper-thin strips of melon dressed with red curry and basil were unusual. Yet on a hot evening, it became a perfect refreshment.

The flavors hit me in the back of the eyeballs. The textures, built around the melon’s softness and toughness from center to rind, were exquisite.

Other dishes celebrated summer. A charred sweet corn salad was a celebration of corn piled over Manchego mousse and topped with watercress, hot sauce and lime aioli. A delicious departure from sweet Sloughouse corn on the cob.

Platters are shareable, too large for one person and too small for two. If you have the right people along, it works.

A platter of pan-seared halibut over a shishito pepper emulsion and topped with blue crab surprised and delighted.



Hamachi tiradito

The crisp skin on the small chunks of halibut showed the kitchen’s patience and expertise.

The term unique has lost its punch, now meaning “novel” or “unusual.” But Canon is unique. One of a kind. Everything about it is thoughtful, reasoned and interesting.

The spirit is captured in Nate Cordero’s artwork on Canon’s west wall. The collage of plywood, shiny bits, cigarette packs and more is a stunning piece that demands inspection. It follows no rules and delights with elegance. That’s what Canon goes for every night.

Canon is at 1719 34th St.; canoneastsac.com; (916) 469-2433.

Greg Sabin can be reached at saceats@gmail.com. Previous reviews can be found and shared at InsideSacramento.com. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: [@insidesacramento](https://www.instagram.com/insidesacramento). ■



Heirloom tomatoes

"In Praise of Afro American Women" by Dindga McCannon at Crocker Art Museum.



TO DO

THIS MONTH'S CULTURE & ENTERTAINMENT HIGHLIGHTS

By Jessica Laskey
Calendar Editor

ART

Black Artists in America: From the Bicentennial to September 11

Crocker Art Museum

Oct. 5–Jan. 11

216 O St.; crockerart.org

Explore works by Black artists made during the transitional moment from the late 1970s to the 21st century.

Modern Relics: Bahiya Spaulding
ARTHOUSE Gallery

Oct. 9–Nov. 4

Opening Reception Saturday, Oct. 11, 5–8 p.m.
1021 R St.; arthouseonr.com

This collection includes bold paintings and ceramic sculptures that explore where the past and future merge.

Broken Leaves, Broken Rice

Kondos Gallery

Through Oct. 9

Sacramento City College (3835 Freeport Blvd.);
scc.losrios.edu/about-us/kondos-gallery

View evocative paintings and drawings by artist Simon Tran.

Repetition Rhythm Ritual

Axis Gallery

Oct. 3–26

Second Saturday Reception Oct. 11, 5–8 p.m.
625 S St.; axisgallery.org

This exhibit features 10 new member artists investigating cyclical aspects in their practices.

Sacramento Showcase with Richard Stein

Archival Gallery

Oct. 2–25

Second Saturday Reception Oct. 11, 5–8 p.m.
3223 Folsom Blvd.; archivalgallery.com

Stein's drawings and paintings reveal textures and patterns of California's agricultural fields from an aerial perspective. Also on display are "I Painted Over Andy Warhol" collection by Mel Smothers and "Mystic Mandalas" by Aparna Jaituni.

Trinity Art Show

Lexis Gallery at Trinity Cathedral

Oct. 4–Nov. 9

Opening Reception Saturday, Oct. 4, 5–8 p.m.
2620 Capitol Ave.; trinityartshow.org

This national juried exhibit provides a unique perspective on the Christian view and experience in contemporary life in light of Matthew 9:13, "I desire mercy."

Figuring It Out

Twisted Track Gallery

Oct. 3–Nov. 2

First Friday Reception Oct. 3, 6–9 p.m.
Second Saturday Reception Oct. 11, 6–9 p.m.
1730 12th St.; twistedtrackgallery.life

Take in figurative works by Marcy Friedman, Boyd Gavin, Pat Mahony, Brooke Walker-Knoblich, Jian Wang and Gong Yuebin.

Jane Burnside and Linda Zempel

I Street Art Studios

Saturday, Oct. 11, 2–8 p.m.

1727 I St.; istreetartstudios.com

Discover distinct artistic styles in this two-woman show.

One Thing After Another: Gioia Fonda

University Library Gallery

Through Dec. 6

Artist Talk Thursday, Oct. 16, 4:30–5:30 p.m.

Sacramento State (6000 J St.); csus.edu/university-galleries

This new work includes handmade slides, interactive installation of

50-plus square paintings, translucent vinyl, self-portraits and book of handmade paper.

LIVE PERFORMANCE

Between Riverside and Crazy

Celebration Arts

Oct. 3–19

2727 B St.; celebrationarts.net

Tickets: \$25 general, \$20 seniors, \$15 students

Ex-cop Walter "Pops" Washington fights to hold onto his rent-controlled apartment and his fractured family in this Pulitzer Prize-winning play.

Opening Night: Jeremy Denk Plays Beethoven

Sacramento Philharmonic & Opera

Saturday, Oct. 11, 7:30 p.m.

SAFE Credit Union Performing Arts Center (1301 L St.); sacphilopera.org

Tickets: \$34–\$114

This renowned pianist brings the brilliance of Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 4 to life.

Connections

Sacramento Ballet

Oct. 24–Nov. 2

2420 N St.; sacballet.org

Tickets: \$77

Experience an intimate in-studio performance featuring creations by choreographers with deep roots to Sacramento Ballet.

Eureka Day

Capital Stage

Oct. 15–Nov. 16

2215 J St.; capstage.org

Tickets: \$51–\$66

Enjoy the Sacramento premiere of 2025 Tony Award-winning comedy about community, crisis and consensus.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Octoberfest

Sacramento Turn Verein

Friday, Oct. 10, 6 p.m.–midnight

Saturday, Oct. 11, 3 p.m.–midnight

3349 J St.; sacramentoturnverein.com

Enjoy beer, wine, German food, dancers and music on three stages.

Fall Sale

Shepard Garden & Arts Center

Saturday, Oct. 4, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 5, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

3330 McKinley Blvd.; sgaac.org

Shop for plants, jewelry, pottery, textiles, crafts, art and more.



Día de los Muertos Fiesta at the California Museum.

**Sacramento Jewish Food Faire
Congregation Beth Shalom**

Saturday, Oct. 4, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.
Sacramento Scottish Rite Center (6151 H St.);
sacjewishfoodfaire.com

Get your nosh on with food, vendors, music, kids' activities and wine/beer garden.

**Italian American Heritage Day Festival
Italian Cultural Society**

Sunday, Oct. 12, 11 a.m.–3 p.m.
6821 Fair Oaks Blvd.; italiancenter.net
Tickets: \$15 general, free for kids 17 and younger

Celebrate Italian American culture with music, folk dancing, traditional food and wine, a marketplace, history exhibits, car show and more.

**Farmers Market Dinner
Food Literacy Center**

Saturday, Oct. 18, 4–7 p.m.
401a McClatchy Way; foodliteracycenter.org
Tickets: \$125

Dine on a harvest menu featuring seasonal produce from the Oak Park Farmers Market crafted by Sacramento's top chefs.

**Día de los Muertos Fiesta
California Museum**

Saturday, Oct. 11, 6–10 p.m.
1020 O St.; fiesta25.eventbrite.com
Tickets: \$12 (must be purchased in advance)

Honor the Mexican tradition of the Day of the Dead and enjoy the new exhibit, "Recuerdos Ilustrados: Día de los Muertos 2025," with food, drink, dancers, a marketplace and family-friendly activities.

Trunk or Treat

California Automobile Museum
Saturday, Oct. 25, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
2200 Front St.; calautomuseum.org
Admission: \$5 ages 6 and older, free kids 5 and younger



Pots by Joel Higgins at Art By Fire Fall Sale at Shepard Garden & Arts Center.

Partake in trick or treat, classic cars, seasonal snacks, museum exploration and a haunted house.

Toy Train Show

Sac-Sierra TCA Train Club
Saturday, Oct. 4, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.
Elks Lodge (5631 Cypress Ave.)
Admission: \$10 general, free kids 12 and younger

Peruse 80-plus tables of trains for sale, operating layouts and food. Free train set drawing for ages 17 and younger.

**Green and Glow Open Climb
Peak Adventures & Sacramento State**
Thursday, Oct. 16, 5–8 p.m.
Challenge Center at Sac State (6000 J St.);
eventbrite.com

Enjoy free snacks, music and games. Rock wall and rope climbing open for ages 8 and older.

**Innovate and Ignite
Women United & United Way California
Capital Region**

Thursday, Oct. 9, 5:30–7:30 p.m.
The Cannery Place (1601 Alhambra Blvd);
uwccr.org
Tickets: \$50

This evening of charcuterie, wine, networking and fireside chat with women leaders raises funds for foster youth initiatives.

**Fall Sale
Art By Fire**

Saturday, Oct. 18, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.
Shepard Garden & Arts Center (3330 McKinley Blvd.); artbyfire.org

Shop handmade pottery, glass, decorative art, jewelry, sculpture and other works of art made with fire.

**Put Your Best Paw Forward Walk-A-Thon
Coalition For Community Cats**

Wednesday, Oct. 1, 9 a.m.
California Automobile Museum (2020 Front St.);
c4ccwalk.eventbrite.com
Tickets: \$40 general, free kids 12 and younger

Promote responsible pet ownership in our communities at this annual fundraiser. 5K walk starts at 10 a.m.

**SacTown VegFest
Sacramento Vegan Society**

Saturday, Oct. 11, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.
Cosumnes River College (8401 Center Pkwy.);
sactownvegsociety.org

Bring your appetite to this 100% vegan festival featuring speakers, vendors, cooking demos, yoga, children's activities and more.

**Family Fall Festival
Save the American River Association &
Preserve the American River**

Sunday, Oct. 26, noon–4 p.m.
Stirling Park Drive & Rod Beaudry Drive;
sarariverwatch.org

Bask in an afternoon of nature walks, educational sessions, arts and crafts, live music and complimentary lunch.

Jessica Laskey can be reached at jessrlaskey@gmail.com. Submissions are due six weeks prior to the publication month. Previous columns can be found and shared at InsideSacramento.com. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: @insidesacramento. ■



"Ogden Bend on the Sacramento River" by Richard Stein at Archival Gallery.

BUILT TO LAST

NEIGHBORS LOVE THIS CARPENTER'S CREATIONS



Elliott and Evelin Spoon
Photo by Aniko Kiezel

Elliott and Evelin Spoon created a unique landscape display in their Pocket front yard. The show changes with the holidays and delights all ages.

It started in 2023 when Elliott picked up an old wooden baby crib. Evelin said it looked like a sleigh. Elliott put his imagination and carpentry skills to work.

He repurposed the crib into a Santa's sleigh yard display for Christmas. Neighborhood families loved it, posing in the sleigh for holiday photos.

The couple's latest display was a clever way to announce the gender of their first child. Neighbors wondered, are they having a boy or girl? This summer, a whimsical sleigh sat on the driveway and answered the question.

A huge baby bottle was the backdrop for the "Baby Spoon" sleigh surrounded by daisies and pink embellishments. Yes, the Spoons welcomed a girl.

"Sawdust is in my blood," Elliott says. "Like my father, I grew up around carpentry and woodworking. I spent a lot of time in Cottonwood with my grandfather in his shop. His hobby was making wood toys. I loved smelling the fresh cut lumber and watching him create wonderful pieces from scrap wood."

Elliott carries on his elders' love for woodworking. His garage is a woodworker's dream. It's filled with memorabilia, including tools Elliott received on his 18th birthday and a table his father built in a high school woodshop class.

After traveling and teaching English around the world, Elliott settled down at Rosemont High School. He teaches woodshop.

"I love sharing my knowledge and experience with young people," he says. "Last summer, one of my students painted a beautiful surfboard that I attached to our summer sleigh. It's gratifying to see students apply classroom studies to real-life projects."

Busy with a newborn, the Spoons still have ideas for their next creation. Check out the corner of Durfee and Portugal ways in upcoming months. The garage door is always open for visitors. Have a camera ready.

CM

By Corky Mau
Pocket Life

Another reason to have the right estate plan:

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FALL FESTIVAL

Elks Lodge No. 6 hosts its 35th annual Fall Festival on Saturday, Oct. 18, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is free with vendors selling food items and gifts. Great opportunity for holiday shopping and meeting local artists.

HALLOWEEN FUN

Dress in Halloween costumes for a frightfully fun evening at Lake Crest Village on Friday, Oct. 24, from 4:30–6:30 p.m. Goodies for the whole family.

SPOOKTACULAR

Come to a free spooktacular party at Robbie Waters Library on Saturday, Oct. 25, starting at 7 p.m. Kids can come in costume or create one with the help of library teen board members. Treat bags will be distributed.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

A Harvest Festival with Halloween activities, bounce house, face painting and food vendors takes place at the River's Edge Church on Riverside

Boulevard. Everyone's welcome Saturday, Oct. 25, from 6–8 p.m.

TRUNK OR TREAT

Greenhaven Neighborhood Church on Ark Way hosts its “trunk or treat” event Sunday, Oct. 26, from 2–5 p.m. Enjoy games, music, photo booth and petting zoo.

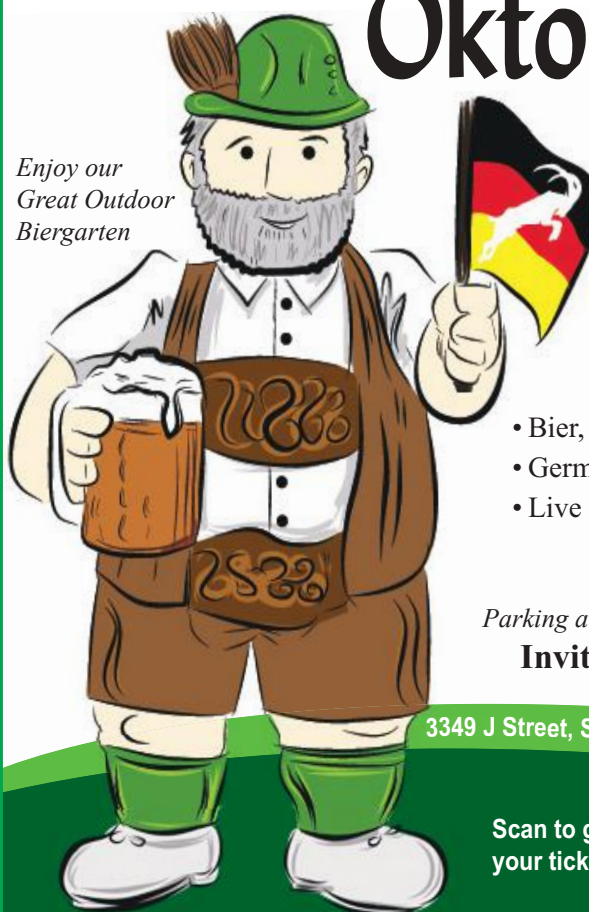
BRAIN-BOOSTING BREAKFASTS

Join Robin Withrow-Wong Thursday, Oct. 2, as she demonstrates breakfast meals to start your day and improve your memory skills. Workshop takes place at ACC from 10:30 a.m. to noon. To register, call (916) 393-9026, ext.330 or email classes@accsv.org.

Corky Mau can be reached at corky.sue50@gmail.com. Submissions are due six weeks prior to the publication month. Previous columns can be found and shared at insidesacramento.com. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: @insidesacramento. ■

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STEFFAN BROWN 916.717.7217 CalRE# 01882787



CLASSIC TUDOR! Incredible bones, lovely public rooms, 4 beds & 3 full baths.
LIBBY WOOLFORD 916.502.2120 CalRE#: 01778361



STUNNING RIVER FRONT CHALET with gorgeous decks & views on 0.6 acre w/private dock!
STEFFAN BROWN 916.717.7217 CalRE# 01882787



STEPS AWAY from the park in Curtis Park. Darling 3BR/2.5BA home just waiting for a new owner.
MARY DAVID 916.420-0126 CalRE# 02035376



IN THE HEART OF RIVER PARK! 3BR/2BA home w/ pool & spa & detached oversized garage. **\$815,000**
ELISE BROWN 916.715.0213 CalRE# 01781942



PICTURESQUE TREE-LINED STREET! Sought -after 4BR/3BA stately 2 story home offers charm & grandeur.
SUE OLSON 916.601.8834 CalRE# 00784986



LIVING LARGE IN ROSEMONT! 4BR/2.5BA on 0.14 acre lot. High ceilings, updated kitchen. **ROZA & KIRSCH 916.730.7705 CalRE #: 01365413**



LOFT LIVING AT SoCAP! 2BR/2.5BA w/bonus office, sleek industrial touches & two-car garage.
ELISE BROWN 916.715.0213 CalRE# 01781942



CLASSIC COMFORT & MODERN UPDATES in this 3BR/2BA Land Park home. **\$1,100,000**
SUE OLSON 916.601.8834 CalRE# 00784986



RIVERFRONT LIVING! One-of-a-kind, updated South Pocket tri level, 2-3BR/2.5BA w/3rd story River view.
SABRA SANCHEZ 916.508.5313 CalRE# 01820635



QUAINT AND STUNNING! Updated 2BR/1BA with charm & large backyard.
ELISE BROWN 916.715.0213 CalRE# 01781942



MID-CENTURY MODERN HOME w/3BR/2BA, frplc & built-in pool. Needs TLC. **\$599,000**
SUE OLSON 916.601.8834 CalRE# 00784986



BROWNSTONE BEAUTY! 3BR/2.5BA/2192 sf. Sunny bright property in a stellar location. **\$799,900**
MARK PETERS 916.600.2039 CalRE #: 01424396



MODERN LUXURY MEETS URBAN LIVING! 2BR/2.5BA. Assumable 3% Mortgage. **\$694,900**
ONSTEAD/TUCKER 916.601.5699 CalRE#: 01222608



ROSA DEL RIO 3BR/2BA/1310 sqft home w/corner frplc, side patio area for BBQ's. **\$459,000**
SUE OLSON 916.601.8834 CalRE# 00784986



SOUTH LAND PARK HILLS! 4BR/2.5BA on 0.27 acre corner lot. RV Parking, Pool w/cool deck. **\$885,000**
CHIP O'NEILL 916.807.0158 CalRE #: 01265774



FORMER MODEL HOME STUNNER! 2BR/2.5BA in Crocker Village newer home community. **\$899,000**
MICHAEL ONSTEAD 916.601.5699 CalRE#:01222608

SACRAMENTO METRO OFFICE 730 Alhambra Boulevard #150 | 916.447.5900

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