



# THE PIONEER PRESS

West Side Pioneer Association/Tracy Historical Museum

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VOI 28-3

June 2017

## *President's Message*

*June is bustin' out all over! And that means summer is playing with us from day to day. It's great to be in a place that gives you a variety of weatherscapes in the same week. . . . Just another thing to love about Tracy. The Museum has had a number of folks through this past month—practically all who “never knew we had a museum!” For those of you who haven't been by for a while, consider stopping by to update your knowledge of Tracy, and perhaps bring a friend or relative to share thoughts and memories. We have recently been given and also promised several artifacts and photos of eras gone by. Each donation and contribution is a much beloved addition to our efforts to preserve the rich history of our Tulare township and Tracy in particular. Any member who has, or knows someone who can add, a memory to our collective effort is always welcome to contact us.*

*Museum 'regulars' are looking forward to the program brought to us on June 25th by Don Bisbee and the Tracy Community Theatre alumni. It should be an afternoon of memories, fun, and enjoyment for all. Please plan to join us!!*

**John McVey**



## 2017 Scholarship Awardees Named

We are very pleased to announce the names of the 2017 Tracy Historical Museum/West Side Pioneer Association Scholarship awardees.

- \* Colby Leiske — Tracy High School
- \* Michael Rhine — Millennium High School

Colby Leiske completed a unique project digitalizing several of the Attendance Registers for Banta School from about 1925 to 1940. The project importantly ensured that the records of attendance, with detailed handwritten information about students were preserved and could be viewed from other locations. Mr. Leiske plans to attend UC Santa Cruz and obtain a degree in Computer Science.

Michael Rhine submitted a paper titled “Tracy in World War II.” We are familiar with the Tracy Defense Depot, but the project also documented how Tracy’s central location and connecting rail lines provided crucial support to collect and distribute supplies of all kinds needed in the war effort, including oil, minerals, and food. Mr. Rhine will be deciding between Tulane, UC Santa Barbara, or UOP to pursue a degree in Political Economy.

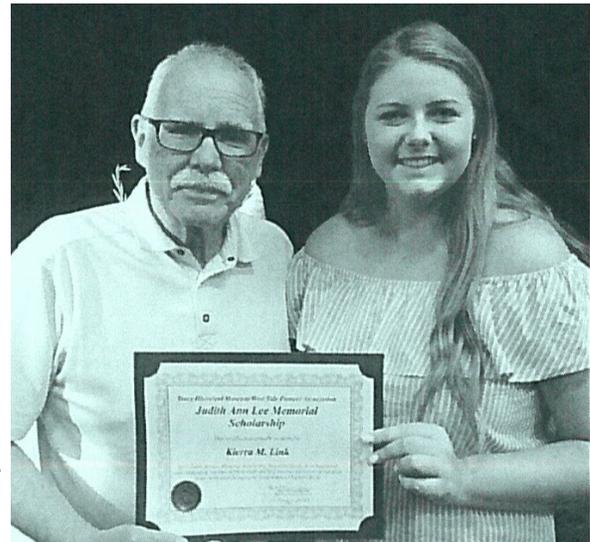
Copies of both recipients’ projects are available for viewing in the Museum library.

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### **First *Judith Ann Lee Memorial Scholarship* Awarded to Kierra Link**

The first annual *Judith Ann Lee Memorial Scholarship* was awarded to Tracy High School senior, Kierra Link. Kierra’s project, “*Preserving Memories of Central School*,” was a memory book of events, photos and recollection from current and former students and staff connected to Central School.

The *Judith Ann Lee Memorial Scholarship* was established by the family of Judith Ann Lee, a long time Museum volunteer and Tracy teacher, who passed away in 2016. Judith coordinated the Third Grade Museum Tour program for many years, in addition to serving on the Board of Directors of the West Side Pioneer Association. As a former primary school teacher—including Delta Island, South School, Jacobson, and Frieler—it is fitting that the first scholarship awarded in Judith’s name was for a project honoring an iconic Tracy educational institution.



#### **>> *Judith Ann Lee Memorial Scholarship***

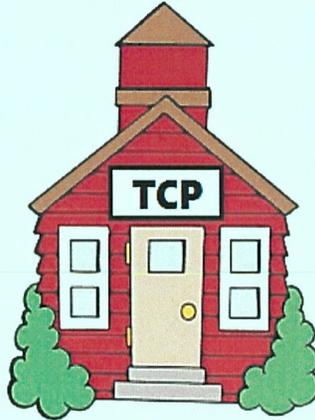
winner, Kierra Link with David Lee, THS Award Ceremony, May 15, 2017.

Ms. Link whose name will be first on the *Judith Ann Lee Memorial Scholarship* plaque in the Museum, plans to attend UC Davis to pursue a degree in Biology. A copy of Kierra’s Central School memory book may be viewed in the Museum library.

# TRACY LITTLE THEATRE HISTORIC REVIEW

JUNE 25, 2017

2:00 p.m.



1949 to present

See some of your favorite actors, directors,  
musicians, costumes, pictures & props

TRACY HISTORIC MUSEUM

1141 Adam Street

Tracy, California

ADMISSION: Free



**REFRESHMENTS!**

\*\*The Scholarship Committee received several outstanding submissions this year, making the selection process very competitive. We want to thank all the applicants for their meaningful work and excellent submissions. All projects have been added to the Museum's archives and all applicants have been provided a complimentary one-year membership to the WSPA/Tracy Museum. It is exciting to see more students participate and connect how history is relevant to their experiences today.

We thank members who contribute donations to our Scholarship funds to provide two \$500 scholarships yearly, in addition to the Judith Ann Lee Memorial Scholarship. Thank you!!

Smithsonian Exhibit  
*“Hometown Teams: How Sports Shape America”*  
at Museum in Micke Grove Park

*Micke Grove Regional Park*—The Smithsonian Institution’s special exhibition, “Hometown Teams: How Sports Shape America,” will be at the San Joaquin County Historical Museum from June 28 to August 6, 2017. The museum in Micke Grove Park is one of only five California museums to host the exhibition, which vividly portrays the drama that unfolds on the neighborhood fields and courts where Americans unite through sports.

“Hometown Teams” reflects the triumphs and trials of the American experience through video, graphics, text, artifacts, and hands-on, touchable components. The exhibition highlights how sports have helped form America’s multicultural character.

“The exhibition shows us that hometown sports are more than just games—they shape our lives and unite us,” said David Stuart, director of the San Joaquin County Historical Museum. “Sports teach us discipline and teamwork, give us enjoyment and fulfillment. Even if we’re watching sports and supporting those who are playing.”

Regular Museum admission is \$5 for adults (18-64). \$4 for seniors (65+) and teens (13-17), and \$2 for children (6-12). Admission is free for children 5 and under and for members of the San Joaquin County Historical Society. There is a parking fee for each vehicle entering Micke Grove Regional Park, waived for members of the Historical Society. The Museum is open Wednesday through Sunday; closed Mondays and Tuesdays and selected holidays.

The Smithsonian exhibition is complemented by many regional sports stories, photos, and artifacts displayed at the County Historical Museum. Other museums in San Joaquin County also share the history of local sports—pick up a “Scorecard” and visit them for a special prize.

Museums partnering in the “Hometown Teams: effort include: the Tracy Historical Museum, the Manteca Historical Museum, the Clarence Smit Historical Museum in Ripon, the Escalon Historical Museum, and the Lockeford Historical Museum.

“We hope people will use this incentive to visit all the museums in the county,” said Stuart. “The folks at these museums add so much richness and flavor to our shared, regional history—go talk with them.”

The other special exhibition at the museum in Micke Grove Park, “Washington Street: Heart and Soul of Stockton Chinatown,” continues through August 13.

The nonprofit San Joaquin County Historical Society maintains and operates the 18-acre Historical Museum in Micke Grove Regional Park. The Society provides education programs for school groups such as “Valley Days” and “Pioneer School Day” (in the 1866 Calaveras School). The Museum is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. For more information see [www.SanJoaquinHistory.org](http://www.SanJoaquinHistory.org).

“Hometown Teams” is part of Museum on Main Street, a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and the State Humanities Councils nationwide. Support for Museum on Main Street is provided by the United States Congress. The nonprofit Exhibit Envoy travels the exhibition in California; it provides rental exhibitions and professional services to California museums. Check out [www.exhibitenvoy.org](http://www.exhibitenvoy.org)

**West Side Pioneer Association Board of Directors  
for 2016-2017**

President	John McVey
Vice President	Wes Huffman
Program Chair	OPEN
Recording Secretary	David Lee
Treasurer	Johanna Nunley
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Museum Director	OPEN
Historic Landmark Chair	Pete Mitracos
TAGS Representative	Virginia Mynatt
Appointed At-Large Members	Charlene Del Rio David Castro Ruth Sandford OPEN
Immediate Past President	Larry Gamino

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**West Side Pioneer Association Membership Application**

The West Side Pioneer Association operates the Tracy Museum and TAGS, working to document and preserve Tracy's history, including such projects as the Historic Lammersville School. If you would like to join the West Side Pioneer Association and the Tracy Historical Museum, or make a donation to our historical preservation efforts, please fill out the form and return it to the address below. Membership also allows members to use the Tracy Area Genealogical Society, a part of the WSPA. Members receive our periodic newsletter. We also provide for memorial donations. Should you have any questions or comments, please contact us.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* Please make checks out to West Side Pioneer Association. Return to West Side Pioneer Association, P O Box 117, Tracy, CA 95378 \*\***

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 P.O. Box 117  
 Tracy, California 95378

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## Upcoming Events



Date	Time	Event	Location/Presenter
Sunday, June 25, 2017	2 p.m.	<i>Tracy Community Theatre ~ an Historic Review</i>	Museum
Tuesday, July 3, 2017	2 p.m.	<i>WSPA Board Meeting</i>	Museum Library
Monday, July 4, 2017	10 a.m.	<i>Tracy's 4th of July Parade ~ the Museum will have an entry in the parade!!</i>	Central Ave >> Holly >> to the Lincoln Park
Sunday, July 9, 2017	1-5 p.m.	<i>2nd Sunday at Genealogy</i>	TAGS 2nd Floor
Monday, August 7, 2017	2 p.m.	<i>WSPA Board Meeting</i>	Museum Library

**Please Note:** Programs are subject to change.  
 Call the Museum, to confirm schedule