



Alzheimer's & Dementia Care Personal Care Companionship

Stroke Care Hoyer and Sara Lift

Parkinson's Care Fall Risk

Limited Mobility Hospice Care

24-Hour Respite Care 1:1 Care

ADL Assistance Light House Keeping

Rio Vista Office: 6 N Front St, Rio Vista, CA 94571 Main Office: (916) 587-1662

HCO No.: 344700093





Editor's Corner

Reflections and Inspirations from Discover Rio Vista Magazine.

Welcome to the Editor's Corner -- where we share the heartbeat of Rio Vista. Each issue highlights the people, places, and traditions that make our town unique. Whether it's the morning fog over the Sacramento River, friendly faces at the market, or local festivals, Discover Rio Vista Magazine celebrates the spirit and resilience of our community.

Our publication is built on the stories of old and new residents. Inside, you'll find interviews with artists, features on local businesses, and glimpses into what sets Rio Vista and the Delta apart. Every article aims to inspire pride and reveal the connections that unite us.

We honor our heritage with each story and look forward to a vibrant future, welcoming new voices, and ideas. Your contribution including letters, photos, and suggestions help shape every issue. Please reach out and share what matters to you by dropping us a line at drveditor@ riovision.net.

Editor's Corner invites everyone to get involved: attend events, support local businesses, volunteer, and connect with neighbors. Thank you for making Discover Rio Vista Magazine part of your life. Let's continue to celebrate and cherish all that makes Rio Vista special.

With appreciation,

— Co-Editor, Robie Williams

Contents

September-December 2025

Event Calendar			٠	٠		3
An Elegant Place to Stay in Rio V	/is	ta				4
Crescent Moon Center						6
Soroptmists Celebrate 70 Years						8
Western Railway Museum						10
Holiday Home Tour						14
Downtown Business Offerings.						15
Gallery Artists of The Month .						16
Dining Discoveries						18
Battle for Collinsville Industrial						20
Airport Day: Wings & Wheels.						23









CO-EDITORS

Robie Williams drveditor@riovision.net Laurie Oleksiewicz minmayinc@aol.com

ADVERTISING Laurie Oleksiewicz

925-301-7389 minmayinc@aol.com

LAYOUT

Suzanne Black deltawebs2012@gmail.com

RioVision is a non-profit 501(c)(3) group.

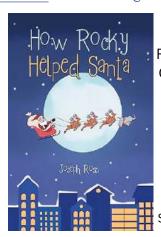
CONTRIBUTORS

Aiden Mayhood, Kathy Hill, Doris Noriega, Laurie Oleksiewicz, Beth Roberts, Tom Surh, Robie Williams, Susan Whitesell

Discover Rio Vista is a tri-annual magazine published by the RioVision Promotions and Communications team that provides information about events. activities and places of interest in and around Rio Vista. This magazine is a volunteer effort. Call RioVision at 707-469-3080 to help!

See the Discover Rio Vista website at discoverriovista .com. For additional information about RioVision see riovision.net and facebook.com/riovistavision.

COVER: The Rio Vista Promenade along side the Sacramento River.



This adorable book written by Rio Vista Resident Joseph Ross Can be purchased at:

- Amazon
- Walmart
- Barnes & Noble 11/1 Brentwood Book Signing 1pm
- **Apple Books** Reading age - 5 to 9 uitable for young children Soft Cover - 26 pages

A Heartwarming Tale of an Elephant Named Rocky

Meet Rocky, an elephant with a truly big heart. When Santa's reindeer find themselves struggling under the weight of all the precious gifts for children, Rocky comes to the rescue, ready to lend a helping hand.



Ox Bow Marina

A Destination Resort on the California Delta

100 Oxbow Marina Drive, Isleton, CA 95641 (916) 777-6060 • oxbow@citlink.net www.oxbowmarina.com



Covered Berths 18'-50' Open Endties *Swimming Pool *Gas & Diesel Fuel *Weekend Brunch *Guest Dock *Security •TV & Free Wi-Fi •Small Store •BBQs Private Launch Ramp Heated Restrooms ·Clubhouse Yacht Club Bar... & So Much More!

Greta Jenkins

Attorney At Law

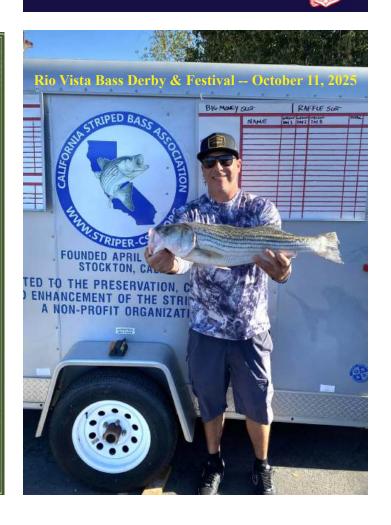
Estate Planning Estate Administration

Trusts · Wills · Power of Attorney · Trust Administration Probate

Call For an Initial Consult Today!



112 S. Second St. Rio Vista, CA 94571 707.374.5077 Fax: 707.374.5596 gjenkins@gretalaw.com





SEPTEMBER

- September 5: Main St. Concert Series, 6:00-8:00pm. Downtown at the foot of Main Street.
- September 13: Airport Day: Wings & Wheels, 9:00am 2:00pm, 3000 Baumann Rd., Rio Vista. See Airport Day Wings & Wheels article for more information (Page 23).
- September 19: Daub'n for Donations, Rio Vista Care, Veterans Memorial Bldg., 610 St. Francis Way. Doors open at 6 pm. Bingo starts at 7:00 - 9:00pm. A fun day of Bingo to benefit Rio Vista CARE. Win Bingo prizes or raffle prizes! Food and drink are available for purchase. Bingo pack is \$35 call Cindy Bradford at (707) 374-5243 for more info.
- September 28: Trilogy Art Guild Annual Art Show, Open to the Public 10:00am 3pm. Trilogy Vista Club, 1200 Clubhouse Drive. Art Competition with awards and raffles.
- September 28: Art & Music Center Open Mic Nights, 2:00 4:00pm

OCTOBER

- October 3: Main St. Concert Series, 6:00-8:00pm. Downtown at the foot of Main Street.
- October 5: Trilogy Community Garage Sale, 9:00am 3pm Trilogy, Rio Vista. Hundreds of houses participate in this semiannual sale! Furniture, kitchen appliances, yard equipment, clothing, housewares, antiques and more! Gates open to the public at 9:00 am
- October 11: 77th Annual Bass Derby & Festival. Hosted by the Rio Vista Chamber of Commerce. For more information:
- https://www.bassfestival.com/ 1 Day Festival Food & Drinks, Music, Crafts & Vendors Downtown 10:00am 6:00pm. Foot of Main to N. Front St.
- October 10 & 11: 77th Annual Bass Derby & Festival. 2 Days of Music: Hap's Taps October 10: 5:00 10:30pm and October 11: 12:00 - 10:30pm.
- October 11: Pancake Breakfast Rio Vista Fire Dept. 350 Main St. 7:00am 11:00am. Dig into a pancake and sausage breakfast co-sponsored by the Rio Vista Lions Club and the Rio Vista Hot Shots.
- October 11: Bass Festival Car Show. 10am 6:00pm, Main St. from N. Front to 5 th Ave. Hosted by the Rio Vista Lions Club.
- October 11-12 / 18-19 / 25-26: Western Railway Pumpkin Patch, 5848 Hwy 12, Suisun. 10:00am 4:00pm. Take a scenic train ride down to our famous Gum Grove Farm for the best Pumpkin Patch in Solano County! There's food, activities and fun for the whole
- October 26: Art & Music Center Open Mic Nights. 2:00 4:00pm.
- October 31: Trunk or Treat Downtown Rio Vista. Time to be Determined. A Halloween parade down Main St. followed by trunk or treating, Games and more.

NOVEMBER

- November 8: Trilogy Fall Craft & Art Faire Show, 10:00am 3pm. Trilogy Vista Club, 1200 Clubhouse Drive.
- November 23: Art & Music Center Open Mic Nights, 2:00 4:00pm.
- November 27: 11th Annual Turkey Trot, 8:00am. N. 2 nd Street, Rio Vista. Hosted by the Downtown Association.

DECEMBER

- December 6: Holiday Home Tour, Downtown Rio Vista, Trilogy and more, 11am 4:30pm. Tickets at F&M Bank, Rio Vision Gallery. See article on page 14.
- December 6 & 7: Olde Tyme Christmas Faire, Rio Vista Museum, 16 N. Front S. 10:00am 6:00pm, Dec 7: 11:00am 4:30pm.
- December 6: Tree of Lights Main Street, 5:30pm. Hospice of San Joaquin lights the tree in remembrance.
- December 6: Saxon Creed MC of Napa/Solano County hosts their annual bike raffle. Bring your children to 45 Main St. about 3:30 pm to get a free raffle ticket. After the tree lighting, Saxon Creed MC begins raffling the bikes away to the children. In 2022 they gave away 25 bikes to Rio Vista youth.
- **December 6:** Lighted Boat Parade Saturday, 6:00pm. Waterfront from Marina to Public Fishing Pier.
- December 19: Daub'n for Donations, Rio Vista Care. Veterans Memorial Bldg, 610 St. Francis Way Doors open at 6:00pm Bingo starts at 7:00 - 9:00pm. A fun day of Bingo to benefit Rio Vista CARE. Win Bingo prizes or raffle prizes! Food and drink are available for purchase. Bingo pack is \$35 call Cindy Bradford at (707) 374-5243 for more info.

ONGOING

RioVision Community Forum Community Center 45 Main Street, 2nd Monday of each month, 6:00 - 8:00pm. Join RioVision on the 2nd Monday of the month for varied topics of interest for Rio Vista and the Sacramento Delta. Topics and information for each meeting is posted on social media and our website at riovision.net For more information email info@riovision.net or call (707)469-3080.



xperience the grand lifestyle by booking a night or two at the now open 5th & Main Bed & Breakfast. This is a real B & B, not an AirBnB, and its located in the stately Cook Mansion at the corner of 5th and Main Street in downtown Rio Vista. The mansion is just a short stroll to the charming downtown and the beautiful waterfront promenade along the Sacramento River.

The mansion was built in 1917 and is approximately 8,300 square feet. Well over a century old, the elegant Cook home is remarkably well preserved, a testament to the love and affection for the home by each of the owners, starting with the original owners, Peter and Julia Cook.

The Cooks were prominent in the community with Mr. Cook holding various positions, including a seat on the State Reclamation Board as well as being one of the organizers of the Bank of Rio Vista. The home was the site of stately black-tie affairs attended by a variety of state appointed officials. The "L" shaped dining and living room at 2,000 square feet, was used as a grand ballroom. A grand piano still graces the living room along with a 1919 Victrola and many records. Some of the original furnishings still exist in the mansion. Mrs. Cook purchased several over sized mirrors from prominent San Francisco hotels after the 1906 earthquake. One of the mirrors was secured to the landing wall of the grand staircase.



Peter Cook passed away on December 31, 1933 at the age of 74. Julia remained in the home for several years before relocating to Marin County and passing away in 1942. Their son, Peter Cook Jr., resided in the home until he sold it to Henry Brown. Urban legend is attributed

to the transfer of ownership from Cook to Brown as occurring during a poker game.

Henry and his wife Virginia moved into the home until their passing, first Henry and then Virginia in the 1990's. The home has only been on the market a few times. The current owners, John and Stacy Lompa, purchased the home in July 2020.

John and Stacy both originate from Richmond, California and are both 4th generation going back to the early 1900's. John and Stacy were taking scenic weekend drives around the Delta in 2018 and 2019. They fell in love with the small riverfront town charm of Rio Vista.

They began reading the Discover Rio Vista magazine and saw articles about the Cook Mansion and the history of the home and the Cook family. Soon thereafter they saw a newspaper article in the local Beacon newspaper that the mansion was for sale. John and Stacy attended the 4th of the 5 open houses and fell in love with the home that day.

They had the idea for a B & B immediately even though they had never thought of going into that line of business before. The former owner requested John and Stacy write a letter about what their plans were for the house before they could submit an offer. It was important that the new owners would continue the good stewardship of the historic mansion. The escrow opened on February 28, 2020, just 12 days before the Covid shutdown. Delays ensued, but finally it closed on April 30, 2020.

Since then, John and Stacy have been lovingly restoring the mansion to its full glory. The renovations have resulted in 4 gigantic bedrooms available for rent, each with en-suite bathrooms, plus a 1,000 his/hers suite with a shared bathroom for rent. The home has period furniture/ rugs throughout, endless eye candy for those who appreciate antique furniture, old artwork, fine china, etc.

John and Stacy opened their door for business this past spring 2025. It is a most welcome and needed addition to Rio Vista. Accommodations for the area are limited, and with the ever increasing number of visitors to the town and surrounding Delta, the B & B definitely fills a void.

John and Stacy both feel that service is going downhill in the accommodations industry, even in the big name chains that are higher end. John and Stacy are aiming to bring back service, class and style that is fading elsewhere. Staying at the mansion is an experience more than a place to spend the night.

Stacy brings her cooking experience to the B & B. She learned at an early age from the elders in her well extended family, later taking cooking classes in San Francisco and Napa. Stacy has been a trained cake decorator since she was 19 years old. People will love her breakfast at the B & B. Items like French toast, eggs, bacon, sausage, toast/jam, fresh fruit, fruit juice, water and, of course, coffee. A large coffee urn with all of the fixing is the first thing to start the day, brewing at 7 a.m. The full breakfast is served at the grand dining room table on fine china with cloth napkins every time.

Upon arrival at the B & B guests are welcomed with inviting snack platters, and afternoon snacks are available for guests staying more than 1 day, also, there are 24 hour complimentary beverages available for all guests. In the gigantic parlor you will find an antique Italian gaming table, plus a huge selection of books and games, and a classic 1970's Bose stereo with Bluetooth connection – all to be enjoyed by the guests.

The huge bedrooms and bathrooms are decorated to the nines. The vibe is elegance. It's a place to kick back and indulge yourself,



surrounded in what the rich and famous enjoy every day. Besides relaxing in your room or the huge living room, step out front and get some fresh air on the large porch which faces Main Street. Don't forget to stroll down Main Street to grab a bite to eat at the many food establishments as well as stopping by fun little shops to explore along the way. Be sure and continue your walk along the riverfront promenade to enjoy the tranquil life of fishermen, wildlife, boaters traveling by, and a great view of the bridge.

At a recent open house which allowed visitors to tour the mansion, many local Riovistans said when they have out of town guests visiting, they will have their guests stay in their home and they themselves will stay in the mansion. It's that good!

So whether you are an out of town-er or a local looking for a truly one of a kind experience, be sure and book a room at the beautiful 5th & Main B & B. You'll be glad you did.







120 Marina Dr, Rio Vista, CA 94571 www.pointrestaurant.com



(707) 374-5400

The Point Restaurant offers fine dining with a waterfront view like no other. Located in Rio Vista in the heart of the California Delta. Please come in for a visit and experience our superb quality of dining. Come by car or by boat!



Banquets & Catering Sunday-Thursday 11-8 pm Friday-Saturday 11-9 pm

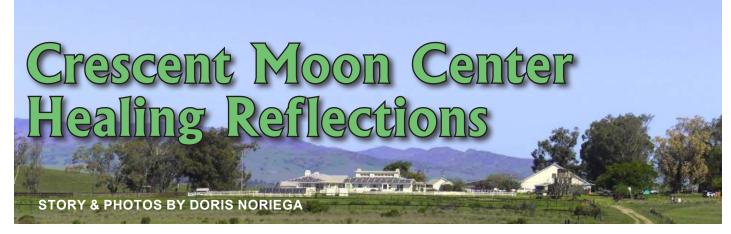


cream. Bring your appetite!

Tortilla Flats

646 CA-12, Rio Vista, CA 94571





rescent Moon Center is an innovative mental health resource for people 18 and older, families and youth in Solano County and around the bay area. Locally, they offer programs at Rush Ranch in Suisun City, a 2070-acre nature preserve, thanks to their partnership with the Solano Land Trust and Access Adventure.



Crescent Moon Center's mission is to build a community of support around people in recovery from mental health challenges including stress, trauma, addiction, and disability. Participants experience an empowering path toward healing, resilience, and growth through expressive arts and equine-assisted learning – guided interactions with horses. Their program is based on scientific research which has shown to improve mental health recovery and holistic wellness. Over 14 different workshops, each provide a unique lens of self-discovery, integrate with each other, and teach their core values of community, connection, compassion, authenticity, trust, courage, inclusion, wellbeing, mindfulness, gratitude and respect.

In the Singing Tree Project, everyone collaborates on making a mural based on core values, sharing creative ideas and agreeing on how the group will interact. As you discuss themes which include building healthy relationships, you find inspiration, the love of nature and your own personal creativity. This workshop builds trust, connection, and a sense of community through a hands-on experience in creative art.

The Horses: Healing Human Hearts Equine Assisted Learning workshop takes place in a round pen and large fenced area where





participants are guided through interactions with the horses on the ground in a safe and supportive environment. Access Adventure provides the horses, which are trained to work with people who have disabilities and are intuitively responsive to people's emotions and needs. Since they are adept at reading your intentions, Horses act as partners and mirrors. They help you learn more about yourself and how to interact with others in non-verbal ways, giving you a better understanding of setting boundaries and practicing compassion and kindness. You learn to be mindful and present by focusing on your breath and tuning into the energy of the horses, in return the horses connect with you in a deep, heartfelt way. You are then able to connect to your own authenticity which helps you learn how to make healthy, meaningful connections to others. Equine-assisted learning has proven to be especially beneficial for neuro-divergent and special needs individuals, people with trauma.

Art 4 Healing gives you the opportunity to explore thoughts and feelings as expressed in colors and shapes painted on canvases. Through the creative process you reveal new insights, hope, and aspirations. It is a personal journey of self-discovery through imagery instead of words.

Poetic Medicine is a creative writing workshop that encourages self-reflection and a true "listening to ones' authentic self." Participants sit

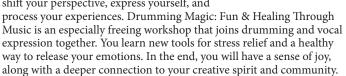


in a circle are invited to read inspirational poems aloud then share their thoughts with the group. Writing exercises help you to explore inner thoughts and emotions, opening your hearts to acknowledge personal stories and inner dialogue. A powerful sense of trust and connection to each other develops as you truly feel seen and heard. The facilitator of this workshop, John Fox, is a Certified Poetry Therapist and Practitioner of Poetic Medicine. He is the author of the book Poetic Medicine, along with Finding what you Didn't Lose: Expressing Your Truth and Creativity through Poem-Making.

The Eye of the Heart: Mindful Photography & Nature Walk workshop teaches you the creative process of connecting to the natural world around us and finding metaphors for your life. In the beautiful setting around Rush Ranch, you are invited to slow down and create photographic art from a "heart-centered place." While wandering in nature, allow yourself to be drawn to something special and hold it

in your gaze, noticing all of its qualities and characteristics. At that point, your vision softens and makes room for not just what you are seeing but also the feelings generated by it. When you feel ready to the "receive" the image, you take the photograph. This type of mindful observation and reflection can become a part of your daily life practice.

Splash is an abstract art workshop that teaches unconventional painting techniques on a large canvas with various tools and brushes. You are encouraged to experiment, shift your perspective, express yourself, and

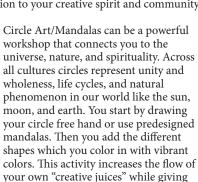




a meaningful and beautiful piece of art.

Improv for Creative Freedom workshop gives you a chance to be playful and laugh a lot with authentic relating games. You will learn tools that help you open up and let go of social anxiety, while building confidence in a safe, nurturing and welcoming community space. There is no judgment, so instead you can experience the freedom of just being you!

Vision Board: Manifest your Dreams is a fun arts-and crafts workshop that opens your eyes to set intentions and open your eyes to all the



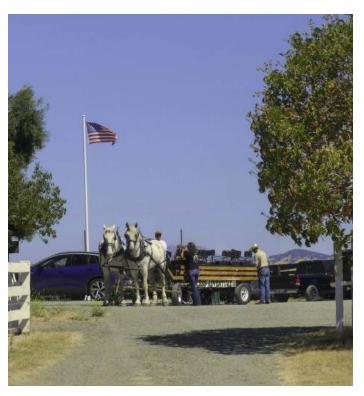
you a sense of accomplishment in making



dreams that you might have. Making a vision board helps you visualize your goals helps you believe that your visions for the future can become a reality and motivates you to take action. It is a self discovery process which includes mediation, setting goals, an clarifying what you actually want to achieve. Therapeutic Carriage Riding includes having inspirational conversations with Michael Muir, the founder of Access Adventure. Horses and Poetry and writing poetry about your experiences interacting with horses. You gain insight into your emotions, become more insightful and mindful, and deepens your sense self-compassion. As a nonprofit, Crescent Moon Center improves access to recovery resources and programs for diverse, underserved communities. Grants from Yocha Dehe Community Fund and Solano County's Community Investment Fund ensures that this innovative program is inclusive and accessible to everyone seeking mental health support.

Participants can receive scholarships and workshops are offered at sliding scale rates or no-cost to community partners serving unhoused populations, veterans, survivors of domestic violence, those with disabilities, and people recovering from addiction. They strongly believe in building community partnerships and are working with Solano Behavior Health, Archway Recovery Services, Access Adventure at Rush Ranch, The Institute for Poetic Medicine, and eight other organizations. Visit *crescentmooncenter.org* for more information about their





Soroptimist Celebrate 70 Years of Service (Part 1)



BY SUSAN WHITESELL

ur community has a rich and varied history of philanthropy and service. Lions Club, established in 1938, and Rotary Club, established in 1953, are nationally and internationally recognized service organizations. Even more impressive are the local grass roots organizations, for example, the Women's Improvement Club established in 1912. Other organizations such as the Rio Vista Foundation, established in 1972, Rio Vision, founded in 2014, and a myriad of local clubs, organizations, churches and individuals have benefited the community over the years.



Soroptimists Kick Off Meat, Heat and Chilli Raffle

Soroptimist International of Rio Vista was chartered February 18, 1956. In 2026, the club celebrates its 70 th anniversary. The group is comprised of business, professional and retired women working to provide women and girls access to education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.

The Soroptimist organization was formed in 1921 in Oakland, California, at a time when women were not permitted to join most service organizations. Violet Richardson Ward served as the first president. "Soroptimist," loosely translated from Latin, means "best for women." Today, Soroptimist International boasts over 25,000 members

and supporters in countries across North America, Latin America and the Pacific Rim with clubs in more than 120 countries throughout the world.

Despite being part of an international organization, all funds to support local causes are raised within our community. These signature projects reflect key club values:

- RVHS "S" Club: The "S" Club is an extracurricular service club for Rio Vista High School students sponsored by the club.
- Dream It Be It Conference: The Dream It, Be It: Career Support for Girls, a program of Soroptimist International, targets girls in high school who face obstacles to their future success. The biennial conference provides girls with access to professional role models, career education and the resources to live their dreams.
- Bags of Hope: The club assembles bags with pajamas, under clothing, toothbrushes, shampoos, soaps and feminine hygiene products for women and girls in partnership with the Solano County Center for Family Justice, which aids victims of domestic violence, human trafficking, child abuse and sexual assault.
- Days for Girls: The club sews sustainable menstrual kits that have been sent to Preventing Cervical Cancer-Globally (PINCC) in India and to a Soroptimist Club in Kenya to distribute to a local school.

The club's fundraising projects vary, but the commitment to giving scholarships and awards does not. They include:

- Live Your Dream Award: This annual award is Soroptimist
 International of the America's major service project. The club
 awards a local woman who, as head of their household, must enter
 or return to the workforce to support themselves and their family.
- RVHS Scholarships: Recognizing that empowering women through education is the single most effective tool for gender equality and ending the poverty cycle, the club awards sizable scholarships to deserving Rio Vista High School graduating seniors.

Violet Richardson Award: Soroptimist International of the Americas recognizes young women between the ages of 14-17 who make the community and world a better place through volunteer efforts.

Woman of Achievement **Awards**

The club's biennial awards luncheon honors and celebrates the contributions of women in our community who demonstrate leadership through their professional work or service to the community.

Women's Empowerment **Awards**

These two award grants are given to women in our community who are out of high school who struggle to achieve their



Women's Rights Co-Chairs Vera Sunada and Jill Anderson and LYD Recipieint Kenisha Hughes

educational and career goals that do not qualify for the Live Your Dream Award because they do not meet a specific requirement, such as being the primary support for their children.

Founder Region Fellowship

A signature project of Founder Region (which the club belongs to), awards grants totaling up to \$20,000 to women who have entered the final phase of their doctoral program and who demonstrate financial need and scholarly potential.



2025 DIBI Conference

Soroptimist International of Rio Vista is proud of its service to the community and its commitment to empowering women. A follow-on article in the next Discover Rio Vista provides more detail about the club's charter and its 70th anniversary celebration.

If you are interested in learning more about the Soroptimist organization, please contact Lupe Finch at (425) 785-6725. Check out their website at siriovista.org. Find them on Facebook at @SIRioVista or on Instagram at @si_riovista.



Women's Rights Co-Chair Veera Sunada - 2025 WEA STEM Winnery Sydney Saldana and Sponsor Diana Vazquez



Women's Rights Co-Chair Vera Sunada WEA 2025 - STEM Winner Mitzi Vera Campos - Engineering, Elaine Wright



(left to right) 2024 WOA Andrea Brimmer, Maureen Reis, Gwendolyn Sampson Brown, Stacia Olson, Kathy Wright, Jeannie McCormack, Margaret Anderson, Amy Schmidt



ext to walking or riding a horse, electric powered rail systems are by far the most environmentally friendly form of human travel. We are witnessing a renewed appreciation of this fact in the form of the building and rebuilding such systems for travel within and between our urban centers. The most familiar electric rail systems are the narrow gauge streetcars in a growing number of cities. Wide gauge electric systems found throughout the world for interurban travel are growing in the US, such as the recently converted Caltrain Peninsula service connecting San Francisco and San Jose starting in April 2024. Electric trains are inherently more efficient than diesel powered as they do not emit pollutants into the atmosphere and can accelerate and brake more quickly. This permits faster, safer and more frequent service. As we look forward to improved public transit, it is worth taking a look back at the very rich history of travel by electric rail in our region. For example, it was once possible for a person to ride in the same electric rail car from Chico, through Sacramento and the Rio Vista Junction and all the way to Oakland. When the Bay Bridge was completed in 1936, one could travel to San Francisco in an electric rail car. Preserving the remarkable history of the Sacramento Northern Railway and other electric rail systems is the enormous (and still growing) archive and library of the Bay Area Electric Railroad Association that is housed at the Western Railway Museum. (See the story of how this was developed in the Fall 2024 edition of Discover Rio Vista.)



The Western Railway Museum has acquired and restored and maintains 11 miles of the original Sacramento Northern Railway track at Rio Vista Junction and houses a large collection of historic rolling stock. Tours and rail excursions are conducted year 'round on weekends. Special events throughout the year are sure to excite kids and adults alike keeping the fun and romance of riding the rails alive. This Fall will see the return of the popular Pumpkin Patch Festival weekends in October beginning October 11. Trains run from 10 am to 4 pm between the museum and the event, which is coordinated by Rotary Clubs from Fairfield-Suisun, Cordelia and Dixon. The Pumpkin



Patch fills a eucalyptus grove owned by Ian and Margaret Anderson, local farmers who, with others from the Montezuma Hills community, started and helped "grow" the event from its inception in the 1990s. This year's Festival will feature a hay fortress, children's zipline, pumpkin chucking, tractor ride, small petting zoo, scarecrow contest, live music by the local LimberJim Bartz band, BBQ and pumpkin sales. Most activities are covered in the price of the train ticket. The combined effort between WRM and the three Rotary clubs creates a truly fun event that brings people back year after year! Another popular WRM event is the December Holiday Express features the train ride and Santa's House of Lights. For a look at all the events, tickets and more information, go to www.wrm.org.

Railway buffs will really enjoy a visit to the Museum. Others may well become railway buffs after seeing and experiencing all that it has to offer. The Western Railway Museum is located on Hwy 12, 11 miles west of Rio Vista and 11 miles east of Suisun City.



Nestled at the end of the busy Delta Marina is the small, shaded RV park.

100 Marina Drive, Rio Vista 707-374-2315



We have 25 RV sites, including 13 on the water Full hookups.

Relax by the Sacramento River with views of the Rio vista bridge, catch dinner at the fishing pier, shop at the Marina gift shop or dine waterside at the Point Restaurant





OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 7 A.M. TO 9 P.M.

609 HIGHWAY 12, RIO VISTA (707) 374-5399

Every Thursday is Senior Discount Day Home Delivery Service Available

Large Selection of Liquor and Wine

Full Service Meat Counter

Fresh Produce and Flowers

New and Expanded Deli Counter!



Our Commitment Is To Our Customers and Our Community





We Need Your Help!

Police and our communities are actively searching for over 2,300 children each and every day and over 800,000 children each year.

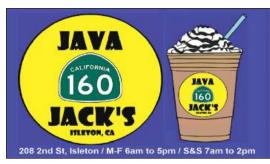
It's the goal for McGruff & The National Crime Prevention Council to get this to 100% of the community, but that's impossible with out your help.







Grandparents can sponsor their grandchildren with Safe Kids ID kits. A free Service From Michael Tunget - American Income Life Insurance Agent NPN # 8482180 - CA. Lic. # OE66091 Call (707) 416-6569 for details.







10761 RIVER ROAD HOOD, CA 95639

AT THE CORNER OF HIGHWAY 160 AND HOOD FRANKLIN RD

HAPPY HOUR

WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY 11:30AM-9PM

WEEKDAYS 2-6

FULL BAR, DINING ROOM, LOUNGE, AND PATIO (916)753-2501 www.hoodsupplyco.com



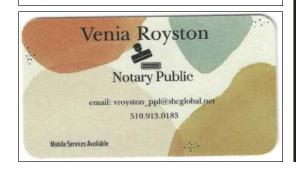




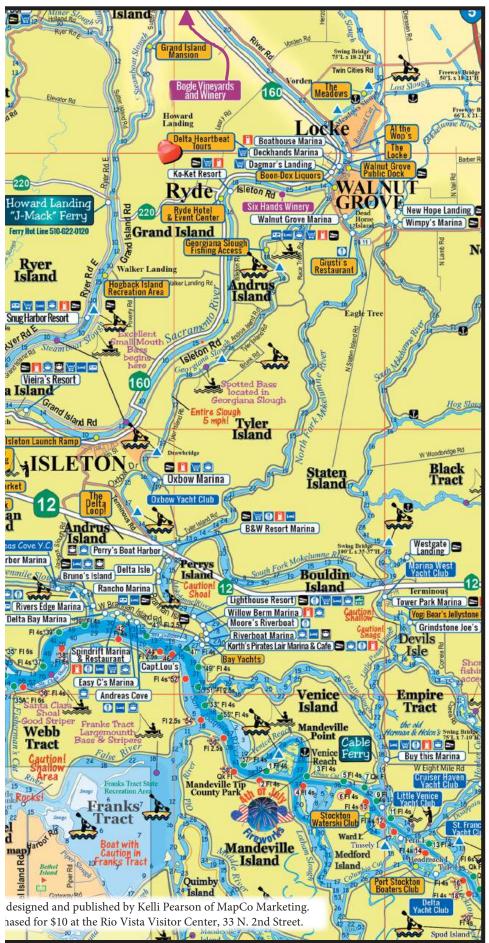
Ralene Nelson, GRI, CDPE, SRES

707.334.0699

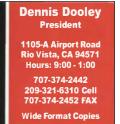
DRE# 015035588









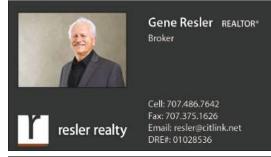


www.ds-press.com











The Roliday Rome Four, 2025



RioVision is proud to present festive and unique homes on the 2025 Holiday Home Tour, Saturday December 6. The event is open to the public and is held in conjunction with the Rio Vista Museum Olde Tyme Holiday Faire, and the annual Christmas Tree Lighting at the end of Main Street, followed by a lighted boat parade.

The Holiday Home Tour has been a traditional event in Rio Vista since 2015. It was originally sponsored by the Soroptimists women's group and later by RioVision. The mission of both non-profit organizations is

primarily to heighten community involvement and awareness. Proceeds from this event are used to support community activities, scholarships, and youth events.

The tour consists of viewing homes in downtown Rio Vista,

Trilogy, and other local neighborhoods. Residents from Rio Vista and beyond enjoy traveling throughout our various neighborhoods, visiting the festively decorated homes, and seeing what others' traditions are for the holidays. Some folks eagerly await the Tour and have enjoyed it each December it has been offered. The VIP party following the Tour which includes a specialty drink, delicious hors d'oeuvres and a riverside viewing of the lighted boat parade is also greatly anticipated by many.



Tickets will be available starting in October and may be purchased online through GalaBid at *https://galabid.com/2025-hht*, at the RioVision Gallery at 116 Main Street and F&M Bank at 101 Main Street. The cost of a General Admission ticket is \$30. To attend the VIP event and the tour, the ticket price is \$55. Attendees will be provided with a wristband and program with a map available on the day of the event,

Saturday December 6. The map and wristbands may be picked up early on Thursday and Friday at the RioVision Gallery from 11am to 3pm or beginning at 10am on the day of the event. The tour itself will start at 11am and run until 4:30pm. Eight homes will be on this year's tour. (If you have an interest in sharing your holiday home on the Tour, please contact Jamie Victor at *knitterbugdesigns@yahoo.com*) Food trucks and

local eateries will provide opportunities for purchasing snacks, beverages or lunch.

Participants going on the tour only receive a red wristband. The VIP party begins at 5:30pm after the tour, guests will receive a gold wristband. There are a limited number of VIP tickets available so get your tickets early. There will be a raffle with interesting offerings, you can purchase tickets for the raffle at the RioVision Gallery. For more information regarding the tour see *discoverriovista.com*, the Holiday Home Tour Facebook page or stop at the RioVision Gallery on Main Street.



Homes will be shown from 11am until 4:30 pm. A greeter at the door of each home will check for your wrist band and answer any questions

you may have. We request that you do not bring food and drink into the homes. We also ask that you do not touch any of the decorations. We thank you for acknowledging these requests.

The photos here are from one of the homes on a previous tour and will whet your interest in seeing the various homes on the 2025 tour. Mark your calendars and save the date: Saturday, December 6, 2025. Start the holiday season with the tour and pick up some great decorating ideas. You might see something creative that you will fall in love



with and want to include in your own holiday decorating. We hope that you will enjoy the tour as much as the committee enjoys planning this wonderful holiday event.

Downtown Business Offerings are

STORY & PHOTOS BY LAURIE OLEKSIEWICZ

io Vista continues to attract new businesses to its charming downtown area just steps from the Sacramento River. And talking about growing, our first featured new business is Garden and Homestead Anywhere, located at 190 Main Street at the corner of Main

and Second Street. Their mission is to inspire individuals interested in living a better life through soil. The shop is filled with beautiful plants for inside or outside your home. Just stepping inside makes you smile as you walk among the colorful and refreshing presence of the plants surrounding you. Besides the wide selection of plants, there are all the supplies you need to keep your plant baby happy at home, along with expert advice to answer any of your questions about the plant world. Be sure to stop by and bring a new plant friend home.



Almost across Main Street, located at 207A Main Street, you'll find Finder's Keeper's, a new thrift and consignment store. Start your treasure hunt here. You never know what you will find, and all at a good price. Household items, personal items, sports,

and entertainment items, along with clothing. There's something for everyone.

Now that you've found a new plant friend and a treasure to bring home, it's time for a refreshing treat. Take a stroll down Main Street towards the river and turn left on Front Street. Located at 8 N. Front Street is Butteri a





frozen dessert shop. The shop opened as the summer began and has been well received. Owned by Roxanne Cooper and her husband Earl Yazel, it is Roxanne's creations that bring the gelato treats to life. Her custom creations include not just the gelato but added to the gelato such things as candy or baked good chunks, making the treat a truly dessert destination in itself.

All of these new businesses have been a welcome addition to the downtown scene of Rio Vista. But it's not just new businesses that are popping up and bringing life to the city, older businesses in town continue to grow and make improvements to keep



up with the times and meet the needs of shoppers who live here or are visiting from out of town. One such business is Ace Hardware, located on Hwy 12. Ace has recently added a brand-new garden nursery to the store.



Discover the small town of Rio Vista, filled with a variety of shops and businesses providing hometown service that can't be found in urban areas. Be sure to visit the many shops and restaurants of Rio Vista and enjoy the experience.



Gallery Antists

We invite you to explore Delta Art and view the exceptional works created by our talented artists. The Gallery is open to the public Tuesday through Saturday from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. See's Candies are also available and make excellent gifts for holidays or special occasions. For access to the Gallery outside regular business hours, please contact us at 707-469-3080 to arrange a convenient appointment.

STORIES BY ROBIE WILLIAMS

Anna Chunn is the September artist of the month

Anna Chunn grew up in West Pittsburg, CA and graduated from Pacifica High School. She attended creative classes and learned drawing and crafting skills from her mother, Jocie. During a vacation in Mexico, Anna learned silk fabric dyeing, which led to her work as a fiber artist beginning with silk scarves in 1984. Each scarf is uniquely made and considered " wearable art. " Her interest in watercolor developed from her experience with silk, as the techniques are similar. Watercolor painting requires patience, which she developed over time. Anna teaches scarf-tying and offers related classes.



To develop her art, Anna studied with several Bay Area teachers: Linda Sutton, Jane Loveall, Sandy Delehanty and Sue Clanton, Marsha Connell, Sally Baker, Tessia Blackburn, Jeannie Vodden, and Florence Lauzon. Florence was her first watercolor teacher and influenced Anna's approach,

which is reflected in her work. Additionally, Anna drew guidance from her mother, who encouraged her to engage thoughtfully with her creative process.

Anna draws inspiration from her life, turning observations into art through colour matching, patterns, and mixed-media paintings. She often depicts natural subjects like flowers and animals. Recently, she has upcycled items—such as transforming "Oui" jars into candle luminaries—and regularly explores abstract acrylic techniques like paint pouring.

Anna, a Trilogy Art Guild member, has won awards like Best of Show and People's Choice for her "Black Butterfly" painting at art shows across California. She teaches a weekly watercolor class at Trilogy, lives with her cat Pepper, and draws inspiration from teaching.

You can meet Anna at her reception on September 21, from 3:00 to 5:00 pm at the RioVision Gallery. Bring one of your favorite scarves to the reception and Anna will show you a new way to wear it.

Garen Patterson is the October artist of the month

Garen Patterson is the featured artist for October. His earliest recollec-

tion of drawing dates back to age six. While attending public school in Menlo Park, his teacher left the room, and Garen began teaching the class, resulting in his dismissal from the school. During the period in which his parents decided on his next school, he continued to draw. He subsequently attended Peninsula School, an institution that focuses on holistic child development and social justice within a progressive educational setting.



Garen later went to Woodside High School and studied art at California College of Art in Oakland, where he earned a bachelor's degree in fine arts. He also obtained a master's degree in early childhood education from Sonoma State University.

Sonoma is where Garen landed and started Patterson Painting and Decorating. A business that he built and worked for 50 years. Just recently he sold the business and left Sonoma where he was very active in the community. However, Sonoma got to be too big and too commercial and he yearned for the small-town life. He found it when he moved to Rio Vista with his wife Dianne.

Soon after Garen's mother passed away, just shy of her 100th birthday, Garen went for a walk in Rio Vista. He looked around and grabbed his phone to take pictures. He draws or paints from the photographs and brings them to life, interpreting what he sees in the photos. They are distinctly his style. Garen is well known on Facebook's Delta News page where he shares his drawings. He wasn't sure about sharing on Facebook, he's not a technology type guy. However, his wife showed him how and he started sharing his drawings titled "Where am I?". Garen enjoys getting feedback from the Facebook community as it is almost instantaneous. When asked what it is about art that moves him Garen responded that "It is a spiritual connection, I've been wired that way from birth". The reception for Garen will be held on October 18, from 3-5pm

Jamie Victor is the November artist of the month

November features Jamie Victor, who founded Knitterbug Designs in 2004, making this year the 20 th anniversary of creating elegant and luxurious hand knit one of a kind knit scarves. These scarves are crafted with premium quality yarns: custom or hand-dyed silks, cashmere, and extra fine mohair.

In 2015, Jamie began learning Nuno felting from felt artist Linda Fead and now creates Jamie's Felt Flower Designs. Nuno felting is a fabric felting technique developed around 1992 by Polly Stirling, a fiber artist from New South Wales, Australia. The technique bonds loose fiber, usually wool, into a sheer fabric such as silk gauze, creating a lightweight felt. Learning the art from Linda Fead, as well as from YouTube videos, Jamie fell in love with the technique and has been



working to improve her flowers for the past few years. Jamie starts with a felt top, which comes in every imaginable color. Then she adds luster fibers such as silk and viscose that gives a sheen to the flower. If mohair is added, it creates a lovely halo. Jamie loves vintage and uses



many unique pieces to finish off her flowers, such as silk and velvet flowers, stamens, and of course her long-time favorites, Czech art glass buttons.

Jamie's talents are recognized at a reception on November 15 from 3:00 to 5:00 pm.

December - Gifts for All!

The RioVision Gallery on Main Street showcases several artists specializing in small works perfect for holiday gifts. Some artists feature home decorations while others offer wearable art. Diana Peugh creates delightful carved and painted gourds that fit any décor. Amy Schmidt designs gorgeous, dyed silk scarves in various colors and patterns. Birdtown Designs, a group of four women, crochet lovely, beaded necklaces and create amazing wreathes and holiday décor.

Jamie Victor has a stunning collection of felt flowers with added silk features and Czech glass buttons. Susan Prince creates beautiful necklaces and earrings using a wide variety of materials, including semi-precious beads and stones.

Anna Chunn has beautiful silk scarves and wraps and upcycled art. Rachel Warren has unique painted glasses.

Please drop by to see this wonderful collection of small gifts. A reception for these talented artists will be held on December 21, from 3:00 to 5:00 pm at the Gallery.









his is our third and last installment in a series of articles about discovering unique dining experiences driving north of Rio Vista along the Sacramento River. While Rio Vista is home to a wide array of eating establishments, it is fun to drive along the scenic Sacramento River and stop at some of the interesting and almost hidden restaurants that can be found along the way.

Our first installment in this series covered the eating establishments in and around the small town of Isleton. Our second installment covered the dining options in and around Walnut Grove and Locke. In this edition we continue north and end our journey in and around the Clarksburg area, which also has an abundance of wonderful wineries to visit along with the unique places available to grab a bite to eat.

Our journey once again begins on Highway 12, crossing over the



Sacramento River via the Helen Madere Memorial Bridge. At the light turn left onto Highway 160. Continue driving north along this levee road past Isleton and Walnut Grove. In Walnut Grove stay on the west side of the river and drive north for about eight minutes. You will cross Steamboat Slough and just across the bridge you will

come to Steamboat Landing Bar and Grill, right where Steamboat Slough and the Sacramento River meet.

Here at Steamboat Landing you will find a full bar with indoor and outdoor seating. The outside deck has cozy seating areas to sit back and enjoy the serenity of the peaceful Delta. The food is an amazing assortment of delectable Asian dishes. So many delicious items, with soups, appetizers, and a wide selection of dishes with whichever meat or vegetable choice you prefer, and of course various rice and chow mein. It is an extremely popular destination for people in the mood for a fantastic Asian food experience in a serene and relaxing setting.

If you continue north for another thirteen minutes, you will arrive in the small town of Clarksburg located at the southern tip of Yolo County. Clarksburg is known for its vineyards and wineries and is home to the Clarksburg AVA, a prestigious American Viticultural Area.

Just as you enter town at the first stop sign you will spot Husicks off to your left at the corner. Husicks is located in a historic building, first built as a General Store. It has been called Husicks for many years and has been run as a pizzeria and a BBQ spot. Now it is called Husicks by Forester, named after its new proprietor, Matthew Forester



Brown. Matt runs his establishment as a fun relaxing bistro, "It feels as if you're on a tiny vacation away from the hustle and bustle of the typical midtown dining scene" Matt explains. Matt has been working in the restaurant business for over twenty years. Born and raised in Sacramento, Matt grew up around food and wine as both of his parents were wine makers. Matt offers a wide range of wines made and grown in the area as well as local produce with weekly rotating specials. In September 2025, Matt will be celebrating the one-year anniversary of Husicks by Forester, be sure and stop by for a wonderful meal.



Continuing north along the levee you soon arrive at the Dinky Diner. Practically a food truck, but a well-liked establishment sitting at the top of the levee with direct views of the Sacramento River flowing by. There are several picnic tables sheltered from the sun with shade cloth

making it a very relaxing stop to enjoy your meal and watch the occasional boat go by. The menu offerings are all freshly cooked on the grill. The burgers, hot dogs, and sandwiches are all delicious, and you can't beat the view.

When you continue your journey north for another seven minutes you will arrive at the Freeport Bridge. Here you will turn right and cross the Sacrament River. Once you cross the bridge, turn left and head towards Freeport.



It's not too far until you reach the Freeport Bar and Grill. Freeport Bar and Grill is a small family-owned gem that's been serving great food and good vibes for over thirty years. Owned and operated by a momand-pop duo with over 50 years' experience in the restaurant business, they take pride in being a welcoming place where everyone feels like they belong. Open seven days a week, they offer weekend breakfasts, weekday happy hours, and a team that genuinely cares for the locals, river-goers, and newcomers alike. The Freeport Bar and Grill is our furthest destination north.

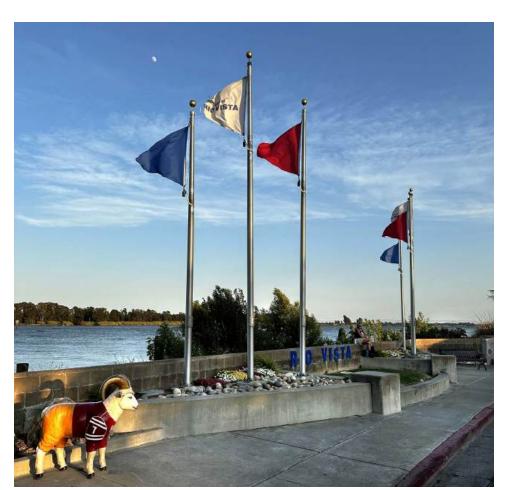
Now it's time to drive south back to Rio Vista. But there is one more stop to make up at this end of our journey. This next stop can be found as we drive south for about ten minutes and stay on the east side of the river. As you take a small dip down off the levee you will come to a stop sign in the tiny town of Hood. At the corner you will spot the Hood Supply Co. Bar and Grill.

Hood Supply Co. Bar and Grill has been open since February 2024. The establishment is owned and operated by Vinny and Michelle Mota. Michelle feels that it's their hospitality that sets them apart. "We treat our guests at our restaurant as if they were guests inside our home." All of the food is cooked to order. Sometimes it may take a little longer to prepare, but you can taste the difference. We love serving people and making them happy and experimenting in



the kitchen and the bar with new recipes. Vinny and Michelle plan to upgrade their patio with a gazebo and misting stations, but for now, the accommodation inside are first rate and a pleasant surprise in what seems like a remote location. Definitively worth stopping by.

By now your belly should be full and your appetite satisfied with all the unique places to be found along the Sacramento River to stop and enjoy something to eat. So many places in fact that it will take several days, probably weeks, to make a little side trip upriver to check them all out. Enjoy the experience and have fun!







The Battle for Collinsville: Industrial Ambitions and Citizen Resistance in Solano County

BY AIDEN MAYHOOD

Dow Opponents Charge 'Perversion' With EIR

1976:

- State agencies protest against Dow's certified EIR from Solano County
- The State Water Quality Control Board noted the EIR "inadequate"
- The Bay Area Pollution Control District (BAAPCD) rejected ARCO's proposed petrochemical plan and rejected a permit for Dow to begin building their first of thirteen plants

NECOSTRY

OCIO STOCKERON

AMERICANICA

AMERI

n October 1961, PG&E began surveying the Collinsville area in Solano County as the site of a potential power plant, with rumors of it being of a nuclear nature. (1) Two years later in November 1963, those rumors were confirmed: PG&E, now owner of 1,100 acres in Collinsville, announced plans to build a nuclear power plant. (2) In November 1965, Solano County leadership rezoned a portion of PGE's property from agricultural uses to manufacturing uses, paving the way for construction. (3) The plant was to be completed by 1977.

Meanwhile, a contentious debate brewed over the future of Rio Vista's schools. Would they unify with upriver communities with which the city shared cultural and familial ties, or would Rio Vista schools be unified with schools to the west in Fairfield with which they shared county borders? The discovery of natural gas in the 1930s had brought significant revenue to Rio Vista, and school districts in both Solano County and neighboring Sacramento and Yolo Counties wanted access to that wealth.(4) In a bureaucratic compromise, Rio Vista unified with upriver communities up to Clarksburg, while the Fairfield district carved out a small portion of Collinsville, eyeing the projected tax revenue from the PG&E plant, despite the fact that nearly all local students attended Rio Vista schools.(5) V 12 Collinsville residents, consisting of 100% of the student population, later petitioned to be annexed to the new River Delta Unified School district. (6) However, the Solano County Board of Supervisors denied their petition. The section in Collinsville was annexed to the Crystal Union District out of Suisun City, otherwise "this would be allowing the wealth to go to Sacramento and Yolo counties."(7) This carveout today is now under the Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District.

In June 1967, rumors surfaced that a steel manufacturer would build near Collinsville. (8) By November, it was confirmed. National Steel - then the nation's fourth-largest steel producer - along with Southern Pacific Railroad, had purchased 3,300 acres (9) from the McDougal Livestock Ranch. The ranch's founder, a prominent cattleman, bought

the ranch in 1950 and would later become president of the California Cattlemen's Association and vice-president and director of the American National Cattlemen's Association.(10)

That same month, it was reported that the Jenkins Ranch had been sold to a nationally known chemical company.(11) By January 1968, it was revealed to be Southern Pacific Railroad who bought the 450 acre ranch.(12) By November 1969, National Steel and Southern Pacific Railroad had accumulated 7,000 acres total.(13) As industrialization loomed, local opposition intensified over environmental damage and health concerns. Fears of rapid industrialization of the area leading to environmental damage and health concerns mounted. Residents like Donna Farnsworth called the proposed rapid heavy industrialization "unhealthy progress," defending the area as "the best dry farming area in the state."(14) A petition signed by 122 Montezuma Hills farmers and residents - 90% of the property owners in the area (15) - cited concerns over air and water pollution and demanded an environmental assessment.(16) Alas, like the shift in school districts for Collinsville students, of which 100% petitioned to stay in Rio Vista schools, the rezoning of the acreage to industrial was approved by Solano County.

One voice of dissent stood out: Solano County Planning Commissioner Stanley Anderson accused the county's Industrial Development Agency (IDA) of "driving the farmer out of business," pointing out its lack of agricultural representation on the board. He alleged that plans for industrialization in the area only began when PG&E "decided on the site" and "threatened landowners with eminent domain action, then 'stole' the land at low prices." (18)

In November 1973, the California Department of Fish and Game proposed a 98,000-acre Suisun Marsh buffer, precluding development in the area, including the land proposed by National Steel for a manufacturing plant.(19) However, Solano County Supervisor J. Ellis

Godfrey of Fairfield unapologetically said, "They ought to keep their cotton-picking hands off Collinsville."(20)

Then, in February 1975, Dow Chemical - the nation's third-largest chemical company and manufacturer of napalm and Agent Orange - announced it had an option on the 2,700-acre McOmie Ranch east of Collinsville.(21) In June, ARCO Chemical Company announced it had an option on 3,450 acres east of the proposed Dow Chemical plant on the Dozier and Pressley ranches.(22) PG&E, abandoning its nuclear plans, now proposed a coal-fired power plant burning two million tons of coal a year. (23) By December, National Steel and Southern Pacific Railroad had put their property up for sale they had previously proposed to build a steel plant at, perhaps due to a substantial portion of the property being below sea level.(24) Ironically, the McOmie's left their money to a charitable trust, of which donated millions of dollars to UC Davis and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo for agricultural programs, with UC Davis receiving a share of \$9 million.(25)

That same month, the Sierra Club, Friends of the Earth, and People for Open Space (today known as the Greenbelt Alliance) filed a lawsuit against Solano County and Dow Chemical, citing inadequacy of Dow's environmental impact report (EIR) approved by the Solano County Board of Supervisors and calling it a "perversion of the EIR process." (26) State agencies also began to protest; the State Water Quality Control Board noted the EIR "inadequate." (27) In May 1976, the Bay Area Pollution Control District (BAAPCD) rejected ARCO's proposed petrochemical plant complex and in July 1976 rejected a permit for Dow to build their first of many proposed petrochemical plants.(28) By January 1977, Dow shelved its plans for its complex of 13 proposed plants outside Collinsville.(29) Montezuma Hills farmers Ed and Mary Lou Anderson cheered the decision but sought stronger protections in southeastern Solano County to protect valuable agricultural lands, such as 160-acre zoning requirements in the Montezuma Hills to keep land in the business of grazing and dryland farming.(30) Ed Anderson noted the unirrigated farming operations as a "low energy input operation... [where we] don't fertilize it, and we don't use pesticides, insecticides or herbicides."(31) Arthur Swenerton, UC Cooperative Extension farm advisor, concurred, saying the Montezuma Hills are "some of the best grass lands in the country' despite Dow Chemical's pictures of the 'marginal farm land' used as reasons for industrial development."(32)

By April 1977, Solano County joined the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) after years of resistance.(33) Supervisor Robert Scofield cast a dissenting vote, saying ABAG was "a Communist plot to establish dictatorial control in the country while setting up a 'oneworld government'" and described opponents of the Dow petrochemical plant as "part of the same conspiracy." (34)

Further sprawl stretching from Collinsville to Highway 12 was proposed when the three "Hatch brothers" Noel, Dell, and Howard Hatch, proposed to split their 3,314 acres of agricultural land purchased just five years prior into ranchettes at the intersection of Highway 12 and 113.(35) The Hatches were opponents of the proposed 160-acre minimum parcels the supervisors championed to protect agricultural lands in the Montezuma Hills and proposed the ranchettes soon after.(36) The Solano County Board of Supervisors issued a moratorium on dividing large rural properties after the board had previously contemplated doing so five months prior.(37) The Hatch brothers soon unsuccessfully sued the county.(38) Today, the Hatch family and California Forever are pursuing annexation to Suisun

City of their lands between Rio Vista and Suisun City for an additional 400,000 people along Highway 12.

In January 1978, ARCO withdrew from their planned petrochemical plant complex near Collinsville due to an insufficient market for future production.(39) By March, environmental groups who had sued Dow Chemical dropped their lawsuit after they had pulled out from their proposed plan. (40) Further, the Hatch brothers' lawsuit against Solano County was dismissed in July, with the Hatch brothers complaining that they "expected a partial hearing." (41) They claimed bias from the Contra Costa County judge, stating a "sister judge often is willing to take care of her own, knowing the next time a case is brought up against Contra Costa County, a Solano County judge will be there to handle it."(42)

The last project still standing was PG&E's proposed coal plant. The state Energy Commission suggested PG&E move its proposed coal-fired plant from Collinsville to north of Highway 12 stretching from Flannery Road to Creed Road, including on lands owned by the Hatch brothers, because of the Collinsville site being "in the middle of the Suisun Marsh."(43) However, Travis Air Force Base officials opposed the site, as "the plant's 600-foot smokestack would be located almost directly under one of the base's flight paths."(44) PG&E refused to move its proposed location from the Collinsville area, as they wanted to use water from the Sacramento River to cool the plant. (45) Notably, the three-square-mile site proposed by the state Energy Commission north of Highway 12 was the location PG&E intended to pump its coal sludge waste if the Collinsville site moved forward. (46) Local farmer Ian Anderson noted, "If it [the coal waste] were put in the city boundaries of Rio Vista you would be over 30 feet deep in coal slurry."

By March 1980, PG&E announced it would delay construction of the coal power plant by two years due to a decrease in growth rates for electricity demand. (48) Local Jim Bartz of Collinsville sang at a Solano County Planning Commission meeting "Collinsville Is a Loose-Armed Town", reflecting the "habit of waving from front porches there" and demonstrating how the people of Collinsville had saved the town from what they viewed as "the death-knell of proposed industrial zoning for the townsite."(49) By October 1981, PG&E had sold its coal rights in Utah, where coal would have been shipped by train to the Collinsville site, ending PG&E's 20-year pursuit of power in Collinsville.(50)

With all interested parties in heavy industrial development throwing in the towel, the Solano County Supervisors left one lasting legacy: a specialized designation for the Collinsville area in the general plan. 10,350 acres along the Collinsville waterfront would be designated for water-dependent industry in the chance that renewed hopes for industrialization would rise again. (51) Without failure, local opposition once again rose in the Emmington and Anderson families, who partnered with the California Farm Bureau and hired San Francisco attorney Clement Shute of Shute, Mihaly, and Weinberger. (52) The county had determined the agricultural lands in the area as "blighted" in order to qualify for government-subsidized development under California law after interested parties like Dow Chemical and PG&E had abandoned ideas of development there. (53) Initially losing in the trial court, the Emmington's appealed and won their case, dealing what was thought to be a final blow for heavy industrial development in Collinsville.(54) However, the industrial zoning remains, and California Forever's revived plans for heavy industrialization along the Collinsville waterfront in 2025 begins another chapter in this saga.

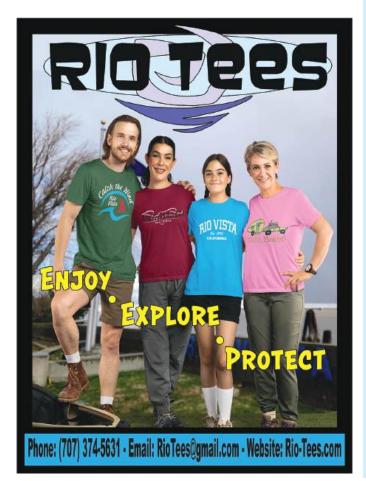
- 1 Collinsville Area Deemed Potential Generator Site. The Daily Republic. 11 October 1961. Page 1.
- 2 PGE Picks Collinsville For Possible A-Plant. The Solano-Napa News Chronicle. 05 November 1963. Page 2.
- 3 PG&E Plant Gets Approval Of County Planning Board. The Daily Republic. 19 November 1965. Page 1.
- 4 New State Hearing Scheduled on Delta School Unification. The River News-Herald and Isleton Journal. 24 November 1965. Page 9.
- 5 Boundary Line is New Issue in Unification. The River News-Herald and Isleton Journal. 02 February 1966. Page 1.
- 6 Montezuma Seeks to Join Rich Delta School District. The Solano-Napa News Chronicle. 24 May 1967. Page 24.
- 7 Collinsville School Annexation Favored. The Times-Herald. 28 June 1967. Page 3.
- 8 Collinsville Has Faded, But Rumors Always Circulate. The Daily Republic. 15 June 1967. Page 6.
- 9 Steel Plant Land Deal Sealed; Early Construction Forecast. The River News-Herald and Isleton Journal. Page 1.
- 10 Harvey McDougal. UC Davis Department of Animal Science. https://animalscience.ucdavis.edu/about/alumni-and-friends/memorial-book/ mcdougal-harvey
- 11 New Chapter Starts in Delta History...Gigantic Steel Plant is Assured at Collinsville. The River News-Herald and Isleton Journal. 08 November 1967. Page 1.
- 12 Collinsville Land Sold to Railroad. The Daily Republic. 16 January 1968. Page 1.13 "SP Executive Tells Details on National Steel Plant Location at Collinsville". The River News-Herald and Isleton Journal. 26 November 1969. Page 1.
- 13 SP Executive Tells Details on National Steel Plant Location at Collinsville. The River News-Herald and Isleton Journal. 26 November 1969. Page 1.
- 14 Steel Plant Site Rezoning Okehed. The Times-Herald. 22 December 1967. Page 1.
- 15 Letters to the Editor. The River News-Herald and Isleton Journal. 17 January 1968. Page 2.
- 16 Steel Plant Rezoning Okayed Over Protests. The Daily Republic. 09 January 1968. Page 1.
- 17 Letters to the Editor. The River News-Herald and Isleton Journal. 17 January 1968. Page 2.
- 18 "Planner Rips IDA for Driving Farms Out of the County". The Solano-Napa News Chronicle. 05 January 1968. Page 9.
- 19 98,000-Acre Area Marsh Buffer Proposed. The Times-Herald. 13 November 1973. Page 15.
- 20 Marsh Not Settled. The Times-Herald. 14 November 1973. Page 1.
- 21 Dow Plans Petrochemical Plant. The River News-Herald and Isleton Journal. 05 February 1975. Page 1.
- 22 ARCO Studies Petrochemical Complex Five Miles West of City. The River News-Herald and Isleton Journal. 18 June 1975. Page 1.
- 23 PG&E Eyes Collinsville For Coal Power Plant. The River News-Herald and Isleton Journal. 10 September 1975. Page 1.
- 24 3,435 Acres of Land: Valuable or Too Wet? The Times-Herald. 04 December 1975. Page 1.
- 25 Animal Science Moves Closer to Receiving Major Gift. A Publication for Our Alumni and Friends. Department of Animal Science, UC Davis. Winter/Spring 2002. https://animalscience.ucdavis.edu/sites/g/files/dgvnsk446/files/inline-files/highlights-2002-winter-spring.pdf.
- 26 Suit Aims to Block Dow Plant. Vacaville Reporter. 21 December 1975. Page 1.
- 27 Dow Impact Report Ruled Not Adequate, Certification Withheld. Vacaville Reporter. 21 March 1976. Page 3.
- 28 Plans for Dow Chemical Plant Get Severe Blow. The Times-Herald. 09 July 1976. Page 1.
- 29 Dow Shelving Plans for Solano Complex. The Times-Herald. 20 January 1977. Page 1.
- 30 Prime Ag Land Save It or Sell It? Vacaville Reporter. 27 March 1977. Page 1, 6.
- 31 Ibid.
- 32 Ibid.
- 33 Solano Ends Long Opposition, Votes to Join Regional ABAG. The Times-Herald. 06 April 1977. Page 1.
- 34 Ibid.
- 35 Rural Split Halt Viewed by Sups. The River-News Herald and Isleton Journal. 20 April 1977. Page 1.
- 36 Residents' Proposal Spurs Land-Split Moratorium. Vacaville Reporter. 20 April 1977. Page 1.
- 37 Rural Split Halt Viewed by Sups. The River-News Herald and Isleton Journal. 20 April 1977. Page 1.
- 38 \$4 Million Claim Filed Against Co. The River-News Herald and Isleton Journal, 01 June 1977, Page 2.
- 39 ARCO Withdraws from Collinsville Scene. The River News-Herald and Isleton Journal. 25 January 1978. Page 1.
- 40 Lawsuit Dismissed. Vacaville Reporter. 26 March 1978. Page 2.
- 41 Hatch Ag Suit is Dismissed. Vacaville Reporter. 28 July 1978. Page 1.
- 42 Hatch Ag Suit is Dismissed. Vacaville Reporter. 28 July 1978. Page 6.
- 43 Power Plant Controversy Rages. The Times-Herald. 12 January 1979. Page 1.
- 44 Ibid.
- 45 Ibid.
- 46 Ibid.
- 47 Letter to the Editor. The River News-Herald and Isleton Journal. 25 July 1979. Page 2.
- 48 PG& E Delays Plant Construction 2 Years. The River News-Herald and Isleton Journal. 26 March 1980. Page 2.
- 49 Site is 'Saved' at Collinsville. The V.I.P. 07 July 1981, Page 2.
- 50 PG&E May Forego New Collinsville Building. The River News-Herald and Isleton Journal. 21 October 1981.Page 2.
- 51 Big Redevelopment Eyed. The V.I.P. 17 August 1983. Page 1.
- 52 Vast Industrial Site Proposed in County. The V.I.P. 29 November 1983. Page 1.
- 53 Ibid.54 Montezuma Hills Industrialization Nixed. The River News-Herald and Isleton Journal. 17 June 1987. Page 1.



RioVision Gallery

Tuesday - Saturday 11am - 3pm Art of the Delta Talented local artists Monthly Artist Receptions See's Candies (including sugar-free) Contactless Payment Available

riovisiongallery.com facebook.com/riovisiongallery.vom riovisiongallery@gmail.com (707) 360-5244



Airport Day: Wings & Wheels



BY BETH ROBERTS

n Saturday, September 13, the City of Rio Vista will host the 4th Annual Airport Day: Wings & Wheels event at the Rio Vista Municipal Airport located at 3000 Baumann Road, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.



There will be plenty of free parking available and a tractor "hayride shuttle" to take attendees from the event parking area to the far end of the airport where you will find the \$10 Lions Club Pancake Breakfast (from 8-11 am) as well as the Food Truck Food Court (which

opens at 9 am), with stops in between for the car show, plane display area, and vendor central. Handicap parking is available in the Airport Terminal parking lot, which is accessible from Baumann Road.

The event is free to the public and will include experimental and vintage airplanes, a great 100+ car show with vintage cars and trucks, live entertainment featuring Groovy Judy, local military and first responder agencies, food trucks and booths, several vendors with creative and unique items, and informational booths hosted by community groups that serve the local community.



This year the City has added a few new features. Travis Air Force Base will have some military vehicles on display and an Explosive Ordinance Disposal Unit with an information booth and hands-on demonstrations. Kenny Paul, Rio Vista's own Lego Master, will have a Rio Vista Airport display made from Legos located in the Terminal Building Conference Room. You may have seen his work at Richard's Ice Cream and at the Riverfront Art Fest last May. There will also be new food trucks and vendors, offering a little bit of something for everyone.



Many people don't realize that Airport Day is put on by the staff of the Public Works Department, who start planning in mid-spring, work diligently for several months, and then set it all up and take it all down. They partner with the Rio Vista Airport Advisory Commission, Travis Aero

Club, and the Experimental Airplane Association volunteers to arrange activities, direct airplane placement and traffic, and all the little things you don't see behind the scenes. For more information, visit City of Rio Vista's website at riovistacity.com.

5th & Main B&B

Rio Fit

Richards Ice Cream



1200 Clubhouse Dr., Rio Vista, CA

MyTRV.org - Click "Fitness+Spa"

707-374-4208



Scan here to create your free account.





SOLANO MOBILITY Celebrating Its 10[™] Anniversary



Helping Commuters, Employers, Students, Older Adults, People with Disabilities, And Veterans Get Around Solano County & Beyond



iec@ie-center.org

707-374-5222

ShaferRealEstate.net



Broker 707-328-5277 #01390213





BRE Lic #02077403

121 Montezuma St. Rio Vista, CA 94571

#00997350

Visit us: