Wonk Wednesday features policy discussions at New Helvetia

By Rosanna Herber
Viewpoint staff writer

Neighbors who like to discuss policy, planning and timely Sacramento topics may find Wonk Wednesdays a good place to listen, learn and speak up. Ideas start flying at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month at the New Helvetia Brewing Company, 1730 Broadway. Established by owner David Gull shortly after he opened the brewery, Wonk Wednesdays attracts people who like to talk policy while drinking good beer.

This month’s discussion (July 5) focuses on the city’s approach to cannabis regulation and how cannabis could become an economic driver for Sacramento. The featured speaker is Curtis Park neighbor Joe Devlin, who is the Chief of Cannabis Policy and Enforcement for the city. Previous Wonk Wednesday speakers include City Manager Howard Chan; Shabera Hyatt, director of the California Homeless Youth Project; and Brook Taylor from the Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development.

Neighborhood Concerns Committee. They live on Fifth Avenue with their dog, Carina.

FEMA has taken her to some of the worst natural disasters in the country. She’s seen the devastation that tornados cause some people get back on their feet after a natural disaster knocks them flat. Her job with FEMA takes her all over the country to sites of tornadoes, floods and earthquakes.

Because the work is so demanding, Anselmo

Neighborhood Concerns Committee. They live on Fifth Avenue with their dog, Carina.

The volunteer staff will take July off. No August Viewpoint. There will be no Viewpoint in August. The volunteer staff will take July off. The deadline for copy for the September issue is Aug. 15.

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Notes from June 7th meeting

Curtis Park elm trees will get treatment to prevent disease

Big Day of Giving
Executive Director Terri Shettle reported that SCNA should receive the BigDoG check this month. Half the proceeds will go toward the 24th Street Theatre improvements. She also talked about SCNA’s need to work on a giving policy because nonprofits receive different types of donations such as stocks and other items from bequests or estates, and SCNA may receive these in the future.

On June 17, the SCNA board will attend a six-hour strategic plan meeting facilitated by Impact Foundry. The strategic plan will help board members focus on priorities within the mission statement in the years ahead.

Action Items
Budget approved for 2018 fiscal year. Treasurer Jonathan LaTurner reported we are budgeted for $1 million in revenue, with an income surplus of $92,000. This budget is significantly different from seven years ago, when income was half of what it is today. Donations for the theater renovations are budgeted at $103,000 to offset the significant expense of theater renovations. There is a projected 2 percent increase in rental income for a total of $445,000. Possessory interest will be included in the budget, as well as reduced administration costs of $24,000. The budget includes elm tree treatments. LaTurner said the budget shows prudent growth. Eleven board members voted to approve the budget with one abstention.

President’s Report
The President, Eric Johnson, saved his report for the executive session.

Executive Director
Terri reported that new hire, Rose Browne, enjoys her job and is fitting in. Terri will be in Nashville to help family members June 19–25.

Treasurer’s Report
As anticipated, the balance sheet looks good, and no unexpected costs have been incurred. May and June were strong and SCNA’s 2017 budget is back on track.

Next meeting
The next meeting of the SCNA Board will begin at 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 12 in the Garden Room at Sierra 2.

Facilities
The 24 Street Theatre air conditioning system went out in the middle of a children’s play the previous Saturday. There is regular quarterly maintenance, but the breaker box was involved in this incident.

A tree needs to be removed due to safety concerns in front of Sierra 2 because a huge limb crashed down on Memorial Day.

Development Committee
It did not meet.

Neighborhood Concerns
John Mathews reported that Land Park Community Association member Stephanie Duncan will conduct a meeting on homelessness Oct. 23 at Sierra 2. SCNA will donate the room; Stephanie will organize the meeting. Mayor Darrell Steinberg and city council members will be invited. It was agreed the meeting will be promoted in the Viewpoint and on the SCNA website.

An area arborist recommended treating 16 trees in Curtis Park. Five trees at the north wing have sustained limb failures and could have decay. The elm tree south of the tennis courts is sick. The cost is $1,600 per tree. Eric recommended we get the word out to neighbors to water their big trees. The city can deliver free mulch for them.

Dan Pskowski advised not to use chips from elm trees as mulch because it attracts the bark beetle.

Personnel Committee
It did not meet.

Senior Center
Angela Mia reported that Lunch and Learn workshops have been sparsely attended, but upcoming computer classes for June and July organized by Katie may have a big draw.

The Memory and Mind club is going strong. A potential funding source for the My Story project is being looked at because new equipment is needed.

A few seniors from the new senior housing in Crocker Village have attended regular classes, and an effort is made to deliver the Viewpoint and calendars there.

Angela advised there will be an open house twice a year and the Senior Center will continue to do outreach.

— Submitted by Kate Van Buren, board secretary

President’s message
Your membership and donations benefit an amazing neighborhood

The Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association has grown by leaps and bounds in the past several years. We hit a financial milestone last month when the board voted to pass a plan with seven-digit expenditures and revenues in Silicon Valley parlance, a two-comma budget.

While this may seem like chump change in these days of unicorn start-ups, it is a venerable problem in most economic systems, to our programs and activities. While the Free Rider is not — then you’re already reaping many of the benefits of your membership.

If you’re not a member of SCNA — and a majority of households in Curtis Park are not — then you’re already reaping many of the membership benefits just by virtue of having access to our programs and activities. While the Free Rider is a venerable problem in most economic systems, I encourage you to become a paid rider, and help support all the amazing things SCNA does to make Curtis Park the best place to live in Sacramento.

Signs of LOVE take root
The bright red LOVE yard signs promoting diversity and tolerance are sprouting up all over Curtis Park. Neighbors who’d like one have two choices. Those who are members of the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association can buy one at the Sierra 2 Office for $10. Those who are not members can join and get one as a signing bonus.

The signs are weather/water resistant and are expected to last for months. They let passersby know Curtis Park is all about love and diversity.

NOTE: These yard signs will be for sale at the SCNA table at Music in the Park. For more information: www.sierra2.org/love-neighbor-show-proudly—or call 452-3005.

Eric Johnson
SCNA Board President

Eric Johnson enjoys his job and is looking forward to meet other members. He reported that new hire, Rose Browne, is fitting in. The next meeting of the SCNA Board will be on July 12 at 7 p.m. The budget includes Elm tree treatments. The budget is back on track.

The residents decided to approve the budget. The budget includes a $103,000 to offset the expenses of theater renovations. There are a projected 2 percent increase in rental income for a total of $445,000. Possessory interest will be included in the budget, as well as reduced administration costs of $24,000. The budget includes Elm tree treatments. LaTurner said the budget shows prudent growth. Eleven board members voted to approve the budget with one abstention.

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As anticipated, the balance sheet looks good, and no unexpected costs have been incurred. May and June were strong and SCNA’s 2017 budget is back on track.

The Association also produces events over the course of each year. Some of these make money, while others do not — then you’re already reaping many of the benefits of your membership.

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Curtis Fest gets bigger and better

By Faith Johnstone, SierrA 2 events coordinator

Curtis Fest returns to William Curtis Park on Sunday, Aug. 27. More than 60 artisans are expected to show their work at the 11th annual event, which will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the north end of the park under the beautiful tree canopy. Curtis Fest has become a Sacramento favorite, and many premier artists have joined the lineup this year. This free, public event includes food from award-winning chef Keith Bredlove of the Culinerdy Cruiser food truck along with delicious street tacos from the Turnt Up food truck. John Merriman, Dianna and the Cherry Kings and the Ranell Carpenter Band will perform. An expanded petting zoo returns this year as well as the climbing station, and the children’s fairy. Curtis Fest will be followed by Music in the Park from 6-8 p.m.

Hope: FEMA job sites give neighbor sense of accomplishment

(Continued from page one)

takes time to rejuvenate. She usually dances in the summer with Balliamo, a folkdance troupe she joined 30 years ago, that performs all over Northern California. She also likes to travel and recently returned from a month in Peru.

For now Arselmo has no plans to retire. Her deployments have exposed her to some colorful cities, like New Orleans, and to historic sites and cultures she never would have experienced. She’s also proud of helping towns and cities get back on their feet. Yet, she always loves returning to Curtis Park.

“This neighborhood has such a strong sense of accomplishment,” Arselmo said. “And the trees. I really notice the lack of trees in other communities. We are fortunate to live in Curtis Park.”

Art: Matrix members plan reunion

(Continued from page one)

An original tenant of Sierra 2 was Matrix Women’s Art group. Above, in the early-1980s are, left to right, top row are Sandy Heath, Suzan Goodban, Pam Johnson, Laureen Landau, Carol Attoe, Jorjana Holden. Middle row are Jean Roach, Diana Browning, Claudia Iudic, Marty Renault, Judy Schroeter, Elizabeth Solomon, Bev Guches, Dyana Chadwick, Janis Edwards and Jackie Laskey. Front row, from left, are Pat Osfold, Edith Warren, Dixie Laws, Edith Mesdawl, Holley Junker, unknown, Theresa Rivera and Erin O’Toole.

Addition to doulas, who can assist during pregnancy, labor, birth, postpartum and parenting. Lastly, anyone looking to hire a doula will have the opportunity to speak with many doulas at the event. The next two events will be from 2-5 p.m. on July 22 and Oct. 22 in Room 10. For details, capitalcitydoulas.squarespace.com.

Glass art class

Creating mosaics is a fun way to explore colors and shapes while sharing ideas. Glass Act Mosaics Collective welcomes all levels of artistic abilities to its weekly classes. They meet from noon to 3 p.m. Tuesdays in Room 11.

Drop-in fee is $12, and the monthly fee is $40 (includes supplies). For information, contact Karen Sharp at karenssharp51@gmail.com.

— Valerie Burrows, facility administrator
COOKING WITH THE CALAMARI SISTERS

June 15–July 23
Showtimes:
Wed. 7 p.m., Thurs. 2 & 7 p.m., Fri. 8 p.m., Sat. 2 & 8 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m.
Tickets: $54–$565
Info: 855-448-7469
playhouseinfo.com

Video preview:
youtube.com/watch?v=4-vYGEl-Z7w

Straight from old-school engagements across the country, Delphine and Carmela perform outrageous musical numbers while designing their latest culinary offerings. They may get a bit naughty while they update their treasured family recipes with saucy secrets and hilarious anecdotes. And who knows? Some theater goers may get a chance to sample the kitchen creations.

JULY AND AUGUST 2017 AT SIERRA 2

AT THE 24TH STREET THEATRE

MUSIC

DANCE
Heels & Sass Dance class — NEW!
7:30–8:30 p.m., Thursdays, Studio 1
mzballerina@gmail.com

Awakening Bellydance
Cardo class to live music for all levels
Fourth Saturday, 11 a.m., Studio 1
Sawako Ama • lovebelath@infocircle.net

Irish Folk Dancing
1st and 3rd Monday, 7–9 p.m., Studio 1
Richard@rivercitytaps.com

Polynesian Dance
Tuesday, 6–7:30 p.m.
Studio 2 • alohatyra@aol.com

YouGotThis! Fitness — Easy 8s Dancercise
Thursday, 6:30–7:30 p.m., Studio 1
Shelly@yougotthisfitness.com

Bellyfit
Tuesday, 2–p.m., Studio 2
Randi Robinson-Snaer randirobinson@mac.com

DanceHallPowerUp
Thursday, 8–9:30 p.m., Studio 3
LaToya Bufford, tobybufford15@yahoo.com

Motivational Aerobic Dance Exercise
Monday, 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Studio 1
Kia: keynorrisfitness@gmail.com

Zumba
Friday, 6:30–7:30 p.m., Studio 1
Lauren Sanna, suzurrisa@yahoo.com

Weight Watchers
Saturday, 9 a.m., Studio 1
Amanda,#endregion

FITTNESS

Hot Hula Fitness — NEW!
7:30–8:30 p.m.
Frances, Studio 2

Youth Pilates Class
3:30–4:30 p.m., Monday
Studio 2

ALL LEVELS PILATES MAT CLASS
5 p.m., Mondays and Wednesdays
Studio 1

Bellyfit
Thursday, 2–p.m., Studio 2
Randi Robinson-Snaer randirobinson@mac.com

SUNDAYS, 9:30 A.M.–12:30 P.M., ROOM 10

GUIDED MEDITATION
6:30–8:30 p.m., Sundays
Studio 1

Check out the calendar on our website for more information on the classes.

THE ADDAMS FAMILY Young Actors Stage Production
Audience: August 4 – 6
Showtimes: Friday, August 4 & 6 @ 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, August 5, 11 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, August 6, 11 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.
Tickets/Info: youngactorsstage.com

This magnificently macabre musical comedy opened on Broadway in 2010. That lovable family of creepy kooks is alive and well and living in their super-spooky mansion in Central Park. The Addams family, led by the elderly, querulous and seemingly mad Old Man, and his ever-chirpy, hubbubbing Lady-Octopus. Gomez, is in turmoil. Their daughter Wednesday finds herself falling in love—a sensation that is unsettling for both her and her family of endearing freaks. When the teen invites her boyfriend over with her normal family, comic chaos ensues.

MARTIAL ARTS

Martial Sword Arts of Europe
Wednesday, 6–7:30 p.m., Studio 2
Maestro Eric Myers: 276-2247

Unified Chinese Martial Arts
For schedule, e-mail Shifu Byron at lohan36@bigglobal.com

ART

Glass Mosaic Classes
Tuesday Noon–3 p.m., Room 11
karensharp51@gmail.com

OTHER
Meet the Doulas — NEW!
July 22 & Oct. 22
2:30–5:30 p.m., Room 10
Capital City Doula Collective
capitalcitydoulasquareSPACE.com

Cochlear Community Meetings
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., Aug. 17
10 a.m. – 3 p.m., Oct. 17
Room 12 • Cochlear.com • US/events

Know Thyself as Soul — Meditation
1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, 6–7 p.m.
Curiosity Shop, info@knowthyselfassoul.org

Marxist School of Sacramento
Sundays, 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Room 11
Believers Fellowship
Sacramento Native American
SPIRITUAL SERVICES
...

CHILDREN

Capital City Music Together
Children’s 1 and Under. For schedule: Jennifer Ribadeneira: 990-3222
www.capitalcitymusictogether.com

Zumbini with Stephanie
Sundays, 9:30 & 10:30 a.m., Studio 1
Stephanie Tadlock, info@zumbinisacramento.com

...
Dogxilliary leadership changes as long-time manager moves on to new job in Fort Bragg

By Susan MacCulloch

Viewpoint staff writer

Management of the Dogxilliary’s off-leash dog park on the Sierra 2 Green is changing hands—or leashes. Jenn Garrison, who has managed the Dogxilliary since 2013, has accepted a job transfer to the Department of Fish & Game’s Fort Bragg office, beginning in July. She and her two Labradors will seek a new dog park on the North Coast. Portola Way neighbor Mike Abbott will assume the manager position.

A Dogxilliary member for 13 years, Jenn has participated in the group’s charitable contributions. Members gathered food and supplies for the Loaves and Fishes animal program and the Front Street animal shelter. Members gathered food and supplies for the Loaves and Fishes’ Mustard Seed school sack lunches to Loaves and Fishes’ Mustard Seed school.

“It is my hope the Dogxilliary will continue to be a civic-minded group that champions giving back to our community,” Jenn said.

Jenn’s three Labradors were popular visitors during community,” Jenn said. “I’m going to miss the people who’ve welcomed me, made me a part of their daily lives, and made Curtis Park home for me and the Labs,” said Jenn. “I’m going to miss nightly walks at Sierra 2 Green, where I catch up on neighborhood news and walk my pups with friends.”

From the Fort Bragg office, Jenn, a senior environmental scientist, will work on coastal conservation planning with a focus on developing advance mitigation and installing wildlife corridors and fish passage barrier removals. She plans to rent her 25th Street bungalow, keeping ties to Curtis Park.

Schenirer’s message

A mid the chaos of our world, the stresses of work, and the craziness of our schedules, it is important to take moments to refresh and regenerate. For me, this may mean a bike ride along the American River with my wonderful wife or enjoying a beautiful Sacramento River with my wonderful wife or enjoying a beautiful Sacramento summer evening with my community.

One of my favorite ways to spend an evening is Music in the Park in Curtis Park. It’s a great time to kick back, catch up with your neighbors, hear good music, eat Gunther’s ice cream, and generally take a break. It’s one of the reasons I love Curtis Park.

The evening generally starts around 5 p.m. as we see folks pulling little red wagons filled with kids and food, converging on the park from all directions. Blankets are spread, corks may be popped, and the good conversation begins.

It’s a blast watching the warm-up, generally Mr. Beginning Drumming 5-2 p.m., Tuesdays, Studio 1 $25/class, $25/month

My Story Project meeting 1–3 p.m., 2nd Monday of the month

Life History Writing 1–4 p.m., Wednesdays, Room 12

Open Art Studio Noon–1 p.m., Friday, Room 11

EDUCATION

Grief & Loss Support Group 9:30–11 a.m., 1st and 3rd Fridays, Room 12

CARDS & GAMES

Mahjong 9:30 a.m.–noon, Mondays

Fun Bridge 1–4 p.m., Thursdays

Pinochle 1–3 p.m., Fridays

WELLNESS PROGRAM

10-class punch card $45; 5-class punch card $33, Drop-ins $10

Pilates classes in the Senior Center or Sierra 2 offices

Pilates with Lauren 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Tuesdays, Studio 3 10:30–11:30 a.m., Fridays, Studio 3

Healthy Back 5-6:15 p.m., Tuesdays, Room 9

Yoga + You Call for title

To advertise in Viewpoint, call Fran at 452–3005.

JULY/AUGUST 2017 ACTIVITIES

SIERRA 2 SENIOR CENTER

Room 12 • 455-6339

seniorcenter@sierra2.org

EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

(Activities are free except where noted. Donations appreciated. All activities take place in Room 12 unless otherwise noted.)

FITNESS

Gentle Yoga 10–11 a.m., Wednesdays 190-452-4520 5 classes $25 Pat Shaw. 856-0156

Fall Prevention 11:30 a.m.–1:45 p.m., Tuesdays/Thursdays 5 classes $35 Pat Shaw. 856-0156

LEISURE

Book Club 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., 2nd Monday

July 10: “Suite Francaise” by Robert Hemmings


Sept. 11: Call for title

Nonfiction Book Club 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., 3rd Thursday

July 20: “Empire of the Summer Moon” by S.C. Gwynne

Aug. 17: “The Guns of August” by Barbara W. Tuchman

Sept. 21: “Unfamiliar Fishes” by Sarah Vowell

Popcorn & Movie 12:30–3:30 p.m., 3rd Tuesday

July 18: “National Treasure”

Aug. 15: “All the President’s Men”

Donation: 5-1 (includes popcorn)

Memory and Mind Club 9:40 a.m.–12:15 p.m., Thursdays (except the Third Thursday), Room 12

Beginning Drumming 5-2 p.m., Tuesdays, Studio 1 $25/class, $25/month

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Yoga + You Call for title

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Trimming/Tree & Shrub Removal • Odd Jobs • Hauling
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Hot Stone, Deep Tissue, Cupping Therapy
Pregnancy Massage, EGift Cards and Corporate Chair Massage
Anne-Cheatin Trot, PhD, CMT
916 520–4013
www.trost.massagetherapy.com

Convenient Curtis Park Location

Danielle “Kiki” Velez
Danielle “Kiki” Velez, daughter of Cecilia Velez of Third Avenue, and Richard Velez, graduated from St. Francis High School as a National Merit Commended Student and National Hispanic Scholar. She plans to attend Stanford and do a double major in theoretical computer science & engineering and classical languages.

High School

Dakota Josef Cooper
Dakota Josef Cooper, son of Michaela and Peter Cooper of Sixth Avenue, graduated from Sacramento Waldorf School in Fair Oaks. He will start his gap year in August by interning with the German government and with a newspaper in Stuttgart, Germany. He plans to go to college in Germany or California.

Eric van Holm
Eric van Holm, son of Les and Peggy Chisholm of Portola Way, earned his, Ph.D. in Public Policy from Georgia Institute of Technology & Georgia State University. In August he will join the faculty of Arizona State University.

Hanna Catherine Mirtle
Hanna Catherine Mirtle, daughter of Dean and Vicky Mirtle of Donner Way, graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno with a degree in journalism and communication. She plans to return to Montpellier, France to work at the Centre International d’études pedagogiques, (CIEP) and teach at the Academie de Montpellier.

Zoe Zucco
Zoe Zucco, daughter of Alex and Joe Zucco of Third Avenue, graduated from Marist College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., with a major in art history. She’s job hunting in the museum world.

Isaac Luger
Isaac Luger, son of Linda and Allen Luger of 11th Avenue, graduated with a bachelor’s in political science from American Jewish University. He will study Hebrew in a seven-week language immersion program in Vermont this summer. He will enter a master’s program in terrorism and non-proliferation studies at Middlebury Institute of International Studies in Monterey this fall.

Aubree Barr
Aubree Barr, daughter of Michele Cunningham of Sutterville Road, graduated from St Francis High School and plans to attend Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska.

Madeleine Fraix
Madeleine Fraix, daughter of Sarah Miles and Marcel Fraix of Marshall Way, graduated from McClatchy High School and plans to major in sociology at UC Berkeley.

Danielle Velez
Danielle Velez

To pick up your grad photo
Neighbors who submitted a photograph of their graduate (instead of a digital version) can pick up their picture in the Sierra 2 office starting July 5. The photos will be in the Viewpoint mailbox.

Meditation
Yoga
Dharma Community
Sierra 2 Center
2791 24th Street, Rm. 14
Sacramento, CA 95818
For classes, events and info:
diamondlightsiac.org

RENTAL SPACE for:
Special Events
Meetings
Seminars
Classes
Conferences
Concerts
Plays

Call for our brochure:
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SWANBERG’S on J
Sacramento’s BEST & largest selection of Hawaiian Shirts and Sandals, Retro Baseball T’s and Tiki stuff!
Get Your Curtis Park Neighboorhood!
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447-6284
www.swanbergsformen.com

Cal Middle’s top students live in Curtis Park

Sophia Peavy of 23rd Street and Ethan Bianchi of Portola Way finished their eighth grade year at Cal Middle School in high spirits. The two Curtis Park teens were selected by the school principal as students of the year. Both had high GPAs and both had participated in sports and school activities. Sophia, daughter of Tom and Josie Peavy, took part in the school debate team and played on the school’s soccer team. Ethan, son of Eric Bianchi and Donna Zack, played basketball both years and helped organize school activities, such as dances and rallies.

Both students spoke at graduation. Sophia talked about the enduring importance of the friendships made and enriched at Cal. Ethan focused on the school’s collaborative atmosphere and his hope that that environment will carry over to McClatchy High School. Both students plan to attend McClatchy after a summer of domestic travel, reading and sports.

Jenna Reese McCravy
Jenna Reese McCravy, daughter of Bill and Dawne McCravy of 24th Street, graduated from McClatchy High School and plans to attend Hesston College in Kansas on an athletic scholarship (softball).

Cristina Michael Zito
Cristina Michael Zito, daughter of Michael and Susanne Zito of Sixth Avenue, graduated from McClatchy High School in the HISP program and is deciding on a job, travel or attending UC Berkeley.

Jonathan Russell Tanihana
Jonathan Russell Tanihana, son of Russell Tanihana and Becky Botelho of 23rd Street, graduated from Kennedy High School. He plans to study at Sacramento City College and play golf for American River College with an eye on a career in the golfing industry.

Sofia Daniels
Sofia Daniels, daughter of Josh Daniels and Joy McCrea and stepmom Caroline Winata of 24th Street, graduated from Met High School and plans to study film and anthropology at UC Berkeley after a summer at Mammoth Lakes, Spain and Portugal.

Alex LeForestier
Alex LeForestier, son of Marc LeForestier and Mary-Beth Moylan of Seventh Avenue, graduated Christian Brothers High School. He plans to study sports management and play baseball at University of the Pacific.

Jonathan Russell Tanihana
Jonathan Russell Tanihana, son of Russell Tanihana and Becky Botelho of 23rd Street, graduated from Kennedy High School. He plans to study at Sacramento City College and play golf for American River College with an eye on a career in the golfing industry.

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Duane Goosen never took Mother Nature’s shade for granted

By Dan Pskowski
Viewpoint staff writer

Urban Forestry’s City Arborist Duane Goosen is retiring after 12 years of working to enhance Sacramento’s urban forest. Duane came to the city after working at the U.C. Davis arboretum for 19 years. He brought a wealth of tree and plant knowledge and introduced new tree species to plant along Sacramento’s streets and parks.

If I had to describe Duane in two words they would be quiet excellence. He was dedicated to doing what was best for the trees, never letting politics cloud his decision making, and staying out of the limelight.

I had the pleasure of working with Duane briefly before my career with Urban Forestry abruptly ended when I was moved out. There was a paradigm shift in how existing trees would be addressed during development. The direction of Urban Forestry changed from the protection and preservation of trees to remove and replace.

Duane realized that fighting to protect trees would be futile. However, he came up with the next best option, which was to maximize growing space to allow placement of large canopy shade trees. He developed planting requirements that included minimum turf free zones around the tree, the installation of organic mulch, and irrigation systems designed to water the entire root zone area.

Duane was relentless in fighting for planting space and would not allow the reduction in the park strip, the growing space between the curb and sidewalk. He would scrutinize parking lot shading plans to ensure the 50 percent shading requirement would be met. Duane was able to get developers to underground the overhead SMUD high voltage wires. This allowed large trees to be planted instead of the standard 25-30 foot tall small trees, which were required under the wires.

It was unfortunate that Duane did not work in our neighborhood on the Crocker Drive planting plan. The cork oaks are now leaning and some have already fallen over. Duane would never have approved of turf up against the bases of these oaks and inadequate planting space for a large canopy tree.

But Sacramento residents are fortunate because Duane and his wife are longtime Tahoe Park residents with no plans to move out of Sacramento. His tree knowledge and experience could be used assisting local tree advocacy groups. Thank you, Duane, for all the years of dedicated service to Sacramento’s Urban forest.

Trees of Curtis Park

New program ideal for curious minds

The Learnery, a new program for educational and enrichment classes, starts this fall at the Sierra 2 Center. Instructors and learners interested in classes such as Abstract Art, Cyber Security, Beginning Spanish and Succulents 101 can find more information and register at sierra2.org/thelearnery.

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WANTED: Gardener to work in my yard 2 hours/week, pulling weeds, trimming bushes, planting and feeding plants as directed, mowing small back lawn and raking leaves as required on a regular basis. Pay by the hour. fifizeff@gmail.com

WANTED: Looking to rent a garage to store my 1948 Chrysler convertible to keep it out of the rain and sunlight. Car is licensed, registered, insured. Please call Leonard Miller at 916 372–4765 or cell: 916 502–2901.

ADS are $5 for 25 words or less with advance payment. Deadline is the 15th of the month. Make check to Sierra 2 at 2791 24th St., Sacramento, CA 95818.

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