

VIEWPOINT

A Publication of the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association

Vol. 33, No. 3

2791 - 24th Street, Sacramento, CA 95818 • 452-3005 • www.sierra2.org

April 2012

Hardwood floors and spacious placement of furniture give this 27th Street Craftsman home an understated elegance.

Photo/Rudy Calpo



Home Tour visitors get the inside stories on Curtis Park homes

Neighbors can expect to jostle for space Saturday, April 28 when the SCNA Home Tour draws hundreds of people to Curtis Park. This year's event will feature six homes and a large Craftsman-turned-school house. There will also be vintage Model A's roaming the streets as well as refreshments, lunch, music and plants for sale at the north end of the Park. One of the tables will feature a historical display.

Home and Garden Tour April 28

Among the foods for sale will be baked goods and lunch offered by Wicked 'Wich and Mama Kim's.

The tour will run from 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

At 1 p.m., Dan Murphy, author of *Sacramento's Curtis Park*, will give a picture presentation on the history of South Curtis Oaks Tracts 4, 5 & 6 (west of the park). His presentation will

take place on the northwest corner of Curtis Park at Donner Way. He's planning to talk about the history of the Western Pacific rail yards (now Curtis Park Village) and development of the 18-acre area known as Curtis Park.

SCNA's Heritage Committee will again provide a walking tour

brochure (a collectible) with photos and descriptions of homes and history of this year's spotlighted area.

The six homes featured on this year's tour, the 26th annual, include Craftsman, Tudor, and Mediterranean styles. Tour goers will also get to walk in the large, restored Craftsman house at Franklin and Donner. The home now houses a child development center.

The featured house is the

Please see TOUR, page 3

Curtis Park could see new or refurbished street lamps

By Nicole Quinonez
Viewpoint staff writer

The City of Sacramento is proposing to replace and refurbish historic street lamps in the southern area of Curtis Park. The South Curtis Street Light Improvement Project would replace 92 street lights from Franklin Boulevard to East Curtis Drive and Sutterville Road to Curtis Way. The city proposes to replace the lamp posts with newly manufactured cast iron reproductions made from the original casts.

The original underground wiring needs replacing to ensure reliable

History walk April 7

A one-hour history walk that will include historic street lights will begin at 1 p.m. April 7 at the north end of Curtis Park by the William Curtis Park sign.

Heritage Committee chairman Dan Murphy will guide the free walk.

lighting in the neighborhood. This created the opportunity to replace lamp posts that are rusting and deteriorating from age. The city assessed the light posts in the project

area and found 22 of the 92 are original. There were six other types as a result of individual replacements.

The city also proposes to refurbish 20 original cast iron posts located between 2nd Avenue, Markham Way and 21st Street. This project would be a chance to compare the cost and efficiency of restoration versus replacement as well as help determine the feasibility of restoration in future projects. The city believes refurbishment would be more costly than replacement because of lead paint mitigation, continued maintenance, a shorter life expectancy

Please see STREET LAMPS, page 2

Beer Week draws crowds to Pangaea

By Craig McCulloch
Viewpoint staff writer

Pangaea Two Brews Café, across the street from Gunther's Ice Cream, buzzed with activity during Beer Week in Sacramento, Feb. 24 to March 4. Each night the cafe featured a different theme of craft beer brews and food. Some nights offered Sacramento or other Northern California brewed beers, with different foods paired to the featured beers.

Among breweries highlighted were the new local Track 7 Brewery, Russian River Brewing Company

and North Coast Brewery in Fort Bragg. Other nights featured imported Belgian beers, which are growing in popularity because of their different flavors and strengths. A few nights featured live music with tickets selling out at \$40 each.

"Beer Week as a great series of events for us, selling out ten out of ten nights and filling almost to capacity," said Rob Archie, owner of Pangaea and former SCNA board member.

"Local restaurants are now featuring more foods to go with the great variety of beer we have available."

Please see BEER, page 3



Hop on over to the Curtis Park Egg Hunt

The 7th annual SCNA Spring Egg Hunt will start with a pajama parade at 9:30 a.m. April 7 at the north end of Curtis Park. Neighbors Dan Murphy and Ed Olkowski will lead the pajama clad youngsters through the neighborhood to the Sierra 2 center for arts and crafts before the egg hunt.

Thanks to our return volunteer Victor Calderon, Mr. Bunny will make his appearance. Volunteers are needed to help with the crafts and activities. If you would like to volunteer: Kara at kleong526@aol.com.

The Egg Hunt begins at 10:30 a.m. in the Sierra Green behind the Sierra 2 center. The Hunt will be divided into three categories; under three years old; ages 3 to 5, and ages 5 and up.

Refreshments will be served for the children. The event is free.

For a \$5 donation, kids can have a 5 x 7 professional photo taken with Mr. Bunny by Eleakis & Elder Photography.



Photo/Judy Harper

FIRST FRIDAY
6 p.m. • April 6
Curtis Hall

Story on page 7

Notes from March 14th meeting

Street Light Replacement Project lights up March board meeting

This month the SCNA board meeting included a neighborhood forum on the city’s proposal to replace and refurbish street lights in the southern part of the neighborhood. The board heard from city staff about the proposal, and Heritage Committee chair Dan Murphy provided comments on behalf of the Heritage Committee regarding replacement versus refurbishment of original street lights. (See story on Page 1.)

Board members asked questions about the proposal, but they will not take a position on the project until the city presents updated cost estimates for the project so it can weigh the cost of

The SCNA Board meets at 7 p.m. in the Garden Room on the second Wednesday of the month. The next regular meeting is Wednesday, April 11.

replacement versus refurbishment of the historic light posts.

Mayoral debate

SCNA will not host a mayoral debate this year, as it has done in the past. While the board is committed to providing a candidate forum with a focus on issues the neighborhood is particularly interested, it was deemed unlikely Mayor Kevin Johnson would participate and the other candidates do not appear to pose a threat to his reelection.

Safety concerns prompt restroom closure

Room 10 restrooms will be closed to all renters, and toilets removed until they can be remodeled to meet current ADA requirements.

Changes at Sierra 2

The Garden Room Courtyard was updated with new tile and, by removing a planter box that bisected the courtyard, the space can now be rented for premier events, such as wedding ceremonies.

The Heritage Committee has submitted a list of historic and area names for rooms at Sierra 2 that the board will consider.

Revenues up from last year

The coffers are sitting higher than this time last year, most likely due to the availability of Curtis Hall, which was closed last year for bathroom renovations.

Upcoming events keep the board busy

The Spring Egg Hunt takes place April 7 (see story, page 1). First Friday is back on its feet. (see menu, page 7). Best Friend Fridays are set for May 11 in the Garden Room and Courtyard; then on June 22 in Curtis Hall.

— Nicole Quinonez, SCNA Secretary

Editorial comment from the SCNA president

We should think critically, not just ‘Big,’ about a new sports arena

I will begin by stating plainly this column reflects my own personal opinion and not that of SCNA. I am deeply concerned about the public financing proposal for a new professional sports arena in Sacramento and the negative impact such a project might have on the city’s capability to perform basic municipal services in the future due to impacts on the general fund. And that will affect Curtis Park.

The city council recently adopted a term sheet outlining the city’s contribution to a new arena that would keep the Kings in Sacramento. Having reviewed both the term sheet and the supporting staff report, I believe a much deeper critical analysis and public disclosure is necessary to justify the incredible public subsidy for this project.

Reports prepared by arena backers predict that a second arena will generate approximately \$7 billion in economic activity over 30 years. The problem with these prospective economic impact reports is that “sports economists nearly unanimously dismiss them as hogwash.” (deMause, Neil, “Why Do Mayors Love Sports Stadiums?” The Nation, July 27, 2011.) Unlike the biased reports prepared

PATRICK SOLURI
SCNA Board President



on behalf of those hoping to profit from development of publicly-subsidized arenas, the vast majority of retrospective studies published in peer-reviewed academic journals finds no economic benefit whatsoever. (Ibid.) One such article concluded:

“There now exists almost twenty years of research on the

economic impact of professional sports franchises and facilities on the local economy. The results in this literature are strikingly consistent. No matter what cities or geographic areas are examined, no matter what estimators are used, no matter what model specification are used, and no matter what variables are used, articles published in peer reviewed economics journals contain almost no evidence that professional sports franchises and facilities have a measurable economic impact on the economy.” (Coates, D., and B. Humphreys, “Do Economists Reach a Conclusion on Subsidies for Sports Franchises, Stadiums and Mega-Events?” International Association of Sports Economists Working Paper Series, Paper No. 08-18 (2008).)

The case for catalyzed economic growth appears even more remote in Sacramento because

it has a sports arena. While the city’s staff report states conclusively that this arena has “outdated design and condition,” it is well known that this characterization is largely based on the fact that it does not provide the “luxury box” and “premiere” services that generate higher revenue for NBA franchises. Moreover, prior claims that the existing arena was inadequate for NCAA tournaments have been recently refuted. In other words, a new arena appears necessary simply because it would allow greater profits to the Kings franchise. Does this justify a public subsidy of more than \$255 million?

Finally, while arena backers would claim that a new arena is necessary because the city does not own the existing arena, this ignores the reality that Sacramento may very well end up with control over that facility if the Kings franchise leaves Sacramento.

I encourage my neighbors to review these authorities and ask for a more critical analysis on the issues raised by them.

Street lamps: New underground wiring a necessity

(Continued from page 1) and complicated construction.

City staff presented the details of the project at the well attended March SCNA board meeting. Heritage Committee chair Dan Murphy suggested it may not be more expensive to refurbish rather than replace a post. Also, the heritage committee presented information suggesting 24 additional lamps within the project boundaries are original and thus should be refurbished instead of replaced.

The city first proposed a similar replacement project for the Land Park neighborhood, which spawned a community effort that derailed the project. Subsequently the city moved on to the McKinley park area and completed a replacement project using aluminum cast replications. This and other street light projects are funded by a street light assessment homeowners already pay into.

In light of the uncertainty regarding the respective costs of replacement and refurbishment,

Councilmember Jay Schenirer proposed that city staff come back to the board with a bid for the replacement project and the refurbishment project for the board to review before voting on the project. The board agreed.



Original streetlight at 2735 Curtis Way from the Home Designer Magazine of March 1923.

VIEWPOINT

| | |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
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| Photography | Judy Harper Rudy Calpo |

Deadlines
Deadline for Viewpoint copy is the 15th of the month. Neighbors who have an interesting story or event in our neighborhood are encouraged to submit ideas or articles to the editor via the Sierra 2 office at 452-3005.

Beer: Food and beer pairings are a hit anytime

(Continued from page 1)

This is only the third year for Beer Week with an increasing number of breweries, restaurants, and bars participating in the regional event. Patrons entering the café notice the large chalkboard on the right hand wall with a list of 20 plus beers. It's updated daily. A newcomer looking to acquire a taste for the Belgian brews will find the bar staff pouring small sample tastes. The knowledgeable bartenders offer good explanations of the various beers.

Customers seated at the large granite bar may also get suggestions from friendly and knowledgeable patrons, some at the bar and some in groups at the café tables.

The beer and ale selections on tap tend to be stronger in flavor and alcohol than typical American beer.

The chalkboard list includes short descriptions of each beer's style, along with its alcohol percentage and price. Prices range from \$5.50 to \$8.50 per glass and alcohol between 4 percent and 12 percent by volume.

The café's menu includes Panini



Photo/Craig McCulloch

Pangaea owner Rob Archie pours beer at right to customers during Beer Week.

sandwiches, such as pastrami, classic Reuben, turkey & Gruyere, chicken & brie, roast beef with cheddar and jalapenos, as well as vegetarian options. Salads include wedge, Caesar, and antipasti.

Platters of cheese and sausage samplers are also available, with suggested beer pairings for different cheese and sausage combinations.

Owner Archie lives in Curtis Park and significantly supports SCNA's

annual SCNA Wine Tasting with a large tent for beer tasting.

He encourages neighbors to drop by for a new taste in beer. Pangaea is close enough to walk, avoiding the need to have a designated driver for the trip home.

Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sundays, and closed Mondays. Website: www.pangaeatwobrews.com

Tour: Homes are authentic and hark to modern sensibility

(Continued from page 1)

prominent brick Mediterranean Revival beauty at the corner of Donner Way and Franklin Boulevard. Among its highlights are the large barrel-arched living room, Eastern sunroom, industrial size brick garage, and a kitchen the homeowners have lovingly returned to its earlier clean, bright lines, yet with colorful punctuations and homey sense.

Another house, designed by prominent builder and craftsman Frank Williams, is an English Tudor with hand-hewn wood beams, decorative brickwork, an art tile fireplace, and many hand crafted features of the era, as well as a modern kitchen reflecting its traditional roots.

One home on the upcoming tour was featured nationally on "House Hunters." The television episode focused on Curtis Park and is expected to air again Monday evening, April 9, on HGTV. Its young homeowners have brought a contemporary and eclectic flair to the interior of their "new" 1927 Tudor, with French doors opening to a lovely back deck and garden.



Photo/Rudy Calpo

This rustic Tudor home is full of handcrafted details, including wood beams, art tiles, and original light fixtures.

SMUD returns as the major sponsor. This important fundraising event for SCNA and the Sierra 2 Center is also receiving sponsor support from the Greater Broadway Partnership and Joseph Eschelmann with Wells Fargo Advisors.

Advance tickets are \$20 (\$15 for SCNA members) and are sold on the day of the Tour for \$25 (\$20 for SCNA

members). Tickets can be purchased online at www.sierra2.org, at the Sierra 2 Center, Collected Works at 4524 Freeport Blvd. or Haus at 5601 H Street. (SCNA members may order discounted tickets online or at the Sierra 2 Center.)

Docents are asked to purchase their special discount tickets through the Sierra 2 Center.

What's new at Sierra 2

By Valerie Burrows
Assistant Director at Sierra 2

An evening of Hawaiian music

On April 21, Ho`olupa Hawaiian Culture Foundation is proud to present an evening with Dennis Kamakahi and Stephen Inglis at 7 p.m. in Curtis Hall. Hawaiian music fans know Dennis Kamakahi. He's a multi-Grammy award winner who has written some of the most-loved songs in the Hawaiian music genre.

His pairing with the slack key talents of Stephen Inglis will give the audience a magical evening of Kamakahi classics. Their program will include songs from their new CD.

Before the concert, Patrick Landeza Catering will offer Hawaiian plate dinners, starting at 6 p.m.

Concert tickets are \$15 online or \$20 at the door (cash or checks only). Seating is limited so it's best to reserve tickets online. All proceeds support Ho`olupa. For info and tickets visit: www.hoolupa.org.

Shamanic journeying and healing

The Foundation for Shamanic Studies is offering a two-day basic experimental workshop April 14 and 15 in Room 10. Participants will be introduced to classic shamanic journey methods. These include drumming, divination and healing. Participants will learn how the journey is utilized to restore spiritual power and health, and how shamanism can be applied in contemporary daily life to help heal oneself, others, and the Planet.

For additional info, or to sign up, contact instructor Beth Beurkens at (541) 708-0473 or visit www.shamanicuniverse.com.

Join SCNA today!

For information, visit www.sierra2.org.

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4/25, 5/2, 5/9 at Sierra 2 (\$45 for series)

For class details and to pre-register:

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www.goldhillshomeopathy.com

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APRIL AT SIERRA 2

AT THE
24TH STREET THEATRE

Merrily We Roll Along

New Helvetia Theatre

April 6-21

Tickets: \$15- \$30

Tickets and info: www.newhelvetia.org, 469-9850

Celebrating three years of cutting-edge, professional work in Sacramento, New Helvetia Theatre is proud to present Stephen Sondheim's cult classic "Merrily We Roll Along."

The musical drama begins in the present and moves backward, tracing the lives of wealthy, jaded composer Franklin Shepard and his two estranged friends through each milestone of their personal and professional lives (good and bad). The show ends with a touch of rueful irony, as the three best friends at the start of their careers face a bright future: young, talented and enthusiastic about the worlds waiting to be conquered. The show features musical theatre standards "Not a Day Goes By," "Good Thing Going," "Old Friends," and "Our Time."



Pt. Binay Pathak and the "BEATS"

Ankur Inc.

3 -5 p.m. April 29

Tickets: General \$15, VIP \$50

Tickets and info: Dipankar (925) 300-5898; (916) 217-3259 www.sohinisangeet.org

The group "BEATS" creates magical melodies in a stunning blend of Indian Classical music, Canté Flamenco and Sardinian melodies grounded in the ancient Old World traditions on one stage.

Instrumentation:

INDIA: Binay Pathak: Classical Vocal and Harmonium

AFGHANISTAN: Ahmad Siar Haseq: Tabla

SARDINIA: Roberto Corrias: Flamenco Guitar

SPAIN: Jose "El grillu" Blanco: Flamenco Guitar, Cajon, Palmas, Canté Flamenco

ACTIVITIES AT SIERRA 2

OUR TENANTS

All Seasons All Reasons Fine Catering
451-9393

Angela Curiale Ph.D. Psychologist
455-1592

Great Beginnings
Child Development Center
456-4642

Hope Harris Photography
454-2111

Italian Cultural Society
Language School
482-5900

La Famiglia Catering
739-6034

River Song Meditation
212-0062

Runaway Stage Production
207-1226

Sacramento Braille Transcribers
455-9121

Sacramento Yoga Center
491-6792

Striaight Men's AA
454-1100

SIERRA 2 AND SCNA
EVENTS

SPRING EGG HUNT • Saturday, April 7

READING OUR LIVES • Sunday, April 15

HOME TOUR • Saturday, April 28

NEIGHBORHOOD YARD SALE
Saturday, May 19

MUSIC IN THE PARK
Sundays • June 24, July 29 • 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Aug. 26 (6-8 p.m.)

CURTIS FEST
10 a.m.-4 p.m. • Sunday Aug. 26

WINE TASTING • Saturday, Oct. 6

ANNUAL MEETING • Thursday, Nov. 15

JEWELRY SALE • Friday, Nov. 30

FIRST FRIDAYS • Dinner at 6 p.m.
March 2 • April 6 • May 4 • June 1

DANCE

Mindful Bellydance

Tribal fundamentals class for all levels
Thursdays, 7 p.m., Studio 1
Sawako Ama
lovebreath@infocircle.net

Awakening Bellydance

Cardio class to live music for all levels
Fourth Saturday, 11 a.m., Studio 1
Sawako Ama
lovebreath@infocircle.net

Tango Technique with Michelle Gorre

Tuesdays, 6:30-7:45 p.m., Studio 1
Michelle Gorre, 799-1952

Sacramento Powwow Dance Class

All ages and levels • Free
6:30-8:30 p.m. Mondays, Curtis Hall
Shonnie Bear (916) 747-5133
sac.pw.dance.class@gmail.com

Irish American Ceili Dancers

1st and 3rd Mondays, 7-9 p.m., Studio 1
\$5 per class, pay at the class
Helen Healy (916) 444-8051

Manasa Tribal Dance

Sundays, 2-3:30 p.m., Studio 1
Patrice Norris (916) 341-5223

River City Taps – Tap Dance

Monday-Wednesdays, 5-8:30 p.m. and
Thurs, 4-8:30 p.m., Studio 3
www.rivercitytaps.com

Rumbalsa

Private & Group Ballroom, Latin & Salsa classes
Monthly last Mondays, Studio 1
Christina Hake (916) 436-6031

MARTIAL ARTS

Eagle Claw Kung Fu Academy of Sacramento

Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m. (916) 441-7215
Saturdays, 12:30-2 p.m., Studio 2

Sacramento Bushido Kai

Japanese Martial Arts for ages 4-Adult
Call for schedule
Michael Mason (916) 616-5452

Sacramento Sword School

Martial Sword Arts of Europe
Thursdays, 7-8 p.m., Studio 2
Maestro Eric Myers (916) 276-2247

Unified Chinese Martial Arts

For schedule, e-mail Shifu Byron at
Lohan36@sbcglobal.net



CHILDREN

Education Française de Sacramento

French language classes for K-8th Grade
Wednesdays, 4-5:30 p.m.
Rooms 11 & 12
www.efsac.com

Kids Salsa Lessons

Tuesdays & Fridays, 5:30 p.m., Studio 1
Angelica Ruvalcaba, 730-5879
www.quincedances.com
From tots to teens, kids will learn to dance the salsa and other fun rhythms like hip hop, swing, merengue, bachata and more. First class is always free!

Curtis Park Community Play Group

Infant - 5 years old
Tuesdays, 10 – Noon, Room 9
(916) 452-3005

Lango

Preschool and K-4 Spanish and Mandarin language classes
Call for schedule
Helen Hadani (530) 220-0453

Capital City Music Together

Children ages 0-5 enjoy singing, dancing, drumming, playing, giggling
Mondays, 10 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.
Room 9
Jennie Ribadeneira (916) 990-3222
www.capitalcitymusictogether.com

Additional children's classes are listed under Dance and Martial Arts.

YOGA

Iyengar Yoga

Tuesdays, 10-11 a.m. • Studio 1
Gladys Callander : (916) 396-8055

FITNESS

Zumba® with Linda & Toya

Monday, 8-9 p.m.
Wednesday, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Studio 2
Linda Taylor, 548-8731

Global Vibe

Thursdays, 5:45-6:45 p.m., Studio 2
Zany Interactive/Michele Tsihlas
(916) 402-4854
www.zanyinteractive.com

Zumba

Tuesdays, 5:45-6:45 p.m., Studio 2
Zany Interactive/Michele Tsihlas
(916) 402-4854
www.zanyinteractive.com

Nia — Dance Fitness

Tuesdays, 6:15-7:15 p.m. • Studio 2
Kelly Fitzgerald-Holland,
Nia Black Belt Teacher
(916) 595-0539
www.NiaNow.com/shaktidancer

Tai Chi - Chi Kung & Yoga

Call for schedule
Tara Stiles (916) 454-5526

Weight Watchers

Call for schedule: (800) 374-9191 • Room 10

OTHER

Atheist and Other Free Thinkers

Atheist and Other Free Thinkers (AOF)
1:30-4 p.m., Room 10
March 11, June 10, Sep. 9, Dec. 9
www.aofonline.org

SPIRITUAL SERVICES

Baha'is Call for schedule: (916) 491-5871

Believers Fellowship

Sundays, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Room 10
Lee Aviles (916) 203-6461

Bethesda AOH Church of God

Sundays, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., Room 11
Pastor Geraldine Carter (916) 392-2877

Know Thyself as Soul – Meditation

1st Sunday of the month, 1 – 4 p.m. Room 10
knowthyselfassoul.org

Sierra 2 Senior Center in April

Programs make us get a move on — eat, play, think

The Senior Center is open to all seniors, providing opportunities to keep learning, meet new people, and be actively involved with neighbors. We offer free (donations accepted) and

Fats, Fish Oil & Mercury
The USDA Cooperative Extension presentation will focus on nutrition. The program is from 10-11 a.m. Thursday April 12. Call 455-6339 to reserve your space.

Looking for morning exercise?
Morning Moves with Selayma Anan provides gentle activity from 8:30-9:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in Room 12. This class includes warm-ups, light weights for upper body, balance, aerobic dance moves, abdominal work and a cool-down stretch. Cost is \$35 for punch card of eight classes.

Call 211
Got questions? “Call 211” for answers. A presentation on this community service is scheduled at 11 a.m. Friday, April 6 in Room 11 at Sierra 2.

Art with Patris
Local artist Patris will host a workshop from 10 a.m. to noon April 13 about techniques on drawing ribbons and bows, especially angles and curves. Fee \$12.

Plant Sale
The senior center will have a plant sale in Curtis Park during the Curtis Park Home Tour April 28. Donations of plants to sell or of volunteer help are welcome; please call Mae, 455-6339.

fee-based activities and classes from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. The center is part of the non-profit Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association (SCNA). If you have questions, call Mae at 455-6339.

Life History Class presents “Reading Our Lives”
Mark your calendars for the Reading Our Lives Show coming 1 p.m. Sunday, April 15 in Curtis Hall. This annual event presents autobiographical material written and read by seniors. Tickets are at the Senior Center, the SCNA office and at the door. A reception with refreshments will follow the program.

Free Introduction to Tai Chi, Meditation and Chi Kung
Enjoy an opportunity for a free introductory class with Tara Stiles from 11:15 a.m. -12:15 p.m. Wednesday April 11. New classes: Tai Chi starts April 18, Wednesdays from 11:15-12:15, and Meditation & Chi Kung starts April 20, Fridays from 10-11 a.m.

Money Management
The second money management session at the Senior Center will focus on Retirement Income Planning: Annuities and Other Solutions. David Cariani and Doug Haskin from Merrill Lynch will speak at 10 a.m. Thursday April 19, Room 12. Please RSVP at 648-6278.

Legal Aid at the Senior Center
Vicki Jacobs from Legal Aid will answer questions about wills, powers of attorney, advance health directives and other legal concerns from 10 to 11 a.m. Friday April 27 at the Senior Center at Sierra 2.

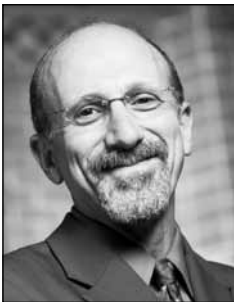
Schenirer’s message

It’s all about the food we grow and eat

Spring is all about access to healthy food, new community gardens, delectable food fundraisers and wheelbarrows of fun.
In March, through WayUp Sacramento, we launched a garden grant program that will freshen up District 5. Thanks to Western Health Advantage and the Wal-Mart Foundation, we will provide grants to interested families and community members for 10 new backyard and four new community gardens in District 5.

I’m looking forward to walking through our neighborhoods and seeing WayUp’s work in action as these gardens begin to sprout.
The Garden in a Wheelbarrow Program, hosted by the Sacramento County Fair, encourages elementary school classrooms to learn about gardening with their own wheelbarrow-garden. The Fair reached out to us to get involved, so we encouraged our WayUp Sacramento elementary schools to participate, led by Curtis Park’s own Bret Harte.

We have even begun cultivating our own garden here in the Council office; the radish seeds have been planted, and we’ve been trying hard not to track dirt everywhere. You will be able to check out our garden and our WayUp elementary school gardens in May at the Sacramento County Fair.
The City has been working hard to make major capital improvements to the Oak Park Farmers Market



Jay Schenirer
City Councilmember

by installing permanent shade structures and pavement, just in time for area farmers to sell their fresh spring crops. This is a great place to bring your family and listen to live entertainment, while finding fresh and affordable food. Oak Park Farmers Market has been a popular market for the last three years, and will only be more successful in the future. Thank you to NeighborWorks for maintaining such a great community benefit.

Congratulations to the Oak Ridge Elementary School fifth graders for their successful business project, which culminated in a formal dinner prepared by Patrick Mulvaney with Oak Ridge students acting as sous chefs. These kids prepared sales presentations, ran marketing campaigns, and learned real entrepreneurship with only general guidance from professional advisers.

When they asked me to come to their March 28 fundraising dinner, I knew I had to check this out. Congratulations on a job well done, and 5 stars to Oak Ridge Elementary Café.

So keep an eye out for our WayUp Sacramento community gardens, and contact the District 5 office if you own an empty lot that you are interested in having used as a community garden.

Join us in McClatchy Park on Saturday May 5 for the opening of the new Oak Park Farmer’s Market, as a culmination of a great spring in Sacramento.

**SENIOR CENTER
AT SIERRA 2**
Room 12
Everyone welcome!
Director: Mae Denman: 455-6339 or
seniorcenter@sierra2.org
* Free (donations requested)

FITNESS
Fall Prevention—Flex, stretch and balance with Mae
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Tuesdays and Thursdays (\$5)
Gentle Yoga with Tara Stiles
10-11 a.m. Wednesdays (6 classes \$40)
No class April 4

Tai Chi with Tara Stiles
10-11 a.m. Fridays; Ends April 13
11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Wednesdays
(6 classes \$40) Starts April 18

Walking and Polewalking
9 a.m. Thursdays
Meditation and Chi Kung with Tara Stiles
10-11 a.m. Fridays (6 classes \$40)
Starts April 20

Line Dancing
2-3 p.m. Tuesdays
(\$3 per class)
Morning Moves with Selayma Anan
8:30-9:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays
(7 class punch card \$35)

LEISURE
Improvisation acting with Jetta
3-5 p.m. April 27 (\$5)
Book Club*
11:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. 2nd Monday
April: “Theodora: Actress, Empress, Whore,” Stella Duffy
May: “The Lost City of Z,” David Grann

Everyone Can Drum
1-2 p.m. Tuesdays (\$5) studio
Crafts and Conversation*
1-3 p.m. Fridays (except on potluck day)
Sierra 2 jewels*
1-3 p.m. Fridays (except on potluck day)
Life History Writing *
1-3 p.m. Wednesdays
Garden Delights*
11:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. (brown bag), 2nd Friday
Community Acupuncture Clinic
9:45-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays, \$15 fee

CARDS AND GAMES
Mahjong *
10-12 p.m. all Mondays except second
Bridge just for fun*
1-4 p.m. Thursdays
Ginasta*
9:30-11:30 a.m. Mondays
Pinochle*
1-3 p.m. Fridays

EVENTS
Monthly Potluck
12 -2 p.m. Friday April 27
Senior Committee meeting
3 p.m. Friday, April 13
Art with Patris: Ribbons and Bows—Lines and Curves
10 a.m.- 12 p.m. Friday April 13 \$12
Presentation on “Call 211-A Community Resource”
11-Noon, Friday, April 6, Room 11
Money Management Series: “Strategic Planning Solutions”
10-11 a.m., Thursday, April 19
Call 648-6278 to RSVP
Reading Our Lives
1 p.m., Sunday April 15

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Neighbors Working in the Neighborhood

There's more to signs than words

By Craig McCulloch
Viewpoint staff writer

David Enos, his wife, Sheila, and their three children moved into their house on 25th Street eight months after they bought it in 2005. Before the move they did a total house remodel, with David doing most of the construction. He also established his sign-making business, Valley Sign Source, on Franklin Boulevard, adjacent to the Coffee Garden at Fourth Avenue.

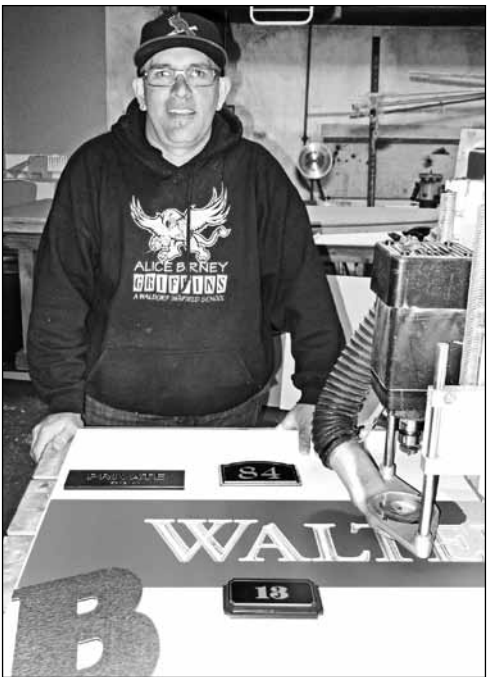
Enos started in the sign-making business after finishing a degree in art from CSUS Sacramento. At that time, he was doing mostly drawing and painting. He first worked as a designer for a large sign company.

Later Enos found an opportunity to start his own business producing three-dimensional graphics, or cut-

out raised letters and numbers, as a wholesaler to other sign companies needing these products. While still maintaining the wholesale business, he recently expanded as a full-service sign business for retail customers as well.

Interior signage and architectural signs, including so-called "monument signs" such as those in front of apartment complexes, have been his specialty. He is knowledgeable about the California ADA requirements for signs, and produces Braille lettering to assist blind people.

Sign products are made from various products, including different woods, acrylics and metal. Most are made with a large industrial sized router with high speed bits, controlled by a computer to produce the lettering and art work.



Photo/Craig McCulloch
Signmaker David Enos in his sign shop Valley Sign Source with shop equipment and examples of lettering.

"I set high standards for my products, and like to assist customers with the design of a sign or logo, and apply my art experience," said Enos.

Enos' signs can be seen at Nugget Markets, and, in Curtis Park, at the Coffee Garden and Parrot House, both on Franklin Boulevard.

Through his experience at his children's Waldorf public school, he started making wooden toys used in the Waldorf educational system. Examples are wooden swords and shields and wooden rocking boats. The larger rocking toys fit together like puzzle pieces and can be easily taken apart for storage. These are available at www.etsy.com/shop/WoodenWaldorftoys.

David and his wife, Sheila, have three children, Olivia, 12; Zach, 10; and Griffin, 6 years. Sheila is as a senior business analyst working on electronic health record systems for ACS - Xerox. David moved to Sacramento from Fortuna, Humboldt County, when he started school at CSUS Sacramento.

Experienced to remedy any situation

Mr. Fix It keeps Sierra 2 humming

By Terri Shettle
Executive director of Sierra 2

Dale Stebbins is our jack-of-all-trades, Johnny-on-the-spot, phantom-in-the-night on-call team member. You may have seen him spinning around the neighborhood on his bike or knee deep in the dirt at Sierra 2 Center working on sprinklers. He's the guy wearing the shirt "Here I am. Now, what are your other two wishes?"

Not only does that saying reflect his playful personality, but it's close to how we feel about Dale. He's the Genie who works magic when something isn't working. He comes on a moment's notice or when we're stumped about something in the building. He has mad fix-it skills. Not only that, but nobody can clean this facility as well as Dale. He might just be the original MacGyver.

Sierra 2 staff profile

Initially a contracted handyman and now an on-call staff member, Dale gets up to work on his many Sierra 2 projects before the sun comes up, getting in and out before anyone knows he's here. That's why we call him phantom-in-the-night.

In his on-call duties, he fills in as handyman, carpet cleaner, facility monitor, strip and wax specialist and sprinkler-system expert. There is not much Dale can't do. His experience mostly stems from his 30-plus years working in the school district's maintenance department, which is where he began getting his many licenses and certifications. He's also a tinkerer and a wood-worker.



Photo/Carol Blackman
From brewing coffee to repairing sprinklers, Dale Stebbins fixes just about everything that wiggles.

In addition to being the jack-of-all-trades, Dale is also a wonder in the kitchen and a coffee connoisseur. Often we'll come to work and know Dale has popped in because we'll have a pound of freshly ground coffee awaiting us, or he will have already brewed a fresh pot for us to start our day. We're still waiting to have him whip up a meal.


In a nutshell, Dale is an invaluable member of the team at Sierra 2 Center. He is skilled and efficient. We love his sense of humor and no-nonsense approach to keeping our facility and grounds in top-notch condition.



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Photo/Judy Scheible
Judy Brush and daughter Rachel with chicks.

Grandparents will do anything for their chicks

Some people babysit their grandchildren or children’s pets, but **Judy Brush** of Third Avenue got an unusual request from her son-in-law, Phillip, who lives in Red Bluff with **Rachel**, Judy’s daughter. He needed someone to take care of their baby chickens while he attended a conference in the Bay Area.

Phillip and Rachel bought the chicks by mail from a dealer in the Midwest. They are Blue Andalusians, a hardy breed from Spain that has a reputation for tolerating heat. She and Phillip are raising them for the eggs. Judy’s husband, **John**, pitches in when needed.

Former SCNA president honored for her leadership

Rosanna Herber, former SCNA president and neighbor on Castro Way, received the 2012 Advocate Award from Equality California for her leadership in having the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGTB) community identified as a community of interest in the Sacramento city and county redistricting efforts.

Herber chaired the LGBT coalition that made sure the new City Council and county supervisor district lines were drawn to group a large portion of Sacramento’s LGBT community and their supporters into one district. The coalition provided data verifying the LGBT community, including same sex married couples, domestic partnerships and voting patterns from recent elections on Proposition 8 and 22. Local LGBT leaders Dr. Darrick Lawson and Steve Hansen shared the award with Herber.

“The ultimate goal is to elect Sacramento’s first LGBT councilmember or county supervisor. Creating a district that gives the LGBT community voting power is the first step toward that goal,” Herber said. “The award was truly an honor and validation for all the hard work the LGBT community has done throughout Sacramento.”

The March 5 ceremony also honored State Senator Christine Kehoe and Dolores Huerta for their advocacy efforts on behalf of civil rights and the LGBT community. Equality California is the largest statewide LGBT rights advocacy organization in the state.

— Nicole Quinonez



Photo/Judy Scheible
Patrick and Nicole Soluri enjoy a quiet moment with their son, Connor.

New kid on the block

On Feb. 24, SCNA Board President **Patrick Soluri** and wife, **Nicole**, Soluri of Marshall Way welcomed their first child, son **Connor Patrick Soluri**, to Curtis Park. Weighing a healthy 7½ pounds, Connor was delivered with the help of a midwife at Kaiser South Sacramento.

“Mom and dad were a great team during labor and delivery,” reports Nicole, the unbiased new mom. “Connor is already enjoying walks around Curtis Park and looks forward to attending many SCNA events to come!”

Attending SCNA events is just part of the job when you’re the president’s son. — Nicole Quinonez

FIRST FRIDAY!
6 p.m. • April 6
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NOTE TO NEIGHBORS:

If you have a graduate in your family (high school, college or graduate school), we’d like to know. Drop off the photo with graduating school and future plans at the Sierra 2 office, or send information to carolxo@comcast.net.



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A black and white photograph of an elderly couple. The man is smiling broadly, and the woman is leaning in to kiss him on the cheek.

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Bret Harte News

Bret Harte named as a pilot school in mayor’s literacy campaign

By Char Klassen
Viewpoint staff writer

Educators and researchers have long recognized the importance of mastering reading by the end of third grade. Sacramento parents and educators are learning that students who fail to reach this critical milestone often falter in the later grades and drop out before earning a high school diploma.

A literacy campaign launched by Mayor Kevin Johnson called Sacramento READS! attempts to address the issues. According to the campaign’s Web site, Sacramento READS! is a 10-year initiative with a vision of making Sacramento the first city in the country to have every third grader reading on grade level by the end of third grade. Bret Harte Elementary is one of 14 pilot schools selected to participate in this vital campaign.

Events that inspire pleasure reading

Bret Harte hosted two reading events in March plus a book fair. On March 8, the school community enjoyed a family reading night. The event was designed for parents and children to experience the joy of reading and featured lots of interactive activities focused on reading.

The March 2 event was a school wide celebration of Dr. Seuss’ birthday. Throughout the day students had Dr. Seuss books either read to them by parents,



teachers or fellow students or enjoyed personal reading time. Younger students came home wearing the famous “Cat in the Hat” hats and their faces painted like the cat from the beloved easy reader.

Scholastic Book Fair

Having a small library at home for children gives them the tools to meet their 20 minutes a day assigned reading quota. Thanks to a book fair hosted by the Bret Harte PTA in early March, children and families could browse and purchase age appropriate books, many sold at a discounted price. The Scholastic Book Fair ran before and after school Monday-Friday, during recess and during the Family Reading Night.

“The book fair is not about raising money, but about providing books for students, classrooms and the library,” said Lynetta Hughes,

chairperson of the book fair. This comment was referencing Scholastic’s tradition of providing teachers the opportunity to “shop” a warehouse with points from book fair sales.

Hughes added, “If we want students to read, they need books. The Bret Harte PTA works to help ensure that all students have books of their own. We want them to be able to read by third grade because from that point on, they are reading to learn, and if they have not learned to read, how can they read to learn?”



Photo/Char Klassen

Holding some favorite Dr. Seuss books are second graders Rosemary Vaxng and Dinara Brown standing with first grader Lila Vang.

Mark Your Calendar

Spring Break, April 2– 6

◆

School resumes Monday, April 9

Grandma and novelist, Eva Rutland lived in Curtis Park since 1952

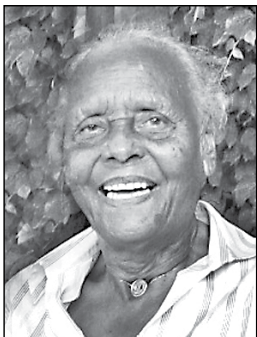
By Eva Fields
Viewpoint staff writer

My grandma Eva Rutland passed away March 15. She was 95. I had hoped she would live to be 100, but when I’d mention this to her, she would crinkle her nose and say, “Can you imagine anything so horrible?” She was ready to go.

To say she lived an amazing life is an understatement. A granddaughter of former slaves, she was born in 1917 in Atlanta.

She had a happy childhood. Five years ago, I traveled with her to Atlanta for her 70th class reunion from Spelman College. She met up with a childhood friend and they chatted like teenagers. One of her old boyfriends was across the street at Morehouse, the men’s college, and he called her. At 90, we all said “Grandma’s still got it.”

In 1943, she married Bill Rutland, a civilian



Eva Rutland, 1917–2012

employee at the Tuskegee Army Air Base, where black pilots were trained for the first time for combat.

She and Bill moved to Curtis Park in 1952. Eva was already publishing articles in the leading women’s magazines of the day, Redbook, Ladies’ Home Journal and Women’s Day.

My grandmother grew up in the segregated South and loved it. She worried about her children who would have to interact with whites in the integrating West of the 1950s and 1960s.

Eva started writing stories about her children to tell white mothers, “My children are just as precious and just as fragile as yours. Please be kind to them.” She compiled these stories into a book entitled “The Trouble With Being a Mama,” published in 1964.

In her early 50s, Grandma went blind, but she didn’t let that slow her down. She bought a talking computer and became one of Harlequin’s most

prolific writers, eventually writing over 20 books for the well-known romance publisher.

I never realized how amazing she was until I was 20 and our family republished “The Trouble” under the title “When We Were Colored, a Mother’s Story.” Grandma went blind before I was born, and I never even thought about it until I saw how much she struggled to find her way around the house and to write. I had never thought how much the tracheotomy tube in her throat bothered her. It was the result of a botched operation in a segregated hospital in the 1940s. She had to cover the hole to speak and uncover it to breathe. In later life it made her cough day and night.

My mother and I traveled across the country with Grandma to promote her book. Grandma was always the quintessential Southern belle. Watching her, I became a “born again grandma worshipper.” I know it was time but it was still too soon for me. In her memory, my mother and I are putting together her final book “The Trouble With Being a Grandma” and adapting “When We Were Colored” into a play.

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