Hello, Viewpoint

40 years ago, neighborhood in transition needed a chronicle

By Dennis Renault

My wife, Marty, and I knew right off the bat that Curtis Park was going to be our home when I landed the job of political cartoonist for McClatchy Newspapers in Sacramento in 1972.

The community people, the character of its homes, the park and the small elementary school were all welcoming signs. Additionally, it's an easy bike ride to downtown employment at public or private jobs.

Younger couples were moving into the area, fixing up homes built in the 1920s and 30s that had been in decline — some recently with original owners. The 1970s were a time of change, but who would record it and why? Hello, Viewpoint.

Also in decline were two significant landmarks, first the 1923 Sierra School, with its two stories of broken windows and leaking roofs, which had closed because of the earthquake risk and was being considered by the state for a Department of Motor Vehicles parking lot. Second, the Western Pacific Railroad yard, dating from early in the 20th century, was causing serious health concerns for the neighbors. Hello, again, Viewpoint.

There was no place to go but up and there was nobody to chronicle this transformation except a little monthly publication that would initially be printed on an old mimeograph machine at a helpful neighbor's office and distributed free by volunteers. Other volunteers wrote stories profiling their neighbors and their families, reported on the evolution of the old elementary school into the Sierra 2 Center for Arts and the Community, and then described fundraising activities such as the annual Home Tour and the Pickle Family Circus — plus a lot of parties in the former school's cafeteria.

The effort to save the school building led to the creation of a neighborhood group, initially called Sierra School Neighborhood Association and later Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association. Neighborhood leaders encouraged residents to participate in decisions at both community and municipal levels. With a residential population of folks working at legislative, municipal, academic, construction and media jobs, in addition to shop owners, sales people, other employees and retirees, the organization developed a talented volunteer workforce to support the neighborhood and its concerns.

After 40 years of Viewpoint delivery, neighbors can likely add to their own list of things this little newspaper has represented in print.

To all those neighbors who work or have worked on this powerful little newspaper collecting news, writing and editing the stories, displaying them in an attractive manner, distributing monthly copies to front porches and selling advertising space — Happy Fortieth Anniversary, Viewpoint, and many, many more to come!

Dennis Renault, now living in Monterey, was the first editor of Viewpoint and the catalyst to motivate neighbors to develop what he calls "a truly neighborhood newspaper."

Excerpts from four decades of our neighborhood publication

1979 Douglas DeVries: "As president of SSNA and as your neighbor, I take great pride in the fact that this neighborhood now has an organization to represent it in dealing with city and school district matters affecting our daily lives, such as retention of Sierra School for community purposes." (July)

“Sacramento did a terrible thing when they took out the electric trolleys,” says Mrs. Mathews of Fifth Avenue, who used to take the streetcar to work every day at McClellan Field in 1945, when the tracks ran up and down Fifth Avenue. (July)

1984 SCNA President Mark Helmar wrote to U.S. Rep. Robert Matsui expressing resident concerns about the termination of the post office at 2527 21st St. (October)

Sacramento Union reporter Anne Richards, a former Viewpoint staffer, still faces the possibility of jail as this issue went to press. She refused to turn her notes over to the defense in the death-penalty trial of James M. Macllnnes. (December)

1985 City Councilman Joe Serna will chair a citizens advisory committee that will work with city planners and the Union Pacific Railroad in designing a plan for development of the railyard. (May)

Former SCNA board president Carol Conti will be acting executive director of Sierra 2 for a few months. Her appointment by the board followed the resignation Sept. 18 of former executive director Carol Ann Reyner. (November)

1986 Community review of the proposed agreement between the City of Sacramento and the Union Pacific Railroad continues to move forward with a focus on how the agreement can be revised to protect neighborhood residents and the city from potential toxic substances hazards that may exist on the railroad acreage slated for urban re-development. (July)

1987 Councilman Joe Serna reported that a jogging track has been approved for Curtis Park. The proposed track will cost the City of Sacramento approximately $112,000, with projected completion date expected in 1988. (April)

Cable television service will be coming to Curtis Park just in time for Christmas. The monthly cost ranges between $2 and $51. Installation is another $30. The “basic” service, which offers 40 channels, can be bought monthly for $14.50. (October)

1988 The Union Pacific Railroad was allowed to remove 17,000 gallons of waste oil from a sump north of the main building area. The waste oil was transported to a waste oil recycler in Bakersfield. (March)

A number of SCNA board members expressed concerns regarding the noise, traffic, trash and vandalism that accompanied the Pink Floyd concert in Hughes Stadium. (June)

1989 Curtis Park home prices are some of the fastest rising in the Sacramento area real estate market. A home on Ninth Avenue purchased 2½ years ago for $80,000 sold recently for $120,000. (June)

Sierra 2 Executive Director Carol Conti moves on this month to a similar position at the YWCA at 17th and L streets. (June)

(Continued on next page)
Abandoned Sierra School prompted creation of neighborhood association

By Mark Helmar

Forty years ago, Sierra School had been abandoned because of the seismic safety law for schools. The Sacramento City Unified School District contemplated disposing of the property. Rumors in the neighborhood included a low-income housing project or a parking lot for the Department of Motor Vehicles.

A few concerned residents gained access to the school and were appalled at its sad condition – broken windows, water damage, structural deterioration and general disrepair. Undaunted, they recruited other neighbors to assess what could be done. Working with the school district and the city, these neighbors spearheaded a community effort to save the school from the wrecking ball.

Volunteers began cleaning up and repairing the classrooms, offices and corridors in the old building. With architectural and construction input, they transformed the Sierra School auditorium into the 300-seat 24th Street Theatre.

These efforts led to the formation of the Sierra School Neighborhood Association. SSNA became responsible for leasing the property – still owned by the school district – staffing the building and finding suitable tenants to rent the classrooms and other spaces, thus transforming the abandoned school into the Sierra 2 Center for Arts and Community.

SSNA focused on arts-related and community service organizations for Sierra 2. Early tenants included Matrix Women Artists, Capital City Ballet, Braille Transcribers, Italian Cultural Society, First Step Nursery School and At Six restaurant. Curtis Hall and the Green Room (now the Garden Room) were available to rent for individual or group meetings, parties and receptions.

SSNAs southern boundary originally was Donner Way. When several residents living around Curtis Park asked to join SSNA, its board agreed to extend the boundary to Sutterville Road and the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association came into being.

Besides operating the Sierra 2 Center, SCNA has tackled many issues of community concern. Periodic traffic problems required working with the city’s traffic engineers to mitigate adverse impacts on neighborhood thoroughfares. The railyard brought light and noise problems when “Trailers on Flat Cars” began loading operations in the late night and early morning hours. And SCNA played an active role in the decades-long process of cleaning up the toxic wastes in the railyard.

SCNA also sought ways to improve the neighborhood. Promoting the health of trees in the neighborhood and park and planting replacements became a priority. Fundraising efforts twice featured hosting San Francisco’s Pickle Family Circus for a weekend of madcap performances, with thousands of dollars raised for a playground on the Sierra 2 Green.

In addition to fundraising, SCNA sponsored “fun raising” events like the Pumpkin Toss contest. Amateur “propulsion engineers” showcased machines to fling pumpkins the farthest distance. The record toss ended up going over the Sierra 2 Green fence into the adjoining street.

Today, SCNA continues to build upon the legacy of community service and improvement started four decades ago. SCNA events have expanded to include wine tastings, arts and crafts sales, Music in the Park and home tours.

Traffic problems and tree issues will always need attention. And providing thoughtful input to the city on matters such as the build out of Crocker Village or the siting of a homeless shelter will continue to be the hallmark of SCNA.

Mark Helmar of Rochon Way was on the SCNA board during the 1980s and was president in 1984. He and his wife, Sharon, and sons Jason and Jacob were involved in planning and participating in all of the renovations, events and meetings to develop and maintain Sierra 2.

1990 SCNA endorsed the closure of Sixth and Seventh avenues between East Curtis Drive and West Curtis Drive in response to increasing levels of drug and gang activity. (February)

The owner of La Scala Café at Sierra 2 has given notice of intent to sell or close the business by June 30. (April)

SCNA will renovate Curtis Hall, the old Sierra School cafeteria. The total cost is estimated at $250,000. (May)

1991 Railyard excavation brings new findings: more asbestos still remains in subsurface. (February)

New carpet, padded seats, air conditioning and a sound monitor system are being installed in the 24th Street Theatre. (April)

The Union Pacific Foundation grants $5,000 to SCNA to help in renovating Curtis Hall and Courtyard. (May)

Figaro’s Courtyard Café is now open at the former location of La Scala in the Sierra 2 Center. (October)

SCNAs first Wine Tasting fundraiser, “Sample the Sierras,” was a success. More than 300 people attended, raising $3,000. (November/December)

1992 Sierra 2 Center and 24th Street Theatre have been tagged with graffiti in 13 places. (April)

The closure without warning of First Street daycare has stunned parents, who are scrambling to find other arrangements. (October)

1993 Two new cafes are about to open at Second Avenue and 24th Street: New Helvetia South and Café Milagros. (July)

Daily Grind coffee boutique will open in Sierra 2 in space vacated by Figaro’s Courtyard Café. (August)

1994 The Sacramento City Unified School District is considering the sale of Sierra 2, which could bring $1.5 million to the district. It is one of four sites considered to help pay for a new administration building at 520 Capitol Mall. Sierra 2 costs the district $20,000 a year to maintain. (February)

SCNA continues on the location of Curtis Park playground site. A meeting discussed plans and need: the 1990 Census shows 760 kids under 13 live in Curtis Park, an increase of 35% since the 1980 Census. (September)

1995 A March 10 windstorm knocked down a huge elm tree in Curtis Park – probably more than 100 feet tall. (April)

Rosalie Asher has lived since 1927 in the home her father built at 26th Street and Third Avenue. She remembers the potbelly stove that warmed the old two-story Highland Park School across 24th Street from Sierra School. (October)

1996 The playground project receives $65,000 from city bond measure; neighbors have raised $15,000 to date. (May)

A Montgomery Way heritage oak tree, thought to be the oldest oak in Sacramento, is cut down because of extensive root damage. (October)

The Breat Harte School pancake breakfast raises $6,000 for library and classroom supplies; 1,600 attended. (November)

1997 Leita Carley Cutter dies at age 99. Her late husband, Curtis H. Cutter, joined with her father, James C. Carley, to subdivide and develop Curtis Park. (March)

Neighbors have turned a vacant lot into a community organic vegetable garden at 2872 Marshall Way. (June)


Union Pacific Railroad refuses to clean up the majority of railyard contamination. UP wants city approval to build condos on soil so polluted that homeowners would be prohibited from gardening. (December)

1999 Neighbor Genevieve Shiroma is sworn in as a member of the SMUD board. (February)

The city removed a Fourth Avenue tree infected with Dutch elm disease, the first discovered in the neighborhood since 1992. (July) Another infected tree on 11th Avenue was removed. (September)

The Switchin’ Yard benefit concert netted $4,500. Maria Muldaur headlined the July 17 concert to benefit efforts to monitor railyard development and fund potential legal action. (September)

(Continued on page 11)
President’s message

NextDoor is a place we must be neighborly

By Andi Liebenbaum
SCNA Board President

Most days, NextDoor restores my faith in humanity. Often, the first posts of the day are my neighbors asking for advice on home repairs, improvements and maintenance, or trying to connect pets, pictures and other items with their missing humans, or posting funny cat memes.

Many times, NextDoor allows neighbors to look out for one another, warning of police activity, sharing cooling shelter information on excessively hot days, and providing personal safety tips. NextDoor helps neighbors find work, helps friends find housing, shares dates and locations for trainings, classes and other opportunities for fun and self-improvement.

Most of the time, NextDoor works as designed. Most of the time I feel my NextDoor neighbors genuinely care about me and all members of the community. At those times, NextDoor works as a network for good people trying to be nice to and for one another.

There is also a less kind side to NextDoor. While it doesn’t come out often, mean words sting when our NextDoor neighbors vilify one another for differences of opinion.

NextDoor is and should continue to be a place where reasonable neighbors can disagree and share their differences. Disagreement, like diversity, enriches us and gives us opportunities to learn and be exposed to people, ideas and experiences different from our own. But sometimes NextDoor neighbors start insulting one another for their differences, and once the insults begin, the NextDoor “neighborhood” breaks down.

On one recent thread, the conversation transitioned from “our dog is missing” to “check Front Street Shelter” to “I bet the homeless stole him.” I am aware that a homeless person could have an animal that belongs to one of my neighbors. The issue, from my perspective, wasn’t that the thought that a person who is homeless might have taken the pet. It was the derision that the words imply, that only homeless people steal our pets.

I recently was on the “giving” end of mean-spirited words, and when the people I attacked shared their hurt and concern with me, I was disappointed in myself and pledged to do better. I’m fortunate that my neighbors were willing to speak with me, to expose their disappointment, and to trust that I truly would prefer to be a nicer person.

I hope all of us would choose to be nice. The world is harsh enough, and our NextDoor neighbors should be people we can talk to with civility and respect, even when we disagree.
Sword school at Sierra 2 offers historical European martial art

By Craig McCulloch

Neighbors may have seen two men fencing on Saturday mornings around 10 a.m. on the basketball court behind Sierra 2. They are usually dressed in the full regalia of equipment with face masks, fencing jackets for chest protection, heavy gloves and blunted sword tips.

They are students at the Sacramento Sword School at Sierra 2. The school website says, “Our focus is the study of traditional and historical European sword combat of the 16th through 19th centuries. We study historical knowledge and perspective, and use our collective fencing, martial arts, research and teaching experience to bring these arts to life.”

The school’s two owners and instructors are Eric Myers and Puck Curtis. Both are certified as masters at arms in classical Italian fencing through the San Jose State University masters fencing program. Both also studied martial arts in the Spanish and Portuguese traditions.

“The sport is more like an advanced game of tag,” Eric Myers said. “You try to hit your opponent, while minimizing your risk of a cut. Training involves the use of scientific analysis, and exercise of both the mind and body, with strategic moves like the game of chess.”

Classes are held weekly from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Thursdays in Studio 2 in the Dance Wing. Classes are $60 per month and have about six to 15 enrolled students. The minimum age is 14 with students up to 70 years encouraged.

For more details: sacramentoswordschool.com.

Pet Supplies Plus plans furry summer block party

By Mindy Giles

The new Pet Supplies Plus store leapfrogged Sutterville Road at the end of April and is now adjacent to the new Safeway store in Crocker Village.

The expanded space allows a wider brand selection of food and pet supplies, plus live animals, fish and more exotic pets, including gerbils, ferrets, rats, guinea pigs, dwarf hamsters and snakes.

With more than 10,000 square feet and 11 employees, the store has a wider selection of tools for handling the bustle of Crocker Village city living: calming collars, diffusers, sprays and balms.

Store team leader Deidre Dell is particularly proud of the store’s Sunday adoption outreach. “We now offer adoptions of both cats and dogs with our partnered organization, All Creatures Animal Rescue,” based in Rancho Cordova.

Michelle Wildman, left, of Pet Supplies Plus, greets the store’s first “customer,” Bear, accompanied by his owner, Kendra Nickel-Nguy.

ACAR focuses on animals left homeless after their owners died or moved out of their home. ACAR is committed to supporting anyone who needs to re-home a pet for any reason.

VIP PetCare services are still offered, including flea and tick control, vaccinations, heartworm prevention, microchipping, testing, deworming and nail trims. Dell notes the store will soon offer full training courses for puppies and adult dogs.

In July, on a date yet to be determined, there will be “a summer block party for those positively hot fur babies out there,” Dell says. “There is no cost. Neighbors should keep an eye on their e-mail as we have not picked a day yet. All our events are free and are held in our community room. We will be serving pup frozen yogurt and have free goodies to give away. We also feed the humans too.”

City College accommodates needs of homeless students

By Craig McCulloch

Homeless issues continue to be a topic of frequent posts on NextDoor.com. Many focused on planning for the shelter proposed by Councilmember Jay Schenirer near Alhambra Boulevard and Broadway.

This location has not yet been approved by City Council, pending further state funding. A preliminary site analysis of the site has begun.

Sacramento City College has approved allowing homeless City College students to sleep in their cars on campus and to use nearby unlocked shower and bathroom facilities on campus 24 hours a day. There is pending state legislation (AB 302) to enact such accommodations into law for community colleges statewide. A student needs to be in good standing, currently enrolled, with all fees paid to qualify.

Summer camps

A neighbor posted a query for information about summer camps for kids. About 35 responses were received with many camps recommended. Camp Sacramento, the YMCA, Sac State Aquatics Center at Lake Natoma and Soil Born Farms were each mentioned at least twice.

A new parent resource for summer camps was started in March called www.simplesummers.com. It contains more than 700 camps with selections by the child’s age, interests, price and dates. It is free to use.

3 finalists for name of Crocker Village park

The three finalists for the name of the new city park in Crocker Village are Rivert Park, Petrovich Family Park and Ray Eames Park.

All three names will be forwarded to the city’s Parks and Community Enrichment Commission. The public may attend the commission meeting at 6 p.m. Aug. 1 in City Council chambers and speak in support of any of the proposed park names.

The commission will recommend a park name to City Council for approval in late August or September.
Senior Center offers new classes this summer

**Figure drawing**
Instructor and local artist Joel Smith will teach participants how to work with live models, draw gestures, contour lines and lay-in drawings, and will provide tips on how to shade while working in charcoal. This multi-generational program is offered through the Senior Center, but is open to all who wish to participate.

Beginning Figure Drawing will be held 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Mondays and Wednesdays, July 8-24; in Room 9. The fee is $20 to drop-in or $100 for all six classes. Materials are included. Register by calling (916) 452-3005 ext. 208 or emailing Katie@Sierra2.org.

**Culinary Adventures**
In the mood for a tasty, healthy and planet-friendly meal? Culinary Adventures with Heera has recipes throughout the summer. At 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 23, workshop participants will learn how to make homemade hummus.

Following the hummus tutorial, Heera will demonstrate three homemade salad dressing recipes, including one that is hummus-based. Participants will also enjoy a refreshing green salad with their choice of dressings and snacks. The workshop on Tuesday, Aug. 27 will feature curries with cumin rice and a flavorful dish of curry with potatoes and peas.

Each workshop is $15. Advance registration is required but participants can pay at the door. Register by calling (916) 452-3005 ext. 208 or emailing Katie@Sierra2.org.

**Head Space**
Head Space will meet throughout the summer to discuss a variety of topics that influence mental health outcomes. Everyone can attest to the impact vacation and leisure can have on one's mental health. At Head Space on Monday, July 15, evidence-based information will be shared connecting the dots on how to maximize the benefits of rest and relaxation after vacation is over.

On Monday, Aug. 19, the group will discuss exercise, its benefits, the right workouts to do, how to avoid overdoing it and what happens in the brain and body when you exercise. Instructor Kate facilitates class the third Monday of every month. Wellness Program punch cards are accepted or a $10 drop-in fee applies. Call 916-455-6339 or email Kate (KLauter@sierra2.org) with questions or to register for any class.

---

**Music in the Park concert July 28**

Music in the Park returns from 6 to 8 p.m. July 28 with Dr. Rock & The Stuff. From Delta Blues of the 1920s through the British invasion of the 1960s to the current masters of rock and R&B, Dr. Rock & The Stuff draws from several eras to create a sound that is fresh, yet respectful to musical tradition.

Neighbors can grab a blanket and beach chairs and enjoy a fun-filled evening suitable for the whole family in William Curtis Park.

Mr. Cooper will start the show with dancing songs for kids.

Cook Realty will sponsor face painting and Councilmember Jay Schenirer will dish out free Gunther’s ice cream.

The final Music in the Park concert of the summer will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Aug. 25 following Curtis Fest. On Air, which has been entertaining Sacramento audiences for nearly four decades, will jam the night away with classic rock and sizzling horns.

**Curtis Fest set for Aug. 25**

The 13th annual Curtis Fest Artisan Fair, featuring more than 70 artisans, will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 25 in Curtis Park.

This free event is open to the public.

Food trucks Culinergy, Masa Guiseria, Kado’s Asian Grill and Cowtown Creamery will be present.

Live music will be performed throughout the day at the musicians’ stage.

**Annual Wine Tasting fundraiser scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 12**

The 29th annual Wine Tasting and Silent Auction, one of SCNA’s major fundraising events, will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12, at the Sierra 2 Center.

With more than 20 restaurants, 25 wineries and at least a dozen local breweries participating, guests can anticipate delicious food and drink along with an extensive selection of exciting items in the silent auction.

Look for a new “Early Bird Gets the Worm” early-entry option to be announced online at sierra2.org, in future Sierra 2 Center e-blasts and in the September Viewpoint.

Tickets to upcoming neighbor-hosted dinners will offer unique experiences. A raffle will round out the evening.

Proceeds help to support such community events as the Spring Egg Hunt, Music in the Park and Curtis Fest. Funding is also directed toward local schools that assist with the event.

Tickets will go on sale Aug. 1 at sierra2.org. Call Sierra 2 Center at 916-452-3005 or visit the website for more information. Volunteers, sponsors and silent auction donations are being sought. To get involved, call 916-452-3005.
**CHILDREN**
Capital City Music Together
Children 5 and under.
For schedule: Jennie Ribadeirena, 916 990-3222. capitalcitymusictogether.com

**SPRITUAL SERVICES**
Sacramento Native American Believers Fellowship
Sundays, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Room 10
Lee Aviles, 916 203-6461

Good Shepherd Parish
Sundays, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Room 12
Contact: Mother Elizabeth English 916 502-6773, GoodShepherdCommunity.org

Empowerment Theological Seminary
Mondays, 6-9:55 p.m., Room 9 916 308-7646 empowermenttheologicalseminary.com

True Life Ministries
Sundays, 2:45-4:15 p.m., Room 9
Pastor Grant Harper: 916 382-2885

**OTHER**
Cochlear Community Meetings
6-8 p.m. Aug. 15, Nov. 7 Curtis Hall cochlear.com/US/events

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

**DANCE**
Adult Ballet
Two Rivers Dance Center
Saturdays, Studio 2
10:15 a.m., Ballet 1, 12:30 p.m., Ballet Basics
info@tworiversdancecenter.com

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

Polynesian Dance
Tuesdays, 6-7:30 p.m. Studio 2
alohatrya@aol.com

River City Taps – Adult Tap Dance
See website for class schedules. Studio 1 & 3
www.rivercitytaps.com
richard@rivercitytaps.com

Auntie Amy’s Hula
Thursdays, 3-4 p.m., Studio 1
Amy Cornellier, 916 792-5561

Kalanjali: Dance of India
Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Room 11
510 526-2183, katherine.kalanjali@gmail.com

Tartan Hearts
Scottish Highland Dance
Sundays, 9-11 a.m., Studio 3
tartanhearts@gmail.com
facebook.com/TartanHeartsDance

Moodment Dance Workshops
Saturdays, 2:30-3:30 p.m., Studio 2
moodmentdance.com

Treat Dance Class
Fridays (except the last), 8-9 p.m., Studio 1
Ashley Battle, (916) 399-6474

AfroRhythmz Dance Class
Thursdays, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Studio 1
225 263-1707

**MUSIC**
Nashville Songwriters Association
2nd Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Room 12
Free • Gabrielle Kennedy: 916 476-5073

Japanese Taiko Drumming
Tuesdays, Studio 1 • Youth Ages 7+, 6-7 p.m.
Beginning Ages 9+, 7-8 p.m.
Intermediate, 8-9 p.m.
Kris Oshiro, kristyoshiro.com

**MARTIAL ARTS**
Eagle Claw Kung Fu Academy of Sacramento
Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m. Studio 2
Saturdays, 12:30-2 p.m., 916 441-7215

Sacramento Sword School
Martial Sword Arts of Europe
Thursdays, 6:15-8:15 p.m., Studio 2
Maestro Eric Myers: 916 276-2247

Unified Chinese Martial Arts
Tuesdays, 7:30-8:30 p.m.
Thursdays, 8:15-9:15 p.m.
Saturdays, 9-10 a.m.
Studio 2
Shifu Byron, lohan36@sbcglobal.net

**FITNESS**
Zumba with Toya & Linda
Mondays/Wednesdays, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Studio 2
LaToya Bufford, toybufford15@yahoo.com

Bellyfit®
Tuesdays, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Sundays, 4-5 p.m. Studio 1
randrobinson@mac.com

Dancehall PowerUp
Thursdays, 8:30-9:30 p.m., Studio 3
LaToya Bufford, toybufford15@yahoo.com

**ART**
Glass Mosaic Classes
Saturdays, Noon-3 p.m. Room 11
karensharp51@gmail.com

**YOGA**
Iyengar Yoga
Tuesdays, 10-11 a.m. Studio 3
Gladys Callander: 916 743-0246

**COOK REALTY**
Helping Dreams Come True in the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood since 1974

“For Fine Older Homes and Quality Newer Homes”

www.cookrealty.net
800 450-3148

Buying or Selling
916 451-6702

Property Management
916 457-4907

ESKATON
Transforming the Aging Experience

Eskaton Monroe Lodge
Independent Living with Services
Land Park
916-441-1015

eskaton.org/eml

Discover Independent Living with Services in Land Park at Eskaton Monroe Lodge.
Join Young Actors Stage as your favorite practically perfect nanny takes center stage in this Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious adventure based on the Broadway musical and classic Walt Disney film.

This magical musical includes some of Disney’s most popular classic songs, such as "A Spoonful of Sugar,” “Feed the Birds” and “Let’s Go Fly a Kite.” It is an enchanting mixture of irresistible story, unforgettable songs and breathtaking dance numbers.

THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD

Aug. 16-18 & 22-25

Tickets: $25 general; $20 seniors and students; $15 children 4-12
Group rate for 10 or more $15 per person.

Showtimes and tickets:
lightoperasacramento.com

Gilbert and Sullivan’s sparkling comic opera set in Shakespearean times in the Tower of London during the reign of King Henry VIII. “The Yeomen of the Guard” tells the story of the war hero Col. Fairfax, unjustly framed, imprisoned and condemned to death for sorcery, and the plot hatched by fellow war hero Sgt. Meryll and his daughter, Phoebe, to free him by disguising him as one of the guardians of the Tower itself: the famous Yeomen of the Guard.

MARY POPPINS JR.

Aug. 2-4

Showtimes:
Aug. 2, 7 p.m.
Aug. 3, 10 a.m., 12:30 p.m.
3 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 8 p.m.
Aug. 4, 10 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 3 p.m.

Tickets:
youngactorsstage.com

THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD

Aug. 8: "Sophia Tolstoy"
by Alexander Popoff
Aug. 12: Educated by Tara Westover
Sept. 9: The March by E.L. Doctorow
NONFICTION BOOK CLUB
3rd Thursday, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
July 18: "The Blue Zone Solutions: Eating and Living like the World’s Healthiest People" by Dan Buettner
Aug. 15: Factfulness: Ten Reasons We’re Wrong about the World — And Why Things are Better Than You Think by Hans Rosling
Sept. 19: The Distance Between Us by Rayna Grave

FILM CLUB
3rd Tuesday, 1:30-4 p.m.
July 16: “The Maltese Falcon” (1941)
Aug. 12: "The Sun Also Rises" (1957)

WOMEN’S FRIENDSHIP GROUP
2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Room 11

LIFE HISTORY WRITING
Wednesdays, 1-4 p.m.

OPEN ART STUDIO
Fridays, except the last Friday
Noon-3 p.m., in Room 16

BEGINNING DRUMMING
Tuesdays, 1-2 p.m. Studio 1
Fee: $7 per class or $25 for the month

POTLUCK
Last Friday of the month, Noon-2 p.m.

EDUCATION
FREE FRIDAY—Aug. 16: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
FREE for all seniors in Sacramento. Pick up schedule online or at the Senior Center.

BEGINNING FIGURE DRAWING
Mondays & Wednesdays, July 8-24
10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. in Room 9
Learn drawing techniques with charcoal and live models. Led by artist/instructor Joel Smith. Fee: $50 for all 6 classes or $25 drop-in/class

LEISURE
BOOK CLUB
2nd Monday, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
July 8: "Sophia Tolstoy"
by Alexander Popoff
Aug. 12: Educated by Tara Westover
Sept. 9: The March by E.L. Doctorow

CULINARY ADVENTURES
with Heera Kulkarni
4th Tuesday of each month, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Prices vary by workshop

MY STORY PROJECT
2nd Monday, 1 p.m., and Tuesdays, 1-3 p.m.

AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM
Monday-Tuesday, Aug. 26-27, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
in Room 10. Fee: $15 (AARP members) or $20 (non-members). Register: 916-804-9777

FITNESS
GENTLE YOGA
Wednesdays, 10-11:15 a.m.
Fees: $10/drop-in; $30/4 classes;
$60/8 classes

WELLNESS PROGRAM
Punch cards: $65/$10 classes; $35/$5 classes;
or $10 drop-in. Purchase cards in the office or pay drop-in fee to instructors.

HEAD SPACE
3rd Mondays, 12:30-2 p.m. Room 12

TAI CHI (Beginner, Intermediate & Mixed)
Mondays, 10-11 a.m. Studio 2
11 a.m.-noon Studio 3
Thursdays, 10-11 a.m. Room 12

PILOTES WITH LAUREN
Tuesdays/ Fridays, 11 a.m.-noon in Studio 2

FEEL GOOD YOGA
Tuesdays, 10 a.m. Room 12

STRENGTH AND BALANCE
Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Room 12
& Thursdays in Room 11

ZUMBA TONING W/ KELLY
July 5-Free Class
3rd Mondays, 12:30-3:30 p.m.

PINOCHLE
2nd Monday, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
3rd Tuesday, 1:30-4 p.m.
4th Tuesday of each month, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME
Activities are free except where noted.
(Donations appreciated)
Room 12 • 916 455-6139
seniorcenter@sierra2.org

SIERRA 2 CENTER
For the Arts & Community
Senior Center

Everyone is welcome.
Activities are free except where noted.
(Donations appreciated)
Room 12 • 916 455-6139
seniorcenter@sierra2.org

MARY POPPINS JR.

Aug. 2-4

Showtimes:
Aug. 2, 7 p.m.
Aug. 3, 10 a.m., 12:30 p.m.
3 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 8 p.m.
Aug. 4, 10 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 3 p.m.

Tickets:
youngactorsstage.com

The famous Yeomen of the Guard. Phoebe, to free him by disguising him as one of the guardians of the Tower itself: the war hero Col. Fairfax, unjustly framed, imprisoned and condemned to death for sorcery, and the plot hatched by fellow war hero Sgt. Meryll and his daughter, Phoebe, to free him by disguising him as one of the guardians of the Tower itself: the famous Yeomen of the Guard.

THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD

Aug. 16-18 & 22-25

Tickets: $25 general; $20 seniors and students; $15 children 4-12
Group rate for 10 or more $15 per person.

Showtimes and tickets:
lightoperasacramento.com

Gilbert and Sullivan’s sparkling comic opera set in Shakespearean times in the Tower of London during the reign of King Henry VIII. “The Yeomen of the Guard” tells the story of the war hero Col. Fairfax, unjustly framed, imprisoned and condemned to death for sorcery, and the plot hatched by fellow war hero Sgt. Meryll and his daughter, Phoebe, to free him by disguising him as one of the guardians of the Tower itself: the famous Yeomen of the Guard.
Pet Portraits with Lizzy
Local artist Lizzy Mailho will teach painting techniques while helping to create a personalized portrait of a beloved pet, favorite fur-friend or spirit animal.
No experience is necessary.
**Saturday, July 13, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.**
**Room 11, Fee: $50**

Ceramics: Slab Building & Glazing
Learn to make pottery and sculpt slab mugs and play with glazes and sgraffito techniques—hand decorating by scratching off the top layer of glaze to make contrasting patterns. This is perfect for all levels. All materials are provided.
**Tuesdays, July 16, 23 & 30, 6-7:30 p.m.**
**Room 11, Fee: $80**

Crafts with Karen:
Mini Cactus Paintings
Crafts with Karen features painting cacti on mini canvases. It is great for beginners and kids ages 8 and up. All materials are included.
**Saturday, July 20, 4-6 p.m.**
**Room 11, Fee: $35**

Midsummer Iced High Tea
Celebrate summer by learning about the Scandinavian festive holiday Midsummer at the next High Tea event by The Novel Tea. Guests will start with a Scandinavian comfort food treat while learning about midsummer traditions, and then enjoy three traditional tiers of food while drinking tea and enjoying an afternoon with family or friends.
**Sunday, July 21, 1-3 p.m.**
**Garden Room, Fee: $20/painter**

Kids Paint: Horses and Unicorns
Kids ages 4 and up are invited to paint a majestic horse or magical unicorn. They will pick out their own colors to personalize their painting to create their art. All materials are provided.
**Saturday, July 27, 2-4 p.m.**
**Room 11, Fee: $20/painter**

DIY Pickles
Discover the three P’s of pickling: Preparing your materials; Preparing your ingredients; and Pressurizing your pickles so they will last through the winter. You will also go over a quick pickle or fridge pickle recipe. Some materials are provided but bring your own cucumbers (1/2 pound of fresh produce).
**Sunday, July 28, 2-3 p.m.**
**Garden Room, Fee: $25**

**AUGUST SNEAK PEAKS:**
**Aug. 3:** Crafts With Karen: Llama Air Plant Holders
**Aug. 4:** “Sacramento’s Favorites” High Tea with the Novel Tea
**Aug. 10:** Happy Little Waves Painting Class
**Aug. 17:** Crafts With Karen: Marble Ring Dishes

For more information and to see more listings, visit www.sierra2.org/thelearnery.
Brother, sister graduate

Katie Brown, daughter of Steffan and Carmel Brown of Marshall Way, graduated from UC Santa Barbara with honors in sociology and psychology. She will return to Sacramento while she applies to graduate school.

Mark's brother Kristoffer Brown graduated from the HISP program at CK McClatchy High School. Kris has committed to play soccer at Chico State University, where he will major in business.

Baby changes everything

Nothing's been the same at the Highland Avenue home of Mark and Monica Guyot since son Cruz was born last Oct. 20, weighing 6 pounds, 15 ounces. Now 8 months old, he's the light of his parents' lives.

Mark and Monica moved to Curtis Park four years ago as renters. They loved the neighborhood and the house they were in, and about a year ago they were able to buy it from the owners who lived two doors away. While Mark's family lives on the East Coast, Monica's parents are in the Sacramento area.

Monica works for the San Juan Unified School District as a speech language pathologist. Mark works for McKesson as a pharmacy consultant.

Quieter, pollution-free yard care is coming

Imagine Curtis Park without the daily roar of gas-powered yard equipment – imagine less noise and more opportunity to hear the birds singing, less airborne pollution from leaf dust and a clearer view down the street. The Clean and Quiet Yard Care ad hoc committee established by SCNA in February is on the move toward making this a reality.

Committee members meet regularly to shape a strategy to educate Curtis Park neighbors about the harmful effects of gas-powered equipment and the corresponding health benefits of electric and manual yard care. As new information is found, it is added to the SCNA website: sierra2.org/neighborhood-scna/advocacy/clean-quiet-yard/.

The committee is seeking lawn care providers who use electric and manual equipment. Fresh Air Yard Care tends Curtis Park yards using electric equipment, and this service has been so popular that other providers are needed to meet demand. If you know of an all-electric or manual lawn service, please contact kathy.les321@gmail.com.

Land Park Community Association also is working to inspire that neighborhood's homeowners and the city to move toward cleaner and quieter lawn care for adoption in the city's general plan update.

The two neighborhood associations hope other associations will jointly recommend policies that:
- Offer financial incentives for homeowners and lawn care providers to purchase clean electric equipment;
- Require active city enforcement of the city's noise ordinance;
- Transition the city's own park maintenance program from gas to electric equipment;
- Transition from gas equipment in the next five years on private and public property.

Existing city noise regulations require that gas-powered leaf blowers not be used within 200 feet of a residential property before 9 a.m. or after 6 p.m. Monday to Saturday, and before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m. on Sunday. Also prohibited are leaf blowers that exceed 65 decibels at a distance of 50 feet.

If you are interested in joining the Clean and Quiet Yard Care movement: kathy.les321@gmail.com.
Trees of Curtis Park

There’s hope for trees with structural defects

By Dan Pskowski

A Curtis Park resident recently filed a tree appeal involving a large tree on a neighbor’s property that is healthy but has structural problems. The city’s Urban Forestry section had granted a tree removal permit based on cracks in the main stem about 45 feet up the trunk.

Can a tree with a serious structural defect be preserved? An aerial inspection is required to accurately assess the presence of decay, the depth and the extent of the crack. If this portion of the main stem hasn’t been seriously compromised, then a support system is required to preserve the tree and reduce the risk of limb failure. Support systems for trees such as cabling, bracing, and guying have been in use for more than 50 years.

Cables restrict the distance branches can move and, when installed across two branches with a weak attachment, will greatly reduce the risk of failure. Bracing involves the use of brace rods to fasten together a branch with a split or where two branches have split apart.

When bracing a tree, at least one cable is installed for added support. Guying is the installation of a cable between a tree and external anchor to provide supplemental support.

Unfortunately, most arborists have little or no experience with support systems and recommend removal. Why? Support systems require advanced knowledge in decay detection and analysis. The arborist also needs to ensure that the support system will accomplish its objective of providing additional support without increasing the risk of tree or/and branch failure.

The installation of a support system does require periodic inspections by a qualified arborist. Trees are living organisms and not all potential hazards can be mitigated by the installation of a support system. There are risks associated with trees and no arborist can guarantee the structural integrity of any tree because they are exposed to environmental stresses beyond our control. However, the environmental benefits of trees far outweigh the risks associated with them.

If a resident has a large tree and is concerned about limb failure or its structure, I recommend seeking out an arborist who is qualified in the installation of support systems.

In the District

Measure U funds will address needs of neighborhoods

Summer is here – and we have a city budget for next year. After much public engagement, public comment and discussion, the council approved the 2019-20 budget. This budget uses new Measure U dollars, about $50 million a year, to invest in our neighborhoods with the greatest need.

We will be able to fulfill promises made to communities that have not been kept for many years.

I want to acknowledge and thank SCNA for sending a letter of support for these types of equitable expenditures.

Measure U funding will take multiple approaches. First, about $10 million per year ongoing will support additional code enforcement officers, community service officers, and other infrastructure investments to ensure city services are responsive to our neighborhoods. Second, the city, in collaboration with a newly formed Measure U Community Advisory Committee, will make capital investments with the goal of improving neighborhoods, catalyzing the local economy and creating jobs.

Some examples that I will be proposing for funding in District 5 include building a mercado on Franklin Boulevard (in partnership with the Franklin Boulevard Business Association and County Supervisor Patrick Kennedy), supporting La Familia’s Workforce Opportunity Center across the street from the Maple Neighborhood Center, our MedZone project in Oak Park (in partnership with the Sierra Health Foundation Center for Health Program Management) and our Urban Ag Center in Mangan Park. We will also work with UC Davis to identify potential city investments in the Aggie Square project. Each of these projects, when operational and successful, will boost the economies and create jobs in their respective communities.

By bonding against $16 million of annual debt service, the city will have approximately $250 million in one-time funds to invest in capital projects such as those listed above. This is in addition to $20-30 million that can be invested annually in one-time or ongoing initiatives.

We must invest in our most at-risk neighborhoods. Without question, using the second half-cent for inclusive economic development initiatives will put pressure on our overall budget to ensure we adequately support all of our employees and meet our pension obligations.

The city has contracted with two organizations to offer recommendations for savings and efficiencies. We will get their reports this July, and I look forward to sharing those recommendations with the community for input and City Council consideration.

AFFORDABLE HANDYMAN SERVICE

Garden Maintenance
Pruning/Weeding • Rototilling • Gutter Cleaning
Trimming/Tree & Shrub Removal • Hauling
General Labor • Concrete Removal • Odd Jobs

Call Lester: 916 838–1247
License #128758

REASONABLE – DEPENDABLE – HARDWORKING

FURNITURE REPAIR

Retired Cabinetmaker/Curtis Park neighbor offers:
- Chairs and tables repaired and re-glued
- Missing parts fabricated
- Spindles turned
- Cabinet hardware replaced, or installed on new cabinets
- Onsite or delivery

MARK MANN
(760) 845-1053
mdmann27@gmail.com
call | text | email
Early days are happy blur of fundraisers, cleanup work

By Judy Green Scheible

A long time ago at a place not too far away, my boyfriend and I searched for a bigger home. We’d been living elbow-to-elbow in Land Park. I stumbled onto a large, unloved home on Fourth Avenue in a neighborhood we didn’t know – Curtis Park. We knew no one. It was 1977. Relatively new in Sacramento, we worked a lot and traveled overseas for vacation.

Then we got married and had two sons. That changed life inside and out.

Through my work colleague at The Sacramento Bee, Dennis Renault, I got roped into working on our neighborhood newspaper, Viewpoint. There’s nothing like asking questions as a reporter and editing a newspaper to find out what’s happening. And through my neighbors we got involved in a babysitting co-op and in the newly formed Sierra School Neighborhood Association. My husband, Mike, served on the board.

Many details of those days remain a happy blur of fundraisers, huge flea markets on the Sierra 2 Green, renovating and converting the Sierra School building into Sierra 2 – fixing windows, painting, cleaning, hauling rubbish, etc. – and working with the school district and the city over various school and neighborhood issues.

What initially sparked the neighbors to join forces was the rumor the school and yard were going to become a parking lot for the Department of Motor Vehicles. At the time, DMV employees were parking everywhere in the neighborhood.

As the neighborhood association was developing, there were some fun, creative fundraisers to help pay for the playground and the salaries of the small staff. One of the most memorable efforts was the Pickle Family Circus. The colorful, circular tents were set up on the Sierra 2 Green. There were no animals, but lots of acrobats and clowns. Neighbors living near the park helped with housing, food and other amenities for the performers. All the shows were sold out.

During those early years, neighbors worked together to design and build the first playground. There were many nights when volunteers showed up with shovels and wheelbarrows to push donated cement from Teichert trucks into the forms built for the perimeter, and later to distribute huge piles of sand around the swings and slide. The playground that exists today is the third generation of equipment.

Through all the volunteer teamwork for the wine tasting, home tours and campaigns to persuade the city to help us make our neighborhood a good place to live and play, we all thrived. Our sons joined their friends in summer night street hockey matches on rollerblades, on baseball and soccer teams, skateboarding and picnicking in treehouses and at concerts in the park.

To this day, those early friendships and our commitment to the neighborhood remain solid. We were lucky a long time ago to land in a place not so far away.

Judy Scheible is a retired Sacramento Bee reporter and editor. She has had several tours as editor of Viewpoint over its four decades.

2000 RT progresses toward a new Fourth Avenue light-rail station. The tracks, which are being laid from Meadowview north, are expected to reach Fourth Avenue within a couple months. The line is scheduled to open September 2003. (May)

Dog owners, known as the Sierra Curtis Doggiliary, appeared at the SCNA board meeting to request an expansion of hours for dogs to be exercised at the Sierra 2 Green to 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. (October)

2001 Curtis Park will be part of the first inventory of historic buildings outside the central city. The city approved a second staff position for the inventory project and authorized funding for a survey of neighborhoods with historic buildings, including Curtis Park and Oak Park. (September)

‘Juggling Joe’ is back on top after mains. (March/April)

2002 After 26 years in hiding, the Sierra School sign made a surprise reappearance at the SCNA general meeting. Trey Bonetti learned of the sign’s existence at the most recent reunion of Sierra School graduates. He donated $200 toward the sign’s restoration. (December)

2003 PG&E crews are installing new gas lines in Curtis Park. The goal is to phase out all cast iron and pre-1931 steel distribution mains. (March/April)

The Union Pacific railyard was sold in March to developer Paul Petrovich. (June)

Light rail is up and running. (November)

2004 The application by Petrovich Development Co. to develop the 72-acre railyard was submitted to the city June 1. The proposal calls for 230 single-family homes, 310 multi-family residences, five acres of mixed-use development and an acre of commercial development. A 6-acre park would serve as a storm water retention basin. (July)

Elm trees crush a Fifth Avenue house in 2008.

2005 Old streetlights in Curtis Park are getting a makeover. The lamp bases will be sandblasted, painted and installed on poles with new wiring and 120-watt photovoltaic bulbs that turn themselves on and off. (March)

Following the death of Roz Colletti of 26th Street, an avid participant and supporter of the Senior Center, $1,500 in donations in her memory were received. (March)

2006 Sierra 2 staff member Nathan Cordero found a Native American mortar under the 24th Street Theatre. The discovery may be a 1,000- to 3,000-year-old relic. It was donated to Sacramento State University’s anthropology department for further study. (May)

2007 Curtis Oaks celebrates the 100th anniversary of the first electric streetcar subdivision with the Curtis name. It included the area bounded by Portola Way, Donner Way, 24th Street and Franklin Boulevard. (March)

A project is approved to convert Freeport Boulevard and 21st Street to two-way traffic across the railroad and light-rail tracks at Fourth Avenue and 21st Street. (June)

January storms tear into Curtis Park. Fifth Avenue (near 26th Street) home was crushed by two fallen elm trees. The home was so torn by the trees that the city declared it uninhabitable. The owners were forced to find another place to live until repairs can be made. (February)

Developer Paul Petrovich has removed multi-family housing from plans for Curtis Park Village. He says that including multi-family housing would increase his project costs significantly because he would have to build more affordable housing units. (June)

2009 The SCNA board selected Terri Shettle to be executive director of the Sierra 2 Center. (September)

On Dec. 6, 2009, the tract map was recorded for the West Curtis Oaks subdivision. The 100th anniversary of West Curtis Oaks will be marked next year in support of the Home and Garden Tour with a walking tour map and other historic activities. (December)

(Continued on page 12)
Highland Park came first, then Sierra School

By Dennis Cusick

Take a walk down Donner Way from 24th Street toward Franklin Boulevard. On your left are early 20th-century bungalows, many with second-story entrances. On the right are some of the revival styles of the 1920s: Tudors, colonials and stucco moderns. Keep walking and you'll find houses recently renovated and one built in 1986.

Donner Way, like the neighborhood around it, is a place where changing architectural tastes and technologies have blended together.

For more than a century, people have been building homes in the area, from Victorians to ranch houses, from simple cottages to elaborate mansions.

There is a sense of history to the place. The subdivision names, Curtis and Heilbron, and street names, Portola, Sloat, Donner, Marshall, Curtis, Rochon, Burnett and Markham, recall the state’s and the neighborhood’s pioneers. Four were governors of California: Spanish explorer Gaspar de Portola, the first colonial governor; John Sloat, the first U.S. military governor; Peter Burnett, the first state governor; and Henry Markham, a late 19th century governor.

Mention of the Donner party recalls the extreme hardships early settlers endured. James Marshall discovered gold at Sutter's Mill. And French-Canadian immigrant Napoleon Rochon operated a saloon in the 1870s along what is now Franklin Boulevard.

Most important to the neighborhood was wheat farmer and cattle rancher William Curtis. His farms covered thousands of acres in Sacramento County and in Arizona, but the homestead he called his “Home Farm” included about 200 acres between Portola Way and Sutterville Road, 24th Street and Franklin Boulevard. Just before he died, in 1907, Curtis sold the northern edge of his homestead, what would become Portola Way, Fifth Avenue and the north side of Donner Way, which explains why homes there generally are older than homes on the south side.

Curtis Oaks was by no means the first subdivision in the area. In the late 1880s, Highland Park and Ingram Tract had been laid out south of Broadway (then known as Y Street), between St. Joseph’s Cemetery and Franklin Boulevard.

The advent of a municipal power plant made electric streetcar systems feasible, and Curtis Oaks subdivision plans included streetcar tracks of the Oak Park line down the middle of Fifth Avenue.

The pace of development accelerated with West Curtis Oaks to the west of 24th Street. In 1911, the city and its nearby suburbs – East Sacramento, Oak Park, Highland Park, Curtis Oaks and West Curtis Oaks – voted in favor of annexation.

2010 The 70th anniversary of Gunther’s Ice Cream sparks sweet memories and a street celebration. The first employee, Marjorie Schnaible, 92, says, “I still think the shop serves the best ice cream.” (May)

College Cyclery celebrates its 75th anniversary this year. (June)

2011 The Curtis Hall renovation is nearly done. By mid-January, the project was on schedule for reopening Feb. 4. However, the bathrooms are not expected to be functional until Feb. 18. (February)

The city will begin replacing nearly 100-year-old water mains and installing water meters at the south end of the neighborhood in 2012. (December)

2012 Novelist Eva Rutland, who lived in Curtis Park since 1952, died March 15 at age 95. Daughter Ginger Rutland lives on Donner Way. (April)

Gregg Servis of Seventh Avenue found two dead crows in his yard. When Mosquito and Vector Control tested the birds, both were infected with West Nile Virus. (July)

2013 Construction activity has increased in the Curtis Park Village development, including laying the foundation for Crocker Drive, which will connect the residential area with the commercial area. (November)

2014 BlackPine Communities started construction on new homes adjacent to Curtis Park Village the first week of August. Slab foundations were poured on 12 “cottages” along 24th Street south of 10th Avenue. (September)

2015 In mid-June, the city Planning Commission approved Paul Petrovich’s application for a conditional use permit for a 16-pump gas station in the Curtis Park Village commercial center. (July/August) On Nov. 17, City Council devoted more than four hours to the gas station proposal before voting 7-2 to reject it. (December)

2016 The new senior housing complex in Crocker Village is expected to open April 1 with every apartment taken. More than 200 applications were received for the 90 one- and two-bedroom units. (February)

The resurfacing of Curtis Park’s streets has been in progress since mid-October. Delays were caused by heavy rain in October. Temporary measures have been taken until work can resume. (December)

2017 Long awaited renovations on the 24th Street Theatre continue. First up is replacement of the roof at a cost of $25,000 to $27,000. New seats are expected to cost $85,000, with $40,000 of that from a matching grant. (November)

2018 Crime in Curtis Park has decreased by as much as 50 percent in some categories over the last six years. Robbery, burglary, larceny and drug crimes are all down significantly from 2012 levels. (March)

The state has declared a fresh-produce quarantine for a 123-square-mile area including Curtis Park following the discovery of 15 Oriental fruit flies in the Lemon Hill community in August. (October)

2019 At the membership meeting, Executive Director Terri Shettle announced the Sierra 2 Center and SCNA are financially strong. The meeting was postponed to Jan. 15 because of poor air quality from the Camp Fire in November. (February)

The aisles of the new Safeway store in Crocker Village are named after a number of Curtis Park streets, including Donner Way, Marshall Way, Portola Way and even Moo Alley. The store's opening ceremony was March 5. (April)