Lydia, who turns 12 in June, is a disabled person is a family affair. As it turned out, training a puppy to become a companion for family. Betty, the labrador retriever and golden retriever mix, is in training with the De Mund family to become a companion.

Parade began egg hunt festivities

The Spring Egg Hunt on April 15 got off to a lively start with a pajama parade from Curtis Park to the Sierra 2 Green. Leading the way was Grand Marshal Katie Van Buren of the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association board. More than 300 children, friends and family members hunted for 3,000 eggs this year.

Schenirer plans all-district bike ride with stop in Oak Park

Bicyclists will have a chance to stretch their legs and get to know the city’s eight City Council districts on May 13 when City Councilmember Jay Schenirer leads an all-district ride. Designed to celebrate Bike Month, the open, free event aims to highlight the city’s efforts to make Sacramento a bike-friendly urban area.

Sierra 2 will host adult ‘Dog Days’ June 2

The Sierra 2 Center will kick off the warm season with Dog Days of Summer from 6-9 p.m. June 2 in Curtis Hall. Designed as an adult evening with beer tastings, the fundraiser social will feature several local craft breweries and gourmet hot dogs from Dave’s Dawgs.

City plans to resume street work once the wet weather turns dry

L ast fall, the streets of Curtis Park were scraped, given a new surface, a temporary seal was applied, and new surface markers were painted. Unfortunately, the streets never received a final sweeping. Several streets almost immediately began experiencing loose gravel that ended up in driveways and sidewalks and has moved down gutters all winter with the rain. Several instances of tar sticking to cars were also reported.

The entire resurfacing and sealing project was originally planned for completion in four days, but our record-breaking rain caused delays in finishing the project and fixing any problems with the new street surfaces. This work will include the resurfacing.

Team of artists will paint mural along walls of underpass

A fter several months of meetings, leaders from Oak Park and Curtis Park neighborhoods decided to prioritize beautification of the Second Avenue underpass that connects these two neighborhoods. They also want to see some transportation improvements.

Project Manager Katie Valenzuela Garcia, who was hired with a generous donation of $75,000 from the California Endowment, reports that the project is a go. In addition to project management, the funds will be used to obtain permits from Caltrans to make the improvements. Those permits are still pending.

Stakeholder groups have provided input to the team of artists led by Ruby Chacon. The team will design and paint the mural that will grace the currently blank walls. The mural will brighten the walls with color and positive messages of unity and diversity to reflect the strengths of the surrounding neighborhoods.

The city’s first “Sunday Street” event will be a happening place May 21.

By Rosanna Herber, Viewpoint staff writer

T he global movement of transforming streets into playgrounds is coming to Sacramento on Sunday, May 21. From 8 a.m. to noon, the city will close Broadway from Riverside Boulevard to 26th Street, then turning south to Second Avenue, turning left (east) and extending to in Broadway in Oak Park. Spreading out all along the closed street will be entertainers, entrepreneurs, bicyclists, roller skaters, games, dogs, fitness trainers, yoga instructors and community groups.

This will be the city’s first “Sunday Street” event, created to activate and open up major streets for fun and play for families and to engage neighborhoods in healthy activities of all kinds.

“We are hoping families and friends come out to this unique and playful event,” said Tina Reynolds, Board member of the Greater Broadway District and owner of Uptown Studios located on 23rd Street, just off Broadway. “This event is going to make Broadway the happening place.”

“Sunday Street” is sponsored by the Greater Broadway District, the Sacramento Area Council of Governments, the city and other organizations.

After the inaugural event on Broadway, the program will be taken to other major streets in Sacramento. For more information, go to the city’s Website at https://www.cityofsacramento.org/Public-Works/Transportation/Programs-and-Services/Sunday-Street.

Young puppy trainer feels like she’s helping others

W hen Lydia De Mund of Fourth Avenue decided to raise a companion dog, she did not anticipate how much work it would be. Now, after nearly 15 months with Betty, she knows. So does her family. As it turned out, training a puppy to become a companion for a disabled person is a family affair.

Lydia, who turns 12 in June, is finishing up 6th grade at Leonardo da Vinci school. Her parents, Dann and Phoebe De Mund, and sister, Lila, 10, had to learn all the commands for Betty and help keep her training consistent.

That training included weekly classes with other trainers and dogs and socializing. Among the 25 commands Betty had to learn are sit, stay, down, stand, back, bed and car.

As Betty matured, she visited school with Lydia and went to work with Mom and Dad.

Knowing about the dog and her work is good training for the other students, Dad, Dann, says.

Please see Puppy, page 6
Personnel costs, repairs and maintenance strained last year's budget

As Petrovich suit wends through court, focus changes for May 12 hearing

By Viewpoint Staff

A s many neighbors know from reading the Viewpoint, Petrovich Development Company decided to sue not only the City of Sacramento but also SCNA, Eric Johnson and Andrea Rosen, claiming that the City denied them due process. They are seeking costs and damages.

The City Council, which then denied the permit.

Instead of suing, the City decided to conduct limited discovery on four city-affiliated employees. The employees were younger than 30, and the City made a decision that the matter should be handled internally.

The case was originally scheduled for May 12, that date has been pushed back to allow time for the petitioners to conduct limited discovery on four city-affiliated employees. The employees were younger than 30, and the City made a decision that the matter should be handled internally.

Four city-affiliated employees were initially scheduled to be deposed on May 12, but that date has been pushed back to allow time for the petitioners to conduct limited discovery on four city-affiliated employees. The employees were younger than 30, and the City made a decision that the matter should be handled internally.

Executive Director

Terri reported SCNA employee Joe Devlin, district director for Councilmember Jay Schenier, and former City Manager John Shirey. The California Supreme Court recently clarified (March 3) that city-related texts and emails maintained on private devices are potentially “public documents” that may have been otherwise included in an administrative record. These four individuals may have deleted such communications before the Court’s clarification, which was not public.

The Court has allowed some limited questioning by Petrovich of these four public representatives to determine if any previously deleted documents may be recreated. At the time those public officials may have deleted relevant private texts or emails on their private devices, the law was unclear as to whether those communications were considered public records.

The May 12 hearing will now be used as a status conference for the Court to learn the result of those depositions. The Court will determine whether the existing administrative record needs to be supplemented with any additional documents, and a timeline for briefing and hearing the merits.

Assuming no additional discovery is required, a hearing will be held in July or August. SCNA does not have the power to grant or deny a Conditional Use Permit for the development, but the neighborhood group is the real party in interest. SCNA appealed the Planning Commission’s decision to the City Council, which then denied the permit.

Treasurer

Jonathan La Turner reported the budget will be in a deficit. Facilities had unexpected repairs. PG&E raised its rate structure and the utility bill cost was $7,000 over expected expenses year-to-date. The rental income is $8,000 higher, but with the above issues, there will still be a deficit.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the SCNA Board will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 7 in the Garden Room at Sierra 2.

Notes from April 5th meeting

Personnel costs, repairs and maintenance strained last year’s budget

Attending: Eric Johnson, Terri Shettle, John Mathews, Bruce Pournin, Larry Easterling, Dan Piskowski, Angela Mia, Peter Colussy, Lori Harder, Patrick Soluri, Andrea Rosen, Jonathan La Turner, Steffan Brown, Kate Van Buren, Special Guest: Kim Tucker from Impact Foundry

Budget Development Update

Terri walked the board through all of the annual reports on the budget. Some notable points were: increasing personnel costs by 11 percent, positions with full benefits, and a $200 employee annual allowance to take classes at Sierra 2. New classes are proposed to launch in the fall with an online registration system. Technology classes will be offered, but the original tech lab concept has been changed. Classes will be offered on the quarter. In a year, there will be more support staff to facilitate the arts and education side of Sierra 2. Katie is heading the effort.

SCNA rental space is competitive with other spaces around town. The theater project will be the main improvement this year at the facility. We will be creating a display to have at events to show the public what we do.

Dog Days of Summer is an example of events that will take the place of First Fridays, which is on hold indefinitely. (Story on page 1.)

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Executive Director

Terri reported SCNA employee Joe Devlin is moving to another state due to her husband’s job transfer.

Terri will hire a booking specialist.

The cottage will now be a rental space.

We are evaluating new flooring to facilitate dance and art classes.

The annual Egg Hunt takes place every Easter. John Mathews will head the popp patrol cleanup along with Doggillary members.

Strategic Plan/board retreat

Terri reported that the SCNA board retreat is scheduled for June 17. Kim Tucker suggested holding the retreat off-site. A preliminary discussion will be scheduled that includes foundations and draft surveys. Digital surveys will be deployed in June to board members and community partners.

Kim will meet one-on-one with board members and offer a short list of questions to get the ideas flowing. She will contact community influencers and partners to solicit input. Kim is currently attending board meetings to observe how it runs. The Impact Foundry (Kim’s company) works with other clients such as SMUD, which has a community development beautification program that SCNA may consider for our facility.

Treasurer

Jonathan La Turner reported the budget will be in a deficit. Facilities had unexpected repairs. PG&E raised its rate structure and the utility bill cost was $7,000 over expected expenses year-to-date. The rental income is $8,000 higher, but with the above issues, there will still be a deficit.

Facilities

Terri reported on last year’s many repairs and maintenance projects. The question was asked if SCNA will use any money spent to improve the center, with six years left on the lease. SCNA could consider purchasing the building from the city, since we maintain, insure, and incur most of the costs as it is currently structured anyway.

Neighborhood Concerns Committee

NCC was asked to write a letter of support for a private group to repair and update the Curtis Park baseball field. Jonathan La Turner motioned, Patrick Soluri seconded, all approved.

— Submitted by Kate Van Buren, board secretary and Terri Shettle.
Oak Park Farmers Market opens May 6

Taylor’s Market received irresistible offer for airport expansion

Mural: Art will focus on neighborhood unity

What’s new at Sierra 2

Curtis Park neighborhood yard sale returns May 20

Ice Cream Social at Belle Cooledge library May 19

To advertise in Viewpoint, call Fran at 452-3005.
**AT THE 24TH STREET THEATRE**

**DANCE**

- Awakening Bellydance: Cardio class to live music for all levels.
  - Fourth Saturday, 11 a.m., Studio 1
  - Sallavo Ama • lovebreath@infocircle.net

- Irish Folk Dancing: 1st and 3rd Monday, 7-9 p.m., Studio 1
  - Liam Irish, 510-677-5549

- Polynesian Dance: 1st and 3rd Monday, 7-9 p.m., Studio 1
  - Liam Irish, 510-677-5549

- Brazilian Dance: 4:15–6:30 p.m., Studio 1
  - Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday

- West African Dance: Thursday, 3-4 p.m., Studio 1
  - Auntie Amy's Hula

- Polynesian Dance: 1st and 3rd Monday, 7-9 p.m., Studio 1
  - Liam Irish, 510-677-5549

**FITNESS**

- Fierce FUNK Dance Fitness
  - 2nd & 4th Saturday, 10 a.m., Studio 2
  - $5 at the door. All levels welcome

- Irish Folk Dancing: 1st and 3rd Monday, 7-9 p.m., Studio 1
  - Liam Irish, 510-677-5549

- Polynesian Dance: 1st and 3rd Monday, 7-9 p.m., Studio 1
  - Liam Irish, 510-677-5549

**MUSIC**

- Sacramento Native American Believers Fellowship
  - Sunday, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Room 10
  - Lee Aviles, 203-6461

**ART**

- Glass Mosaic Classes
  - Tuesday, Noon–3 p.m., Room 11

**SPIRITUAL SERVICES**

- Empowerment Theological Seminary
  - Monday, 6-9:55 p.m., Room 9
  - 308-7646

- Believers Fellowship
  - Sacramento Native American Believers Fellowship
  - Sunday, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Room 10
  - Pastor Grant Harper: 382-2885

- Empowerment Theological Seminary
  - Monday, 6-9:55 p.m., Room 9
  - 308-7646

- Know Thyself as Soul – Meditation
  - 1st Sunday of the month, 1–4 p.m. Curtis Hall
  - Contact: Mother Elizabeth English

- Capital City Music Together
  - Children 5 and under. For schedule: Jennie Ribadeneira: 990-3222
  - www.capitalcitymusictogether.com

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

- Young Actor's Stage
  - Sun., May 7, 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.
  - Fri., May 5, 7 p.m.

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Lunch and Learn series focuses on caregivers

By Katie Byram

The Sierra 2 Senior Center strives to add special social and enrichment events and workshops for older adults in order to boost its on-going activities. Here are some highlights for May:

Lunch and Learn

The second presentation in the new Lunch and Learn series at the Sierra 2 Senior Center will focus on support for caregivers. This talk, from noon–1 p.m. on Thursday, May 11 in Room 10, is for anyone supporting family members or acquaintances with physical, psychological or developmental needs. Fatigue from caring for others affects one’s quality of life, as well as one’s families, friends and loved ones. This presentation covers awareness of compassion fatigue and authentic self-care. There will be time for reflection, exploration and connection.

Reading Our Lives

The beloved event, Reading Our Lives, returns at 1 p.m. Sunday, May 21 in Curtis Hall. This tradition celebrates and recognizes the talented senior voices of the Life History Writing group that has been part of the Senior Center almost since its inception in 2001. Life History Writing is a collection of creative Senior Center members who meet weekly to write and share short stories about their lives. Reading Our Lives is a showcase of the best stories that will leave attendees inspired to pick up a pen and capture life experiences and moments of their own. Equal parts nostalgia and creativity, these stories of lives well-lived range from romance-filled narratives and whimsical anecdotes to short tales of time of conflict. A brief reception will follow. Tickets are $5 and can be purchased through members of the Life History Writing group or at the door.

Support for our programs

If you enjoy special events like Lunch & Learn and Reading Our Lives, please consider making a donation to the Sierra 2 Center during the Big Day of Giving on Thursday, May 4. This is a great opportunity to support the organization because donations go further with matching gifts and prizes.

If you make a donation and would like to go specific to the Senior Center, please call or email Katie Byram at 452-3005 or Katie@sierra2.org. Learn more at www.bigdayofgiving.org.

Schenirer’s message

We should lead the country as a bike-friendly city

Since the beginning of the year, the city Council has focused on the issues of homelessness and the general budget. However, there are numerous other concerns and priorities that councilmembers, including myself, have put forth to help move Sacramento toward its potential to be a great city. One of these issues is the ongoing effort to transform Sacramento into a bike-friendly city. Given our geography and climate, there is no reason why we should not lead the nation in this area.

Recently, the city created a master bike plan, which lays out a number of significant steps that the city should take in moving this issue forward. In conversations with many neighbors, I know this is important to many Curtis Park residents. I particularly want to thank Jordan Lang, a community leader who serves as a project assistant on the board of Sacramento Area Bike Advocates. As the city looks for more permanent funding sources to improve our bike-friendly surfaces, the Council directed $2.2 million of our mid-year budget reserves to bike projects. Of significance to Curtis Park, I have requested funding for enhanced bike lanes on Franklin Boulevard, 24th Street, and Fifth Avenue, all of which have come as requests from our neighborhood over the past two years. I hope the bike lane on Fifth Avenue will run from 24th Street to Franklin Boulevard, helping to connect the Curtis Park and Oak Park neighborhoods. As final decisions are made, I will keep you informed.

On Sunday, May 21, the city will sponsor an Open Street event on Broadway and Second Avenue. Please come out and enjoy meeting your neighbors, and enjoy opening streets.

May is Bike Month. To celebrate, I have suggested a Mayor/Council bike ride that will begin at the north end of the city in District 1, go through all the Council districts, and conclude in District 8. The ride will happen May 13, and will have one stop in each Council district. I have selected the Oak Park Farmers Market as the District 5 stop. The final route and timing of the ride is being developed and will be posted soon on the city website. All are welcome to participate. I hope you can join us.

Teens earn money by taking care of Curtis Park

When we see teenagers looing and weeding in the park, we may wonder what gives. Those are not tasks you expect to see a 14-year-old doing. However, there are about 85 teens working in the city’s Landscape & Lighting Tax Assessment employment program.

Run by the city’s recreation department, the program is divided into three 10-week seasonal work periods. The teens work from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and receive $10.50 an hour. They work in crews of five with an adult leader. According to Monica Blanco, recreation superintendent of teen services, job applicants must be 14–17 years old and have a valid driver’s license. Their job duties include non-skilled labor in park maintenance and general clean-up. The program is funded through the Landscape & Lighting Tax Assessment.

For more information, contact Blanco at 916 808–6308.

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Curtis Park has what it takes

By Dan Pskowski
Viewpoint staff writer

A couple of months ago, when the visitors bureau replaced the “City of Trees” logo on the huge I-5 water tower with the words “America’s Farm-to-Fork Capital,” it generated some protests on social media. The Sacramento Bee and Inside Publications publisher, Cecily Hastings, supported this change. As a degreed arborist who has lived and worked in Sacramento for the past 26 ½ years, I would like to weigh in on this discussion. What does it mean to be a City of Trees? Is it how many trees you have and the number of trees planted annually, or that you have a nationally recognized non-profit like the Sacramento Tree Foundation? No, being a “City of Trees” is an attitude backed up by action. It is an attitude that the trees are not just an amenity but are an important part of a livable city and aren’t readily removed unless diseased, structurally unsound, or in severe decline.

In 1940 Sacramento spent two percent of the city budget on tree care. Unfortunately, as Sacramento’s urban forest grew, the general fund budget for trees decreased to 0.65 percent in 2000. Currently, the majority of the City’s Urban Forestry section is funded directly by the property owners under a Landscape & Lighting Assessment district, which in 2013 was $4,042,351. The city also relinquished the care and maintenance of approximately 30,000 street trees. What started out as a temporary moratorium in July 1990 became permanent when the City Council adopted the Urban Forest Management Plan in November 1993. The 50,000 trees were located in the front yards on residential streets without a City park strip between the curb and sidewalk. Thousands of these trees have been removed due to the lack of professional care and many have not been replaced.

The City of Trees attitude is that trees can co-exist with development/infrastructure improvements and are incorporated into the project. It means protect and preserve, and not remove and replace. The City, in 2007, removed its only heritage size Bunya-Bunya tree (Araucaria bidwillii) for the Crocker Art Museum expansion project. In 2011 when the K Street Mall was converted to allow motor vehicles, the City’s Public Works Department proposal designated seven streets for removal. These were permanent removals with no replacement trees planted back at that location.

Fortunately, a concerned citizen filed a tree appeal. Public Works reconsidered and decided on the removal of only two trees. However, I looked at the site and determined the proposed passenger drop off zones could be installed without the two trees being removed. Tree preservation required the relocation of a bench and street light. An appeal was made before City Council and these two trees were preserved.

The Sacramento Commons project, which was approved in July 2015, will remove 199 trees on the current Capitol Towers 10-acre downtown property. Trees4Sacramento, an advocacy group, fought to preserve the trees. Its consulting arborist determined it would take at least 25 years to replace the lost canopy with the proposed replacement tree planting plan. There are numerous downtown sites where all the trees, including City Street trees, were removed for a development project.

So where is the “City of Trees” attitude? Sadly, it resides in only a few of the neighborhoods, with Curtis Park being at the forefront. Curtis Park residents know that trees are important not only for the shade, health benefits, and character it gives the neighborhood but also in combating climate change. Residents readily speak out when a tree is posted for removal or a construction project which will impact trees. SCNA spends approximately $14,000 every three years to protect elms in the park from Dutch elm disease. Curtis Park is definitely the Neighborhood of Trees. “However, Sacramento can no longer boast that it is the “City of Trees.”

Puppy: Most important is socialization

(Continued from page one)

In spite of all the disciplined training, Lydia says the best part of raising Betty has been “feeling like you’re helping.” Lydia was surprised how well behaved Betty is, but she’s learned that Betty was bred to be that way. She is a labrador retriever and golden retriever mix.

Lydia first met companion dogs when, at age 8, she played with the puppies at the home of puppy raiser Jan Thomburg. Thomburg says, “The most important function of the puppy raiser is socialization, getting the puppy accustomed to anything and everything in the environment, so it will be essentially bomb-proof” when matched with a disabled person.”

Lydia and Thomburg are volunteers for Canine Companions for Independence, which provides, free of charge, highly trained assistance dogs to people in wheelchairs, deaf people, children with a variety of disabilities, and to persons in facilities such as special education classes, hospitals, physical therapy and occupational therapy departments, nursing homes etc.

More information is available at CCI.org.

For Lydia, the hardest part about raising Betty will be giving her up. Lydia knows Betty will go on to intense training before she’s matched with a disabled person.

She has yet to decide whether she will raise another companion puppy. In the meantime, she and the family have another dog, a cat and fish.

Streets: Work will start when the rain stops

(Continued from page one)

of some streets and application of a cape seal to others. Work cannot be done until the rain stops.

The City of Sacramento does not have an exact date and schedule for the project work to resume. A city media person told the Viewpoint last fall that the City of Sacramento does not have an exact date and schedule for the project. Markers for stop signs, bike lines, etc. will be replaced with new metal markers. The City of Sacramento currently lists no dates for any work on the streets.

Sixteen Curtis Park streets will receive re-work or new work in the permanent cape seal part of the project. Markers for stop signs, bike lanes, etc. will be repainted. The impacted streets in Curtis Park are: 10th Avenue, 11th Avenue, 24th Street, 26th Street, 33rd Street, Sixth Avenue, Seventh Avenue, Eighth Avenue, Ninth Avenue, Coleman Way, Curtis Way, Cutter Way, Donner Way, East Curtis Drive, Montgomery Way and West Curtis Drive.

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Inside the tree with landscape care!
Marge Matsinger has called Curtis Park her home since 1942

By Craig McCulloch
Viewpoint staff writer

Marge Matsinger of 25th Street may hold the record for longevity as a resident of Curtis Park. She moved here with her parents from Yreka in 1942 to a house on Montgomery Way, west of the park.

She attended the original Bret Harte Elementary School, a two-story brick building on Franklin Boulevard. Next she went to California Junior High, and graduated from McClatchy High School.

Marge regrets the first two schools were later demolished and rebuilt due to earthquake standards. She remembers that Cal Jr. High was difficult to tear down. She was glad to see the Sierra Elementary School preserved to become Sierra 2

Community Center.

Shortly after graduation from McClatchy, Marge started work at the age of 17 as a clerk for the California State Teachers Retirement System. She continued to work at CalSTRS for 43 years when she retired as a division chief.

Marge married in 1953 to Herb Matsinger and in 1956 the couple purchased their home on 25th Street, where she resides today. She participates in a long tradition of the 25th Street neighbors getting together twice each year for a Labor Day BBQ, and a progressive holiday dinner party in December.

With an entertaining sense of humor, she is fond of recalling memories of our neighborhood. Kids were allowed to play in the park until their parents whimsted them home for dinner. Many played touch football, tennis and basketball.

Marge remembers the electric trolley car that ran down Fifth Avenue and went either downtown on K Street, or over to Oak Park. The Fox Theater on K Street was a popular destination for the Saturday matinee showings of newsreels, cartoons and serials such as Hopalong Cassidy and Flash Gordon in the 1930s, all for the admission price of 10 cents.

Oak Park was a thriving neighborhood and popular place to shop back in the '40s and '50s with a dress shop, Arrata Brothers Market, the California Theater, and a Five & Dime Store. The theater had a candy store next door for an additional attraction to kids. It was destroyed by fire in 1956. McClatchy Park was the Oak Park end of the trolley line with a turntable to reverse the trolley’s direction. A City library branch was then open with the building now a part of McGeorge Law School.

Since retiring, Marge has traveled extensively to Europe, China and Hawaii, and has taken many cruises in the Caribbean. She always returns in time for the annual events with her 25th Street neighbors. Her neighbors appreciate Marge’s engaging personality. She is always ready for interesting conversation and fun.

What to do when a swarm of bees is on the move

By Sylvia Oey
Special to the Viewpoint

What would you do if a few thousand bees started making their home on your car? When Ann Burridge of Fifth Avenue heard about a large cluster of bees clinging to a car parked in front of the Curtis Park Market, she knew just what to do. Ann had just completed a beekeeping class, with the goal of setting up a beehive or two in her yard.

After making sure that the car’s owner would appreciate help, Ann started calling beekeepers listed by the Sacramento Area Beekeeper’s Association.

A pair of Elk Grove beekeepers was available and able to come in an hour. They used a portable smoker to collect the bees in a ventilated bin and then transport them to a hive in Elk Grove.

Bee colonies often divide themselves and form new hives in the spring. This was the second swarm in two weeks near Second Avenue and 24th Street.


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WANTED: Looking to rent a garage to store my 1949 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: 916 502–2801.

WANTED: Quiet 1 bd/bath/tub/light! Mature female artist/gardener & 2 small dogs. 15 yrs in Curtis Park, Bluedog04@hotmail.com

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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Students tuning up for spring concert May 9

By Adriana Gonzalez
Viewpoint staff writer

On May 9, music students of Bret Harte Elementary will astound and amaze you with their live performances with guitars, violins, recorders, a three piece band, choir, and possibly poetry readings. Students will showcase their talents and what they have learned from their music teacher, Alan Cunningham. The community is invited. Performances will be from 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m. in the Bret Harte Cafeteria. Admission is free; beverages and snacks will be available for purchase.

Staff’s aims to teach empathy and acceptance

On Thursday, May 25 Bret Harte invites the community to join in and support the school’s Diversity Day celebration. Parents and staff are planning this daylong event to create a platform for diversity, inclusion and highlight the importance of empathy, kindness and acceptance of others. It’s a chance to learn about the rich sights and sounds of Sacramento’s diverse population. Throughout the day, the campus will circulate in class groups and visit activity tables hosted by various organizations. The tables will have students participate in meaningful activities, and/or lead children in a traditional song, chant or dance and possibly help create an art project reflective of the population.

There are several performances during the day and into the evening so more people can enjoy them. Exact performance times will be announced soon. The Diversity Day planning committee is still seeking volunteers. Contact Gerine Williams at caring4bears@gmail.com or 417-3415 no later than May 10 to volunteer, host an activity table, share your heritage or perform.

Performance times will appear on the Bret Harte marquee in the first week of May.

Teamwork seeds corner landscape

By Erik Fay
Viewpoint staff writer

We are fortunate to live in a neighborhood full of mature trees and lush plants around most homes and the park. We’re also lucky to have neighbors, landscape contractors, students and a school principal who care about and are investing in the beautification of the Bret Harte School.

The original school was built in the late 1920s in the Spanish Colonial Revival style, and its grounds had many mature plants. James Tucker, principal at Bret Harte since late September, was looking for a service project for the students when nearby neighbors requested a meeting with him about removing the weeds and landscaping the area around the corner of Franklin Boulevard and Ninth Avenue.

A team comprised of the principal, several neighbors, Randy Stannard - executive director of Oak Park Sol, and Nicole Brodeur - owner of Brodeur Gardening, came together to lead, organize, and manage the project. Principal Tucker applied for and received district permits for the project. Bret Harte 6th graders wrote a successful grant to pay for mulch. From Franklin Boulevard, you can see the big pile of mulch at the school. The project team also initiated a Go Fund Me page for the project that has generated some contributions.

Nicole Brodeur, a professional gardener, volunteered to design the area and selected plants that are both native to California and drought tolerant. She emphasizes that right now is a perfect time to plant as the soil is wet from this year’s abundant rain but is still cool, which is great for encouraging plants to establish and nurture healthy roots. Nicole’s design for the project includes a Red Maple tree, Deer Grass and Foothill Sedge Grass, and shrubs “Doctor Hurd” Manzanita, White Sage, California Buckwheat, Palmer’s Abutilon, California Fuchsia, Lilac Verbena, and Sticky Monkey Flower.

Nicole described her volunteering for the project as “doing something so the kids might learn about native plants while getting to enjoy them at their school and hopefully developing an interest getting to enjoy them at their school and hopefully developing an interest in gardening.”

Thirty volunteers per day are needed for two hours to help planting and mulching from 10 a.m.-noon May 6.

Neighbors who would like to volunteer may call Principal James Tucker at 916 914-9988.

Volunteer gardeners take on beautification project

On May 12 students from CK McClatchy High School’s Black Student Union, Brown Issues, and Feminist Coalition invite you to the first town hall on this important bill package for CA public college students and their parents. This event at 4 p.m. Friday, May 12 in the McClatchy High Library will feature a discussion and Q&A with principal author, Assemblymember Kevin McCarthy.

CKM students plan town hall on pending legislation

By Lori Jablonski
Special to the Viewpoint

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