Sip wine, taste beer, sample food and check out silent auction Oct. 14 at annual Wine Tasting

By Faith Johnstone

Date Change!
City officials reset safety meeting for Oct. 2

Join Councilmember Jay Schenirer from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Monday Oct. 2 in Curtis Hall at Sierra 2 for a discussion on neighborhood safety with Police Chief Daniel Hahn. There will be roundtable discussions with Captain Dave Peletta, Assistant City Manager Arturo Sanchez and Sacramento Police Department IMPACT team representatives.

For more information: 808-7005 or Jschenirer@cityofsacramento.org.

Multi-agency discussion of homelessness planned at Sierra 2

By Stephanie Duncan

In response to a growing homeless population beneath Highway 50 between W and X streets and in neighborhoods to the south, the Land Park Community Association and Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association are collaborating on a discussion from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 23 in Curtis Hall at Sierra 2. LPCA board member Stephanie Duncan approached the SCNA board in January with the idea of a homeless discussion. In succeeding months, various resource agencies and elected officials were asked to take part in the discussion. Additionally, input from area residents was gathered on social media such as Next Door and Facebook to determine neighbors’ concerns and questions.

The event’s goal is to gather residents from Land Park, Curtis Park, Upper Land Park, South Land Park Estates, South Land Park Terrace, Hollywood Park and South Land Park to get questions answered about homelessness in those neighborhoods.

City, county and resource agency staff will share statistics about homelessness, provide answers about services and the process to obtain them, as well as, set goals for the future to help get people off the streets, and discuss how the community can help.

Those planning to attend include Councilmember Jay Schenirer, city Homeless Services Coordinator Emily Halcon, county Director of Homeless Initiatives Cynthia Cavaughan, county Homeless Services Division Manager Eduardo Ameyeno, Sacramento Steps Forward Chief Executive Officer Ryan Looobournow, Loaves & Fishes General Manager Noel Kammerman, First Step Communities Executive Director Stephen Watters, and a representative of the Sacramento Police Department’s IMPACT team.

Hearing on lawsuit postponed

A hearing on the merits of a lawsuit filed by Petrovic Development Co. against the city and SCNA has been postponed to Dec. 15. The merits hearing had been scheduled for Oct. 13, but the company submitted extensive new evidence with its legal brief, requiring the trial court to consider whether the new evidence is relevant or admissible before it considers the merits of the case.

Former attorney practices avocation of interior design

By Ariel Calvert

ChambreChic is a new interior redesign service launched by longtime Curtis Park resident Anne Ferguson. Interior redesign, according to Ferguson, is the artful arrangement of your existing furnishings and accessories to make the most of what you have and love, resulting in a fresh, stylish look in your home. ChambreChic services feature Ferguson’s specialty: one-day room makeovers. She also does art placement, color and lighting consultation, and shopping for furniture and accessories.

With this new venture, Ferguson is embarking on her third career. She previously worked in the healthcare industry, and then for 30 years practiced as a healthcare attorney. Along with sewing and crafting, home design has always been her avocation, and she often found herself helping friends with design projects in their homes. In 2013, Ferguson traveled to Virginia to attend a week-long immersion course in interior design.

The course combined classroom Please see Designer, page 8
Notes from Sept. 6th meeting

Strong financial performance reduces year-end loss

Financial Committee
Jonathan LaTurner reported that the financiales for June were strong, reducing the year-end loss to only $50,000 from a projected loss of $70,000. Expenses have been kept low, but facility repairs and utility costs have increased. Ongoing lease negotiations with Councilmember Jay Schenerer and the city have given SCNA a few options regarding the maintenance of the facility, including the possible purchase of Sierra 2.

Executive Committee
The executive committee previously approved planting a peace tree in Curtis Park, which was scheduled for Sept. 30. Kate Van Buren and John Mathews updated the board on the program and dedication. Dan Pskowski recommended the "Autumn Gold" Ginkgo species, which would be the only one of its kind in the park. Kim Tucker of the Impact Foundry will update the board in October on the progress made with the strategic plan for SCNA.

Executive director report
Jonathan LaTurner will collect money from all board members for a wine fridge to raffle off at the Oct. 14 annual Wine Tasting event. The fridge is a popular raffle item, bringing in $1,500 last year.

Next meeting
The next meeting of the SCNA Board will begin at 7:15 p.m. on the Garden Room at Sierra 2.

President’s message
Nothing better than sights, smells, tastes and feel of autumn in the neighborhood

There is nothing like a good wine fridge, one of the best-organized events SCNA has produced. Attendees loved it, but the extreme heat on one of the hottest days of the year kept the crowds away.

Curtis Fest was one of the best-organized events SCNA has produced. Attendees loved it, but the extreme heat on one of the hottest days of the year kept the crowds away.

There have been 72 attendees with only a sampling of class offerings. Beginning Spanish has sold out.

The Learnery took in $5,364 for the first quarter of classes. There are 14 sponsors and wineries. There are 14 baskets. Six community dinners up for bid have been confirmed so far, but 12 would be optimal.

The new website’s events page has become a resource for the community, with more than 4,000 hits in the past two months.

WHAT IF, a team-building workshop for nonprofits, will be on Oct. 5. The workshop is organized by the Impact Foundry. Board members are encouraged to attend.

Food, guitar and computer classes are also popular. The Learnery has a goal of 12 class offerings per quarter. These are in addition to Senior Center classes and other ongoing activities offered by renters and tenants.

The fridge is a popular raffle item, bringing in $1,500 last year. This year, board members are helping SCNA staff in contacting sponsors and wineries. There are 14 confirmed restaurants so far, Andrea Rosen and Lori Harder will assist Terri and Faith by making phone calls and sending emails. Bret Harte Elementary will volunteer the day before the event. Heather Hogan will be assembling the auction baskets. Six community dinners up for bid have been confirmed so far, but 12 would be optimal.

Curtis Fest was one of the best-organized events SCNA has produced. Attendees loved it, but the extreme heat on one of the hottest days of the year kept the crowds away. There is no other time of the year to schedule Curtis Fest, so we will continue to have the event in summer while taking heat-mitigation measures such as installing misters. SCNA received nearly a dozen donations from the Curtis Fest artists.

Larry Easterling contributed to the event by delivering and removing set-up equipment from Sierra 2 Center.

The Learnery took in $5,364 for the first quarter of classes.

There have been 72 attendees with only a sampling of class offerings. Beginning Spanish has sold out.

The fringe of a chill takes a little of the joy out of ice cream making dinner a sweaty affair.

Cold showers to start a summer day are invigorating, but the extreme heat on one of the hottest days of the year keeps the crowds away.

We certainly can’t forget about the SCNA wine tasting and all its attendant glory. I’ve met so many people and heard so many stories and had so many laughs. Even if you don’t touch a drop of the beverages, the food and conversation will easily give you your money’s worth. And that’s before you ever take into account the Gunther’s pumpkin bon bons.

For a run or a walk around the park sure is more fun without worrying about heat exhaustion. While it’s not quite time for gloves in the morning, a beanie is a nice change from one of my many ridiculous-looking visors.

Really, what’s not to love about fall? Oh, right. The Claw.

Enjoy your time out and about, and make the most of it before the rain and cold of November!
Celebrating our community's diversity

Come out and join Opening Doors at their 4th Annual Festival of Flavors. Experience delicious flavors of international cuisine donated by local restaurants, beautiful rhythms, and beverages donated by local breweries and wineries.

Proceeds benefit Opening Doors clients and programs. Opening Doors is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit agency that provides services to refugees, human trafficking survivors, immigrants and other underserved communities. Programs include Refugee Resettlement, Survivors of Trafficking, Immigration Legal Services and the Prosperity Project.

The event will be from 6-10 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 7 in Curtis Hall. Tickets are $60 for unlimited food and alcohol, $45 for food only, and can be purchased at festivalofflavors.brownpapertickets.com. For more information visit openingdoorsinc.org.

Casa Garden opens meeting center for special events

By Kris Oleson Special to Viewpoint

A former gift shop at Casa Garden Restaurant and Event Center has been transformed into a meeting center suitable for a variety of business events. The 2,000-square-foot space provides versatile seating arrangements using 23 rectangular tables, six round tables and theater seating for 100 people.

The room has a variety of service equipment including a podium with a microphone. Windows provide lots of natural light and garden views. A former gift shop at Casa Garden Restaurant and Event Center has been transformed into a meeting center suitable for a variety of business events. The 2,000-square-foot space provides versatile seating arrangements using 23 rectangular tables, six round tables and theater seating for 100 people.

Art万科is classes are developed to engage participants in art, activism and social justice. Classes use contemporary art and social justice theory to dive deep into the issues that we are facing in our country today. Each class includes a presentation of inspiring art and artists, a discussion of how the art and issues impact us and others, and an opportunity for participants to express themselves through an art project.

Upcoming classes include:

- Am I A Feminist? – Framed Mirror Mosaic, on Oct. 4; What’s an Ally? – Tapestry sculpture, on Oct. 11; and The Power of Voice – Voice Box Paint Project on Oct. 18. For information and to register, contact instructor Mandy Benson at 599-0231, mandy@artivistinstitute.com or visit artivistinstitute.com.

— Valerie Barrows, facility administrator

And the ‘Final Jeopardy’ answer is...

Lauren Cusitello shares a light moment with “Jeopardy!” host Alex Trebek during an episode of the syndicated TV show broadcast Sept. 22. During a break in the action, Trebek asked Lauren about her sheepish but correct response in the cocktails category, “What is ‘Sex On the Beach’?” Lauren told Trebek she plays women’s rugby and her position is known as a “hooker.”

Lauren placed second on the program the McGeorge School of Law rugby team. Andrew grew up in Sacramento. In his spare time, he enjoys fishing, hunting and tending his backyard garden. On Thursdays and Saturdays, he practices in the park with the McGeorge School of Law rugby team.

Lauren, who lived in Curtis park during the 1980s, meets Trebek again Oct. 24 for the 9 p.m. show airing on Channel 13. Lauren doesn’t want to spill the beans about what she’ll face from Trebek on this trip.

Califorria Retired Teachers Association holds 24th Street Theatre renovation of 24th Street Theatre, including installation of a new roof, seating and lighting, as well as cosmetic updates.

Andrew grew up in Sacramento. In his spare time, he enjoys fishing, hunting and tending his backyard garden. On Thursdays and Saturdays, he practices in the park with the McGeorge School of Law rugby team.
**DANCE**

**ADULT BALLET** — **NEW!**
Two Rivers Dance Center
Mondays & Saturdays
richard@tworiversdancecenter.com

Heels & Sass Dance Class
7:30-8:30 p.m., Thursdays, Studio 1
mballerinain@gmail.com

Irish Folk Dancing
1st and 3rd Monday, 7-9 p.m., Studio 1
Liam Irish, 530-677-5549

Polynesian Dance
Tuesday, 6-7:30 p.m.
Studio 2 • alohahayat@gmail.com

River City Taps — **NEW!**
See Website for class schedules. Studio 1 & 3
www.rivercitytaps.com

**FAMILY BONDED**
Oct. 6 at 6:30 p.m., Oct. 7 at 2:30 & 6:30 p.m.
510-815-3519, stacey@inversion.org

**FITNESS**

**Hot Hula Fitness**
7-8 p.m. & 8-9 p.m.
Friday, Sunday, Studio 2
Ohanafit Plus, 595-3765

Fierce FUNK Dance Fitness
2nd & 4th Saturday 10 a.m., Studio 2
$5 at the door. All levels welcome
Jessica Brown, jbrown123@gmail.com

Zumba with Toya & Linda
Monday/Wednesday, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Studio 2
LaToya Bufford, tobybufford15@yahoo.com

**Bellyfit**

Tuesday, 6-7 p.m., Studio 2;
Rand Robinson-Saer
randirobinson@mac.com

Dancehall PowerUp
Thursday, 8:30-9:30 p.m., Studio 3
LaToya Bufford, tobybufford15@yahoo.com

Motivational Aerobic Dance Exercise
Monday/Wednesday, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Studio 1 • Kia: keynorrisfitness@gmail.com

Zumba
Friday, 6-7 p.m. & Sunday, 11-noon, Studio 2
Abraham Contreras, pakko.zumba@yahoo.com

Weight Watchers
Thursday, 9 a.m., Noon, 6 p.m.
Saturday, 9 a.m., Room 10 • 304-751-9411

All Levels Pilates Mat Class
5:30 p.m., Mondays, Studio 1
152 drop in • 956-0876

Zumba Gold — **NEW!**
Tuesday/Thursday, 4:45 p.m. [50 min class]
richard@tworiversdancecenter.com

**YOGA**

Iyengar Yoga
Tuesday, 10-11 a.m. • Studio 1
Gladyss Callander, 693-5246

**MARTIAL ARTS**

Eagle Claw Kung Fu Academy of Sacramento
Wednesday, 6-7 p.m. 447-7215
Saturday, 12:30-2 p.m., Studio 2

Sacramento Sword School
Martial Sword Arts of Europe
Thursday, 6:15-8:15 p.m., Studio 2
Maestro Eric Myers, 217-2247

Unified Chinese Martial Arts
for schedule, e-mail Shifu Byron at Lohan696@boglobal.net

Beginning Tai Chi
10 a.m., Sundays, 9 a.m., Wednesdays
Studio 3, 510-615

**OTHER**

The Playground: An Improv Community
7-9 p.m., Wednesdays, Room 9
battlesaidabron.com, 573-0301

Meet the Doulas
Sunday, Oct. 22
2:5-9 p.m., Room 10

capitalcitydoulas.squarespace.com

Cochlear Community Meetings
10:30 a.m.–1 p.m. • Oct. 17, Room 10
6:30–8:30 p.m. • Nov. 16, Curtis Hall
Cochlear.com/US/events

Know Thyself as Soul — Meditation
1st Sunday of the month, 1-4 p.m. • Curtis Hall
knowthyselfsoul.org

Marist School of Sacramento
Guest Speaker Lecture
7-9 p.m.
Oct. 19, Room 12
Oct. 26, Room 9

Marist School of Sacramento
SpiriTual ServiceS
Sundays, 10:30 a.m–12:30 p.m., Room 10

**CHILDREN**

**MUSIC**

Nashville Songwriters Association
2nd Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Room 12
Free • Gabrielle Kennedy; 476-5703

Japanese Taiko drumming
Tuesday, 7-9 p.m., Room 13
Katry Oshiro, katryoshiro@gmail.com

**SPIRITUAL SERVICES**

Sacramento Native American
Believers Fellowship
Sundays, 10:30 a.m–12:30 p.m., Room 9
Pastor Dorothy Hayes, 213-0901

Good Shepherd Parish
Sundays, 9:30 a.m–12:30 p.m., Room 12
Contact: Mother Elizabeth English; 502-6773, GoodShepherdCommunity.org

Empowerment Theological Seminary
Mondays, 6-9:55 p.m., Room 9
empowermenttheologicalseminary.com

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**If you dream it, Emmett can build it!**

With 45 years experience, we specialize in older homes!
Pilates with Lauren is popular senior fitness class

By Katie Byram
Sierra 2 staff

The Pilates with Lauren class offered through the Wellness Program is one of the most popular fitness classes at the Sierra 2 Senior Center. It’s not hard to figure out why: Pilates exercise has major benefits for people of all ages.

Pilates is a method of exercise designed by Joseph Pilates to balance the body while promoting mental awareness. Through a series of exercises paired with a deep focus on breath, Pilates helps to strengthen and stretch the body.

The benefits of an effective Pilates program are wide, reaching from strengthening muscles, specifically in the deep abdominals and back, to muscular and mental coordination. One benefit many practitioners report is being acutely in tune with their body after starting Pilates. When practiced properly, Pilates is very safe. It is often used in physical therapy to rehabilitate injuries.

Students joining instructor Lauren may not sweat used in physical therapy to rehabilitate injuries. When practiced properly, Pilates is very safe. It is often used in physical therapy to rehabilitate injuries. Lauren is a BASI-certified mat and apparatus instructor with more than four years of teaching experience. She loves supporting individuals looking to achieve a healthier lifestyle, both mentally and physically.

The hour-long class meets on Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m. and Fridays at 10:30 a.m. in Studio 3. Lauren also teaches an all-levels mat class on Mondays in Studio 1 at 5:30 p.m. as well as with Sac Pilates.

All students should bring yoga mats to class and dress in comfortable clothes for bending and flexing.

New participants can try the class for a drop-in fee of $10. Wellness Program punch cards are also available at $35 for 5 classes and $60 for 10 classes. Visit the Sierra 2 Center office to purchase cards.

For more information about the Pilates class, you may get in touch with Lauren at laurenl@sierra2.org.

Schenirer’s message

Taking a moment to reflect on the joys of our wonderful neighborhood

Last month, I was fortunate enough to take some time off and vacation with my family. I had both my boys and their significant others travel from Washington, D.C., and Seattle to join Bina and myself on a six-day bike ride originating in Burlington, Vermont. We rode through the small cities and farmland of Vermont, into Canada and finally ended in the province of Quebec. We were on the ride with four couples from San Diego and one couple from New York City, and all shared a great deal about where we came from and our own communities.

While the ride was physically beautiful (and difficult), and I was appreciative of the small community we constructed with our new friends along the way, there was a lot of time for reflection of how much we have to be thankful for in Sacramento, and specifically in our own Curtis Park Neighborhood.

Over the years, Curtis Park has built a great and caring community. Its human and physical assets make it a wonderful place to live. We have a terrific neighborhood association and leaders who care deeply about our neighborhood’s future and devote enormous time and effort into ensuring that Curtis Park remains a great place to live and raise a family.

Yes, sometimes we disagree, but it is always with our hearts in the right place. We have leaders who organize terrific community events, including Music in the Park, Curtis Fest, Movie Nights, the Home Tour and the upcoming food and wine tasting event — all meant to bring us closer together.

We have a beautiful park that is well used not only by our own neighborhood, but also by those around us. And we have neighborhood treasures like Gunther’s Ice Cream and Pangaea Beer Cafe where we can gather to eat the best ice cream in Sacramento and share excellent food and drink.

I am proud and honored to represent Curtis Park and just wanted to say thank you for the opportunity. As always, I am happy to meet and discuss the issues facing our neighborhood and city, or just share an ice cream or a beer. I can be reached at schenier@cityofsacramento.org or (916) 808-7005.

Schenier

Silva Wilson

Sierra 2 Senior Center

The Senior Center is open to all seniors (age 55 and up). It is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday in Room 12 of Sierra 2. The center provides opportunities to keep learning, exercise, meet new people and be actively involved with neighbors. Free (donations accepted) and fee-based classes and activities are on the calendar.

Sierra 2 2nd Senior Center

Last Friday of each month, Noon-2 p.m.
Potluck

members) Register: Jim Finnegan, 804-9777

AARP Driver Safety Program

9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 2nd Monday Oct. 9: Not My Father’s Son by Alan Cumming

Nonfiction Book Club

11:30 a.m. –12:30 p.m., 2nd Monday
Oct. 9: “ wirklich legig” by JD Vance

Film Club

30-45 min., 3rd Tuesday
Oct. 16: Call for title Donation: $3-10 (includes popcorn)

Memory and Mind Club

9:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Thursdays (except the Third Thursday), Room 12

Beginning Drumming

7–8:30 p.m., Tuesdays, Room 9

October 2017

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
30-45 min., 5 classes
Pat Shaw: 856-0316

Full Pilates

10:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m., Tuesdays/Thursdays
4 classes $20; 8 classes/$33
Pat Shaw: 856-0316

LEISURE

Book Club

10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 2nd Monday
Oct. 9: Nothing to Lose by Helen MacDonald

New Series. “Wonders of Other Suns” by Isabel Wilkerson

Open Art Studio

Noon–3 p.m., Friday, Room 11

EDUCATION

Grief & Loss Support Group

9:30–11 a.m., 1st and 3rd Fridays, Room 12

Computer Classes:

Oct. 16: Internet & Email
Nov. 20: Security

3rd Mondays (unless otherwise noted).
2–4 p.m., Room 12. Cost: $20/class. Please sign up in advance; no laptop necessary.

CARDS & GAMES

Mahjong

9:30 a.m.–noon, Mondays

Fun Bridge

1–4 p.m., Thursdays

Finchle

1–3 p.m., Fridays

WELLNESS PROGRAM

10-class punch card $60
5-class punch card $35. Drop-ins $10
Purchase cards in the Senior Center or Sierra 2 office

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 in the Park

10 a.m., Tuesdays, Room 12

Fitness Walking & Lessons

9 a.m., Thursdays
Lesson: Prepare price: Walking: Free...
SCNA continues treatments to protect English elms

By Dan Pskowski

The Curtis Park neighborhood has lost five elms to Dutch elm disease this season. Dutch elm disease is a vascular wilt disease that causes the sudden wilting of leaves and can turn the entire canopy brown in just a few weeks. The disease is always fatal and there is no cure.

Elms are commonly infected in two ways: Elm bark beetles come from an infected elm and spread the fungal spores as they feed on healthy elms; or fungi are transmitted through roots that are grafted to an adjacent elm.

Hundreds of English and American elms have been removed in Sacramento since the summer of 1990, when Dutch elm disease was first confirmed in the city.

Control requires a lab test to confirm the disease, prompt removal and proper disposal of the wood. A decade ago, SCNA acted to prevent the loss of all the English elms after Dutch elm disease caused the removal of several large English elms in Curtis Park. In 2007-08, SCNA appropriated money to treat 17 elms with the fungicide Arboritech 20:50. Dutch elm disease must be treated before the disease is present in the tree. The fungicide treatment is required every three years.

In late June, 11 English elms at the north end of Curtis Park were treated at a cost of about $880 per elm. One English elm in this group, due to declining health, wasn’t treated and will be scheduled for removal this fall.

Five elm trees in the two park areas adjacent to Donner Way were scheduled to be treated in August. However, those treatments were postponed due to concerns about the structural integrity of the elms. SCNA did not want to treat elms that might be removed.

More than 100 volunteers are monitoring the elms throughout the city for Dutch elm disease. When symptoms are spotted, the elm is turned into Urban Forestry, which submits samples to the California Department of Food and Agriculture for disease verification.

Since the cost to treat elms continues to rise, SCNA will be exploring ways to raise money to continue the treatments.

Please contact me with your suggestions at danielpskowski@gmail.com.
Labor Day tradition includes celebrating a 90th birthday

By Craig McCulloch
Viewpoint Staff

Alan Wade celebrated his 90th birthday at a 25th Street neighborhood annual gathering Sept. 3. A retired CSUS professor, Alan reviews legislation that may impact retired state university faculty. He also plays handball twice weekly and enjoys kayaking on local lakes. Alan is past president and now secretary of the Save the American River Association.

Photo/Craig McCulloch

With experience in history, de Courcey family tackles home restoration

By Erik Fay
Viewpoint Staff

Sean, Meg and Brianne de Courcey, along with their three cats, moved to 10th Avenue about a year ago from Oak Park after discovering they needed additional space because of Brianne’s birth.

Their house is designed in the Colonial Revival style. They began the restoration of many of the original architectural features of the house immediately after moving in. Sean has done plumbing, restoration to the white oak floors, restoration of the original wood shutters, wallpaper removal, re-landscaped the front yard, and prepped the house exterior for painting. They are currently working on the restoration of the home’s original 26 wood sash windows.

Meg and Sean both have extensive education and experience in history, historic preservation and city planning, so it is no surprise that they live in our historic neighborhood. They met while doing work for the proposed Power House Science Museum. Sean was responsible for the nomination of the existing structure to the National Registry of Historic Places. He is currently the vice president of Preservation Sacramento.

Meg works in environmental review for Sacramento County. Sean works for the California Energy Commission as a cultural resources planner. Sean is originally from Ben Lomand, Calif., and Meg is from Arlington, Va.

Meg and Sean are very enthusiastic about Curtis Park and their house. They love the quiet street, the historic homes, close access to the park, and their great neighbors.
Bret Harte news

New combined class of kindergarteners, first-graders

By Adriana Gonzalez  
Viewpoint staff writer

Now this year at Bret Harte Elementary is a kindergarten and first-grade combination class, known as “K/1 split.” This year’s class has 14 kindergarteners and eight first-graders. The kindergarteners and the first-grade students will follow their own separate academic curricula and will maintain their regular bell schedules, which allows for one-on-one time with their teacher, Steve Peterson, in the morning and the afternoon.

The first-graders start school an hour before the kindergarten class and get out an hour after the kindergarteners. The kindergarteners will also get a peek into the music program from being in a split class because music is only offered starting in the first grade. The K1 split class is exciting news for the school because it means the school is growing.

Also new at Bret Harte is a pre-K autism class. The new program is funded and supported through the city school district’s special education department. The program will serve children ages 3-5 within the surrounding community.

New teachers have been trained to work with students with autism and will help the students acclimate to a school environment.

Students will learn basic school activities such as following a schedule, listening to direction, learning how to play and interact with their peers in addition to other preschool academic standards. The 3-5 program is intended to strengthen and support the current primary program for first-, third-grade and intermediate fourth- through sixth-grade students with autism.

For more information about the program at Bret Harte contact Sacramento City School Unified School District Special Education Department at 916 643-9174.

Artists show off to neighbors at Curtis Fest

Children enjoyed the petting zoo and face painting, and grownups sampled the food and listened to music in between visiting the vendors’ displays. Crafts varied from handmade to commercial art.

Photos/Heather Hogan

Designer: Focus is balance of aesthetics and practicality

(Continued from page one) and hands-on learning, including accompanying the instructor to several homes to assist with furniture and art arrangement and other aspects of redesign.

It’s easy to see why Ferguson’s home has twice been part of the Curtis Park Home & Garden Tour. She has lived in her 26th Street home for almost 30 years and, during that time, she has devoted herself to designing her space in a style she considers eclectic and French-focused. She possesses a talent for arranging things with an emphasis on balancing between aesthetics and practicality. Ferguson notes that every client has different needs, and “It is very important to understand how each room will be used by the client.”

One particular favorite of Ferguson’s is to transform bookcases and mantels from simply utilitarian to artistic and meaningful. In her living room, one section of a bookcase displays small wooden planes, hand-carved by her father, atop a vintage copy of Charles Lindbergh’s autobiography. She is especially fond of designing kids’ rooms and has created home accessories for her friends’ children that have been cherished and saved a long time after the children grew up.

In addition to her redesign services, Ferguson creates lovely handmade works of art available at artisan markets in the near future. People interested in artisan markets in the near future.

Pre-K split class is exciting news for the school because the children grew up.

In addition to other preschool academic standards. The 3-5 program is intended to strengthen and support the current primary program for first-, third-grade and intermediate fourth- through sixth-grade students with autism.

For more information about the program at Bret Harte contact Sacramento City School Unified School District Special Education Department at 916 643-9174.

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