

The Bird's Eye View

U.C. Davis to collaborate on neighborhood bird-oak study

By Bob Purcell
Special to the Viewpoint

Dr. Steve Greco, professor of Landscape Architecture at University of California, Davis, has signed on to study

the importance of native oaks to migratory birds. Started in 2010 by former longtime neighbor Dan Airola, the study was prompted by the ongoing removal of native valley oaks from the Curtis Park Village site, as well as gradual elimination of ancient oaks in the neighborhood.

Dan is evaluating migratory bird use of Curtis Park residential areas where oaks are present and absent. He is frequently seen in spring and fall, binoculars and clipboard in hand, conducting bird surveys on neighborhood streets. Although results have not been fully analyzed, he has found markedly higher number of migrant warblers, vireos,

tanagers, flycatchers, and grosbeaks in areas with higher amounts of oak canopy than in areas lacking oaks.

West Nile virus in Curtis Park

Story, page 6

Dr. Greco has a longstanding interest in "landscape ecology" in urban settings. He will conduct surveys of the various trees on the bird survey transects. Knowing the "volume" of the foliage canopy allows comparison between the relative abundance of birds and foliage of various trees in different areas, which will clarify whether oaks or other species are being actively selected or avoided by migrants.

"It appears that the migrants strongly select Valley Oak trees for foraging during their migration and actively avoid certain non-native species such as London Plane," Dan says. "But we won't be able to say anything definitive about bird preference and avoidance of certain tree species until we collect and

(Please see Survey, page 6)



Patris Miller, shown here with one of her paintings, will open her new studio in The Triangle Arts District.

New art district near Curtis Park

A budding art colony anchored in three neighborhoods plans to add a new dimension to the city's Second Saturday events. Many of its 14 galleries expect to open earlier in order to encourage families to come. Some will open as early as 2 p.m.

Called The Triangle Arts District, participating galleries belong to one of the three organizing groups: the

North Franklin Business Association, the Broadway Partnership and the Oak Park Business Association.

While special events are still in the formative stage, Patris Miller will have a grand opening at her studio and gallery, 3460 2nd Ave., from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. July 14.

Patris teaches art at Sierra 2's Senior Center.



Cat Stevens Tribute Band

Cat Stevens Tribute Band to perform July 29

Fans of Cat Stevens will be purring all evening at the July 29 Music in the Park performance by the Cat Stevens Tribute Band. They're expected to play nearly 30 of Stevens' greatest hits.

Called one of the most "influential artists of the 20th Century," Cat Stevens sold over 60 million albums. The Tribute Band will play such hits as "Peace Train," "Miles From Nowhere" and "Father and Son" while weaving in Stevens' fascinating life journey from simple art-student turned late-1960s pop star to 1970s international icon.

The Band is composed of five of the area's finest musicians with a variety of performing backgrounds — including classical, pop/rock/jazz, swing, folk and sacred. Individually, they have performed in myriad venues on the West Coast: from hotels such as the Best Western and Red Lion, to local clubs/pubs, fairs/festivals and telethons.

No Viewpoint in August

Every July the Viewpoint staff takes its summer break, so there is no edition in August. Our deadline for the September issue is Aug. 15. You can keep in touch with neighborhood events at www.sierra2.org.

Neighbors urged to join National Night Out

By Nicole Quinonez
Viewpoint staff writer

At dusk Tuesday Aug. 7, the neighborhood Association is encouraging residents to walk out their front doors and spend time with their neighbors as part of the 29th annual National Night Out, a night aimed at preventing crime and drug activity in neighborhoods.

Over the past several months, neighbors have noted an increase in criminal activity throughout Curtis Park. A string of robberies on 24th Street led to the arrest of at least one suspect. At a recent Neighborhood Concerns Committee meeting, residents on Second Avenue reported increased crime in the alley between Second Avenue and Broadway and illegal inhabiting of a vacant property.

In 2010, there was approximately one police officer for every 584 city residents, and not all officers are on duty at the same time. Since our police department cannot patrol our community 24/7, the Neighborhood Concerns Committee is

encouraging residents on the same street to create a contact list with emails and phone numbers and alert each other of suspicious activity in the area.

"August 7th will be a good day to introduce yourself to a neighbor you've never met. It's a perfect opportunity to start a Neighborhood Watch group in your area," said John Mathews, co-chair of the Neighborhood Concerns Committee. "We've purchased handbooks and worksheets from the National Neighborhood Watch Institute, and they are available at the Sierra 2 Center to residents who are interested in starting a neighborhood watch."

The two main tenants of a neighborhood watch program are knowing your neighbors and observation. Neighbors on 26th Street have used a contact list to alert each other of crimes in the area and suspicious activity. Last year, neighbors used the contact list after noticing a red-haired woman and man casing the area. Their diligence led to the couple's arrest.

According to Susan MacCulloch, keeper of the (Please see Night out, page 3)

First Friday's Menu 6-9 p.m. • July 6 • Curtis Hall

Hamburger or Veggie Burger
with all the fixings

Potato salad

S'mores

Dinner \$7 • Beer \$4
Wine \$5 • Water/soda \$1

Questions: Sierra 2 office: 452-3005

Schenirer sets up free showing of 'Hugo' in Curtis Park Aug. 4

City Councilmember Jay Schenirer is inviting everyone to the movies Saturday, Aug. 4. The free, outdoor event at the north end of Curtis Park will start at 7:30 p.m. with free juice bars, popcorn and water.

The feature film is "Hugo," a wonderful family film about a clever orphan who takes care of clocks in an old train station in Paris. The film won several Oscars this year and was nominated for picture of the year.

The movie will start at 8:30 p.m.

Notes from June 13th meeting

Board approves 2012-13 SCNA budget with added staff

After months of developing and reviewing an operating budget of nearly \$700,000, the board approved a budget at its June meeting. Highlights in this year's budget include a new expense of \$12,500 for possessory interest tax; \$13,000 savings in depreciation expenses; and an overall projected revenue increase of 5.5 percent.

Personnel expenses are budgeted to increase about 15 percent. This projection includes the addition of two part-time staff positions, a part-time children's program coordinator for six

months and the creation of an event coordinator position.

Capital projects in the budget for next year include resurfacing the parking lot, landscape and irrigation upgrades that include the Curtis Hall courtyard, and outdoor signage replacements.

Urgent need for volunteers

With the recent resignation of two board members, the need for more volunteers is even more imperative than before. In order to continue having community events like First Friday and Music in the

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, July 11.

Park, volunteers are essential.

Anyone who is available to volunteer or is interested in joining the board, may contact Terri Shettle at 452-3005 for details on what's involved.

Music in the Park needs sponsors

After Music in the Park lost its main sponsor for the last few years, SCNA is budgeting a \$2,000

shortfall for the three events. A search for sponsors will continue. The board is grateful to the sponsors who have come forward to save this popular summer pastime.

My Story Project sets new interviews

The My Story Project continues to succeed, raising \$2,442 so far. Next month a viewing will be held at Eskaton village to market to more seniors.

— Nicole Quinonez,
SCNA Secretary

Executive Director's report

A visit to Sonoma Community Center gives insight and perspective

Last month I visited the Sonoma Community Center to share ideas and to talk to a peer running a similar organization. The Sonoma Center's roots are almost identical to ours, with one exception. The center is not within a neighborhood, so it has no neighborhood association activities.

Just like Sierra 2 Center, the Sonoma facility is in a beautiful historic building that once served as a school. While roughly half the size of Sierra 2, and with little to no grounds, it houses a theater, a dance studio, and a ceramics studio.

Many classrooms have been converted to art rooms, painting studios, an art gallery, a Montessori school, a tenant space, and a room that has been set up as offices (cubicles) that can be rented by the hour, week or month. The Sonoma Center is known for its cultural and artistic activities and classes. It even has an Artist in Residence program. The overall business model is similar to ours, except for one big difference: Sonoma CC is predominantly funded by the classes and programs that it creates and manages. In comparison, the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association organizationally generates more than 75 percent of its annual income from the rental of spaces for all purposes at Sierra 2 Center and less than 10 percent from programs and classes.

While this model has paid the bills for us over the years, we find ourselves in constant conflict with

TERRI SHETTLE

Sierra 2
Executive
Director



the need to balance the uses of the facility in order to meet our financial, neighborhood, and mission objectives. These conflicts and the desire to strengthen our place in the community were the catalyst for my trip. Questions I constantly ask: Should we use more space at Sierra 2 Center for neighborhood or other group activities such as

the Senior Center or Children's group, promoting community but losing revenue/increasing expenses? Should we have more permanent tenants or enable more flexibility with fewer tenants? Is renting space the most productive financial model for our revenue engine, Sierra 2 Center, or should we use it for other purposes that generate income in a different way? Who are our primary targets for the various arms of the organization and what about the facility benefits them most?

Originally created to be a gathering place for the neighborhood, Sierra 2 Center can no longer claim to be a 'neighborhood serving' facility with less than 20 percent of the users coming from Curtis Park. We are predominantly funded by people, organizations, and general demand from outside of our neighborhood.

At the same time, our neighborhood association arm must represent the interests of the people and the neighborhood of Curtis Park and does so with things like First Fridays and Music in the Park, and by taking on issues such treatment of the Elm trees in the park, crime, and traffic. Given this situation,

how do we prioritize the use of resources—money, staff, Sierra 2 Center space, volunteers, board members, etc.? Where do we get the most return on our spent resources—qualitative as well as quantitative? How do we best position SCNA to meet the needs of the neighborhood community as well as the demands of the broader community that is by far the biggest beneficiary of our efforts?

My visit to Sonoma Community Center was enlightening. If they can generate nearly double the revenue with half the space as our organization and with none of the neighborhood-related events, then clearly we have something to learn about that model of programming. To our advantage, we have a larger population to draw from and more space to fill. Logically, we should be able to replicate that successful model to an even greater degree. With some re-envisioning and thoughtful strategic planning, I believe we can find the happy medium that maximizes our financial opportunities and use of resources while impacting the various communities in positive, meaningful, and mission-based ways. Programming, classes, and events may hold the key.

Curtis Fest and Music in the Park on Aug. 26 will give summer a sizzling, day-long finale

Sunday, Aug. 26 will be a big day for Curtis Park neighbors. From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. artists and musicians will exhibit their talents during the sixth annual Curtis Fest. In the evening, neighbors will enjoy the final Music in the Park concert, beginning at 6 p.m.

Artists and vendors expected to return to the late August event include Mickey Abbey, Jacqueline Blondeau, Doris Brown, Pat Bosley Jewels Vintage, Doug Wylie Design, Gale Lee, Caron Gregg of BearHeart Jewels, Jackie LaFleur, Eleakis & Elder Photography, Christy Flower, Jessica Romero, Mudhoney Boutique, Megan Ellis, author and artist Margie Yee Webb, and Johanna Bernardy. Such variety promises something for everyone.

Beginning at 11 a.m., local bands will perform



through the day. Among them are Instagon, Garage Jazz Architects and The Mike Justis Band.

Mobile Food Trucks Mama Kim's and Wicked 'Wich will be serving up delicious food throughout the day.

Children can come enjoy a magic show and have their faces painted by a magical fairy from Happily Ever Laughter.

The wildly successful petting zoo will return to the event from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Artists interested in having space in the show may contact event coordinator Faith Johnstone (faith@sierra2.org or 452-3005) about booth opportunities. Artists who register by July 11 will receive an invitation to the pre-event reception for participating artists and musicians.

VIEWPOINT

Editors	Judy Scheible Mary Anne Moore
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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.

Calpo will exhibit pictures of Cuba

On their trip through Cuba, Janice and Rudy Calpo of Donner Way visited five provinces, traveling from Havana to Santiago de Cuba.

Rudy, a prize-winning photographer and architect, expects to show his photographs of Cuba at Second Saturday in November at Old Soul in Downtown Sacramento. The show will be up for a month.

Rudy comments, "Cuba is the most amazing place I have traveled. Nothing has changed in 53 years. Most of the historical Spanish colonial buildings are deteriorating in the state of arrested decay and also creating a certain patina you cannot find anywhere else."



Rudy and Janice Calpo of Donner Way are boarding a steam engine in Cienfuegos, Cuba. The excursion was part of their two week trip.

Getting ready for the annual Wine Tasting & Silent Auction coming up Oct. 6

The 22nd annual Wine Tasting & Silent Auction will be held Oct. 6 at Sierra 2. Guests can expect to sample food from outstanding Sacramento restaurants and taste wines from dozens of wineries plus taste beers in the beer garden sponsored by Pangaea Two Brews & Bottle Shop.

In between guests will have a chance to bid on enticing auction items, travel packages, home cooked dinners and artwork.

Returning as the major sponsor is Cook Realty along with Merlot Partner, Joseph Eschleman, CIMA, Wells Fargo Advisers.

Neighbors in the know who buy their tickets early can save up to \$15 per ticket. Ticket info and other details are listed here.

Ticket Sales: Online sales at www.sierra2.org will begin around Aug. 1 and end Oct. 3. Then, tickets will be available in the Sierra 2 office only or by telephone at 916-452-3005.

Ticket Prices: Through Oct. 3, tickets will be \$35 for SCNA members and \$45 for non-members. Beginning Oct. 4, tickets will be \$50 each. Neighborhood Dinners – Traditional theme dinners

hosted by your neighbors will be available for purchase as items separate from the silent auction and must be paid for at the time of the sign-up.

Credit Cards: During the event, we will accept credit cards as payment for tickets, auction items and Neighborhood Dinners.

Fundraising Partners: The event will benefit SCNA, Sierra 2 and the Senior Center, Bret Harte Elementary and another community partners to be announced at a later date.

At this time, event organizers are seeking donations for the raffle and silent auction as well as sponsors. As a reminder, donated items are tax-deductible.

Volunteers who donate two hours of service prior to the event or one and a half hours during the event are entitled to half-price tickets. For further information, please contact the office at 452-3005 or email faith@sierra2.org.

We look forward to raising a glass with you to celebrate our amazing neighborhood in October.

Wine Tasting Co-Chairs are David Gonsalves and Terri Shettle.

Taylor's Market and Kitchen celebrates 50th year with a gala benefit Aug. 12

Taylor's Market and Kitchen is offering neighbors a grand night from 6–10 p.m. Aug. 12. Beyond celebrating the market's 50th year, the Gala evening is a benefit for the Sacramento Children's Home. Chef Richard Telford has crafted a five-course meal by adapting dishes that have been popular over the last half century. The menu also will include wine pairings.

Telford's menu starts with Shrimp Louie salad,

and continues with pasta primavera, gazpacho, New York strip and a tiramisu parfait.

Only 90 tickets are available. Honored guests for the evening will include Hal Byrd and Ed Schell, two of the market's original owners. Tickets are \$160 inclusive; they are available at www.taylors50thgala.eventbrite.com.

For details: Danny or Kathy Johnson at 443-6881.

Night out: Sierra 2's blog notes crimes

(Continued from page 1)

26th St contact list, "People on our street also alert their immediate neighbors before going out of town so we can look out for each other."

SCNA maintains a crime blog at www.curtisparknews.com so neighbors can subscribe to get crime alerts. In order to have a successful

blog, people are encouraged to send in information they've heard regarding crimes or suspicious activity in the neighborhood and comment on posts with questions or additional information.

Even if it is too late for police to act, it is always important to report crimes because crime statistics are used to allocate police resources throughout the city.

What's new at Sierra 2

By Valerie Burrows
Assistant Director at Sierra 2

Award-winning Hawaiian music

Ho'olupa Cultural Foundation is honored to bring musician Mark Yamanaka and his band to Sacramento for his first appearance in the area. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. and the show will begin 7 p.m. Thursday, July 5 in Curtis Hall. Mark created a sensation with the release of his first CD that won four awards in 2011. His sound is reminiscent of Na Palapalai, while paying tribute to classic artists. Tickets are \$20 advance or \$25 at the door. Info and tickets: www.hoolupa.org.

Let Them Eat Cake

The 10th annual Let Them Eat Cake event will be held from 5:30–8 p.m. Wednesday, July 11 in Curtis Hall. Join in the fun at this Bastille Day celebration designed to benefit Self Help Housing. Guests are invited to bring their best cake to share. They may compete for prizes for the best tasting and best looking cake or simply enjoy the evening's activities with a photo booth, live music, food, wine, and of course, lots of cake. Music will be provided by recording artist Gabe Dixon, who has just released his first solo CD. Tickets are \$25 each.. Info and tickets: 341-0593 or sacselfhelp.org. Join SSHH in the fight for a "revolution" in the availability of affordable housing.

Summer cornhole league

Looking for something fun to do nearby this summer? The Sacramento Sport and Social Club is hosting a 6-week cornhole (bean bag toss) league in Curtis Park this summer. Games will be from 6:30–7:30 p.m. Thursdays from July 19–Aug. 30. This league is a great way to meet people. Teams can be coed and consist of 2–4 players. Sign-up as an individual or with a team. Kids are welcome, but only adults may play. No experience needed. Everyone makes the playoffs.

League includes weekly raffle prizes and end of season medals and prizes. Curtis Park residents get a \$5 discount on online registrations. Enter code: Sierra2Cornhole.

For more information and registration: SacSportandSocial.com or call Brad Satterwhite at (601) 316-5666.



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JULY AND AUGUST AT SIERRA 2

The Full Monty

Runaway Stage Productions Broadway Stage
July 6-29

8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and at 2 p.m. Sundays.
Tickets: \$22 Adults; \$20 Seniors (60+);
\$18 Students and SARTA; \$15 Kids (12 and under)
Info: 207-1226 or www.runawaystage.com

Seeing how much their wives enjoy watching male strippers during their “Girls’ Night Out,” unemployed steelworkers in Buffalo, New York come up with a bold way to make some quick cash. In the process they find renewed self-esteem, the importance of friendship and the ability to have fun. As the guys work through their fears, self-consciousness, feelings of worthlessness and anxieties (over everything from being overweight to

child custody, bigotry to being gay), they come to discover that not only are they stronger as a group, but that the strength they find in each other gives them the individual courage to face their demons and overcome them.



AT THE 24TH STREET THEATRE



The Emperor’s New Clothes

Runaway Stage Productions Storybook Theater
July 14, 21, and 28

12 p.m. and 2 p.m.
\$8 general, \$6 kids (12 and under)
Info: 207-1226 or www.runawaystage.com

A fairy tale about the foolish King who is too vain to admit he can’t see his sumptuous new clothes, which, according to the dastardly weavers, can only be seen by “visionaries gifted with true taste and imagination.”

The Little Mermaid Jr.

Young Actors Stage
7 p.m. Aug. 17 • 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Aug. 18 • 2 p.m. Aug. 19

Info: youngactorsstage.com
In a magical kingdom fathoms below, the beautiful young mermaid Ariel longs to leave her ocean home to live in the world above. But first, she’ll have to defy her father King Triton, make a deal with the evil sea witch Ursula, and convince Prince Eric that she is the girl with the enchanting voice. Adapted from Disney’s 2008 Broadway production, featured hit songs include “Part of Your World,” “She’s in Love,” and the Oscar-winning “Under the Sea.”

ACTIVITIES AT SIERRA 2

DANCE

New York Salsa
Thursdays, 8-10 p.m. • Studio 1
Oscar Castenada • 296-2216

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
last Monday of the month, 7-8 p.m., 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
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

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 a.m. – Noon, Room 9
(916) 452-3005

Capital City Music Together
Children ages 0-5 enjoy singing, dancing, drumming, playing, giggling
Call for class schedules.
Jennie Ribadeneira (916) 990-3222
www.capitalcitymusictogether.com

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

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

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

Weight Watchers
Tues, 5:30 p.m. • Wed, 9 a.m.
Thurs, 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.
(800) 374-9191 • Room 10

MUSIC

Nashville Songwriters Association
2nd Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30pm, Room 12,
Free • Gabrielle Kennedy, 476-5073

OTHER

Free Investment Workshops
2nd Tuesday, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Room 9
Merrill Lynch Wealth Management
David Cariani 648-6290

Atheist and Other Free Thinkers
1:30-4 p.m., Room 10
Sept. 9 and Dec. 9
www.aofonline.org

Gokhale Method
Posture & movement educational courses
Call for schedule: Robyn Penwell, 812-2607

YOGA

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

Tai Chi - Chi Kung & Yoga
Call for schedule
Tara Stiles (916) 454-5526

Yoga
Mondays, 5:45-6:45 p.m., Room 12
Zany Interactive/Michele Tsihlas
www.zanyinteractive.com

SPIRITUAL SERVICES

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

Bethlehem Baptist Church
4th Sunday, 12:30-2 p.m., Room 9
Pastor Willie Benson (916) 688-8818

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

ART

Watercolour Workshops
Kathy Lemke Waste • lemkewaste.com
July 28, August 25
10 a.m.–3 p.m., Room 11
lemkewaste.com

Verge Center for the Arts
Call for class schedule: Liv Moe, 444-1453

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

MUSIC IN THE PARK
Sundays • 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.
July 6 • Aug. 3 • Nov. 2 • Dec. 7

Sierra 2 Senior Center in July and August

Improvitational Acting promises lots of laughs

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

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.

Improv with Jetta

Jetta is back with her Improvisation Acting on the last Friday of the month from 3–5 p.m. Join us for some spontaneous fun. Open to all. \$5

Art with Patris

This month Patris shares her teaching skills and talent on July 20 from 10 a.m. - noon. Titled “Summer’s abundance — drawing fruits and vegetables.” Fee \$12.

“Be Prepared, Get a Kit, and Stay Informed”

The Red Cross will provide a planning for emergency training from 11 a.m.- noon July 27 (before potluck). Call 455-6339 to reserve your spot in this informative workshop. Find out what you need to do to prepare for an emergency.

“10 Tips for Buying a Cell Phone”

Speaker Susan Sarinas returns at 10 a.m. July 12 to share info on purchasing a cell phone and cell phone contracts. In June, participants welcomed the information she provided on telephone fraud and “Do Not Call Registers.” In August, bring your phone bill in to analyze with Susan at her talk “Take Charge of your phone services” at 11 a.m., Friday, Aug. 3. Be informed and protect yourself from abusive sales techniques and services.

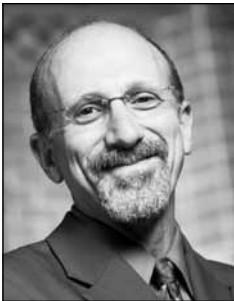
Schenirer’s message

Ballot measure may give the ‘Claw’ the hook

Early in Sacramento’s history, flooding, fire and disease devastated the city on a regular basis. City leaders organized to build levees, dams, form volunteer fire companies and more. Providing basic of services was a struggle then because of the lack of infrastructure. In its first five years as a city, Sacramento almost burned down twice. One hundred and sixty years later, we are again faced with the difficult questions of how we provide the most basic services — sewer, water garbage and, yes, fire protection. Rather than a lack of infrastructure, the root of today’s challenge is the age and complexity of our infrastructure. We’re coping with outdated service delivery models, State and federal mandates and regulations, and the city’s overall financial position.

My bottom line is this: Every service should be delivered in an effective, cost-efficient and customer-friendly manner. I agree with many of you that we need to do better, much better. Changes are afoot that should both increase our level of service and guarantee that we can sustain that level into the future. Clean water, sewer and solid waste services are each need improvement.

I’m sure you’ve noticed the construction work in the neighborhood. As part of State requirements, Curtis Park, along with the rest of the city, is getting water meters. In the southern part of the neighborhood, where the water mains are in backyards, new mains are being installed in front yards. This means there will be noise, debris and possible parking issues while the water mains and meters are installed. In the northern end of the neighborhood,



Jay Schenirer
City Councilmember

water mains are already in front yards, so these homes will have only the meters installed. This work will continue through the summer.

There are also potential changes to the green waste pickup, and depending on how Sacramentans vote in November, the “claw” may get the hook. Late last month, the staff asked City Council to place a measure on the ballot to repeal Measure A (1977), which prohibits the city from requiring yard waste cans. Currently the city offers a “hybrid” system, allowing each customer to choose between a can

and “loose-in-the-street.” The hybrid system has proven to be confusing for residents and extremely expensive to operate.

If Measure A is repealed, the city will consider implementing a collection program that is easier to understand and cheaper to operate. It would also stabilize rates for at least the next three years. The proposal would create one program that would include weekly collection of yard waste cans, citywide loose-in-the-street pickup in November, December and January and the return of the once per year “bulky item” collection for items such as appliances, furniture and debris. Finally, the proposal from staff calls for a switch to every-other-week collection of recyclables.

I know some of you may have strong opinions about “loose in the street” and every-other-week recycling, and I want to hear from you. I welcome your input on these proposals and anything else.

As always, please feel free to call or e-mail me any time at (916) 808-7005 or jschenirer@cityofsacramento.org.

Do you contribute to the air conditioning rush hour?

By Nury Enciso
Viewpoint staff writer

On July 24, 2006 at 2:44 p.m., 75 percent of the California electrical grid experienced a new energy consumption peak: 50,270* MWs.

This could mean every generator in California was running and contributing to greenhouse gases.

Integrating clean energy has been a challenge, and we are far away from producing 50,270 MWs of clean energy.

During the summer between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m., energy is in high demand and very expensive. It’s the “air conditioning rush hour.”

However, with better management of our daily habits, turning appliances on after 6 p.m. and cooling our houses at night or in the

morning, we could help.

After all, energy management is everybody’s responsibility. Tips and ideas on how can we all help can be found at www.fypower.gov. If you have comments, suggestions or questions, please send them to nuryenciso@gmail.com.

*[www.caiso.com/today’s outlook/](http://www.caiso.com/today’s_outlook/) California ISO Peak Load History-1998 through 2011 Annual peak load since 1998

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Fall prevention — Flex, stretch and balance with Mae
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Tuesdays and Thursdays (\$5)

Gentle yoga with Tara Stiles
10-11 a.m. Wednesdays (6 classes \$40)

Tai Chi with Tara Stiles
11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Wednesdays
(6 classes \$40)

Walking and Polewalking Clinic
9 a.m. Thursdays

Meditation and Chi Kung with Tara Stiles (no class July 6)
10-11 a.m. Fridays (6 classes \$40)

Morning Moves with Selayma Anan
8:30-9:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays
(8 class punch card \$35)

LEISURE
Improvisation acting with Jetta
3-5 p.m. • last Friday of the month (\$5)

Book Club*
11:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.
2nd Monday of the month
July: “Harriet & Isabella” — Patricia O’Brien
August: “The Hare w/Amber Eyes” — Edmund De Waal

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)

Chair Massage with Frederica (sign-up required)
10:00-11:15 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. last Friday, July 27, Aug. 31

Senior Committee meeting
3 p.m. Friday, July 13, Aug. 10

My Story Project meeting
1 p.m., Monday, July 9, Aug. 13

“10 tips for Buying Cell Phone” *
10 a.m.-11a.m. Thursday, July 12

“Take Charge of your Phone Services”
11 a.m. -12 a.m., Friday, Aug. 3

“5 wishes: Advance Medical Directive”
11 a.m. -12 a.m., Friday, Aug. 10

“Be Prepared, Get a Kit and Stay Informed” * Red Cross presents emergency preparedness
11-12 noon, Friday, July 27
Call 455 6339 to RSVP

AARP Safe Driver’s Course
9 a.m.-1 p.m., Mon. & Tues., July 30 & 31

Ace all the way around

Sonny Ferrante’s tough façade could fool you on first look

By Terri Shettle
Executive director of Sierra 2

With an imposing 6-foot-1, 210 pound frame, Sonny Ferrante looks like a guy you don’t want to mess with. His decorative tattoos, representing meaningful things in his life, go a long way toward solidifying that tough-guy persona.

However, we know Sonny is a gentle giant, an easy-going and friendly guy who does whatever is needed whenever it needs to be done.

“No problem” is Sonny’s typical response, whether we’re asking him to show someone a room, haul a load of garbage or move heavy furniture.

Sonny (Santino is his given name) was hired in November, 2008 as the daytime facility monitor/ janitor. He has steadily worked his way into more responsibilities. Now he is the nighttime facility

monitor in charge ordering cleaning supplies, keeping the shop and maintenance rooms in order and doing any job that requires physical strength and extra attention.

Sonny likes to solve problems, which makes him great for the night responsibilities. That’s when he has to work independently and act on the fly. His job includes some special projects, like building things. At home, he fixes his car and tinkers with things around the house.

Sonny is married to Rose. She helps him with the side project of cleaning services for the Sacramento Braille Transcribers, a Sierra 2 tenant. They have a daughter, Shantell. While Sonny is one of the younger members of our staff, he is a grandfather.



Photo/Carol Blackman
A problem solver, Sonny Ferrante, keeps things under control at the Sierra 2 Center.

Serjoe is 16 months old and the light of the life of the Ferrante family.

When Sonny is not at work or tinkering with things in the garage, he loves to golf, work out, ride his bike and play video games. Sonny is also known for his ‘Raider Nation’ attachments, which may or may not be a good thing these days.

Sonny contributes to the Sierra 2 team as a leader and hard worker. He thrives in challenging situations and keeps things under control. He never gets frazzled or overwhelmed. His problem-solving capabilities have turned questionable customer experiences into positive ones.

Sonny may look tough, but he’s a softy. His temperament is perfect for our fast-paced, often unpredictable service environment. We are fortunate to have him on our team.

Sierra 2

staff profile

A few dead birds in Curtis Park test positive for West Nile virus

By Sue Staats
Viewpoint staff writer

An unusually warm winter, combined with a wet spring, has resulted in ideal conditions for mosquito-borne West Nile virus, and we’re seeing evidence of it in our neighborhood. Late last month, 7th Avenue resident Gregg Servis found two sick and two dead crows in his yard. When the dead birds were tested by Mosquito and Vector control, both were found to be infected with WNV.

“The researcher told me they were the earliest reported cases he’d seen,” Servis said. “Usually they don’t see infected birds until July, when there are more mosquitos.”

West Nile virus is a blood-borne disease, meaning you catch it from a biting insect, in this case a mosquito that has bitten an infected bird or animal before it bites you. The symptoms are flu-like: aches, fever, skin rash and swollen glands.

Most people recover, but in the elderly or immune-deficient, the

disease can be life-threatening. Here are a couple of things you can do to prevent the spread of West Nile Virus. Report any dead birds or squirrels to 888-968-473. You can also report them online at the excellent website” westnile.ca.gov.

The website’s video shows the proper way to collect and bag a bird for pickup by the Vector Control agency. (It is rare for WNV to be transmitted by handling infected birds or animals, but the

agency recommends that you wear protective gloves or plastic bags while handling them.) You will be notified if the bird is found to be positive for WNV. Control the spread of the mosquito larva that carry the disease by draining any standing water. No puddle is too small to need draining. At another excellent website, www.fightthebite.net, the Sacramento Mosquito and Vector Control District takes requests for mosquito-larvae eating fish for a backyard pond.

Parakeet fluffing its feathers

Richard and Carol Baker of Donner Way are wondering whether someone is looking for a parakeet on the lam. They have noticed a light blue-green parakeet feeding in their backyard and in their neighbors’ front yard. The Bakers live in the 2500 block of Donner Way, between 25th and 26th streets.

Anyone who’s missing such a bird may call the Bakers at 916-454-3707.

Survey: Birders may ask for access to a backyard

(Continued from page 1)
analyze the data on available foliage of the various tree species. That’s why Steve’s offer to collect the vegetation measurements is so important.”

This summer, Steve and his students will measure the height, diameter and canopy volume on the Curtis Park streets used in the bird surveys. They may be asking some residents for brief backyard access to measure trees there. They also will offer their expertise in statistical analysis to the project, a requirement for complex ecological studies these days.

Dr. Greco notes, “This study interested me because of the

important implications for protecting California’s biodiversity. We can’t just rely on nature reserves and refuges to protect our natural heritage. With the amount of area already developed, and additional amount to be added in the future, we need to look to the developed areas themselves to contribute more to maintaining our plants and animals. Here is a possible example of where encouraging more native trees in residential landscaping could have big effects in providing for a large number of bird species.”

Ultimately, Dan and Steve hope to publish their paper in a scientific journal. The study could have

widespread implications, as the Curtis Park urban forest represents what many other Central Valley communities will look like in 50-100 years. “What we learn in this study could be applied over a large area. For example, it could influence the planting palette of organizations of the Sacramento Tree Foundation, which intends to plant 2.5 million trees in the Sacramento region by the year 2025,” notes Dan. “If we know which species are favored by migrant birds and other wildlife in urban settings, we could influence tree selection in a way that might have a huge regional benefit.”

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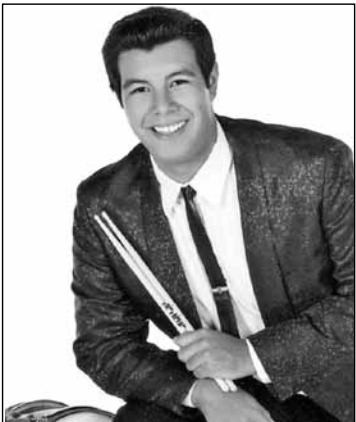
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Andrew Grajeda of 8th Avenue; Christian Brothers High School; CSUS in criminal justice



Rose Rushing of 23rd Street, CKM HISP, CUNY Hunter College, Manhattan



Isaac Gardon of 4th Avenue; CKM HISP, Seattle University



Morrigan McLean Haas of Montgomery Way, CKM, SCC



Cole Smith-Crowley, BA, Warren Wilson College (Swannonoa, NC); Legislative aide for Partners In Advocacy.



Olivia Dickinson of 25th Street, CKM, San Francisco City College and Riley Fricke of East Pacific, CKM HISP, SCC

Longtime neighbor finds his way back

Dennis Cusick is back in Curtis Park, where he lived from 1985 to '91. Life happened for him in South Land Park and the East Bay, and now he's moved into a home in the 2600 block of Portola Avenue.

He and his wife, Joan, look forward to being in the 'hood. She will continue working in public relations for Charles Schwab in San Francisco. Dennis, a former copy editor at *The Sacramento Bee* and editor of *The Viewpoint*, is an attorney with a solo practice.



Photo/Judy Harper

Cicely and Ivan Marrs with baby Sevilla

New baby

Curtis Park neighbors Ivan and Cicely Marrs of Curtis Way welcomed daughter, Sevilla, on March 11. Named after the Spanish city the couple visited on their honeymoon, Sevilla weighed 6 pounds, 3 ounces and was delivered without an intervention or pain medication. Twenty-six of the 36 hours of labor were done at home. They included multiple walks around Curtis Park.

Mom and Dad find mornings the best time of day with Sevilla. According to Dad, "When she smiles and coos, looking up at us from her bassinet, it gives us everything we need to tackle another day trying to figure out how to be new parents."

— Nicole Quinonez

New bike racks tried out

In June, the City of Sacramento tested new equipment for bicycle parking on the short street between Gunther's Ice Cream and Pangaea Two Brews Café. The bright yellow and green "bike corrals" use one car parking space with racks that can hold up to 10 bikes. The racks were installed for one week to test acceptance by bicyclists and

nearby businesses.

If all goes well, these bike corrals could become bike parking fixtures throughout the city. The equipment is made locally by Park a Bike. Rob Archie, owner of Pangaea Two Brews Café, told *The Sacramento Bee*, "It's really exciting. I love the statement. It's just practical."

— Craig McCulloch

Neighbor dies in surf

Friend and neighbor George Knott died April 29 in rough surf while he was visiting Miami Beach. George had lived in Curtis Park for over 20 years. He loved his neighborhood. A retired Navy pilot, George was a popular physical science professor at Cosumnes River Community College.

His adventurous spirit took him around the world. His neighbors will miss him. — Nury Enciso

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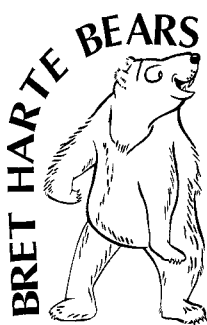
Bret Harte News

Students celebrate their first place in county fair with salad party

By Char Klassen
Viewpoint staff
writer

Endings call for celebration. Bret Harte students had many things to celebrate during the final days of the school year. Every class celebrated in its own way. Many took to the field, basketball court and playground at Curtis Park for fun and exercise. Mr. Richardson's 4th graders played softball in Curtis Park. Some students had class parties with snacks provided by parents. A few classes made their own root beer floats and blended their personal fruit smoothies.

Mrs. Costa set up a "store" where her students could "purchase" items with tickets earned for good behavior and handing work in on time. Mrs. Sardelich's 1st grade class had a salad party. They were celebrating their first place in the county fair garden in a wheelbarrow program. They feasted on carrots from their wheelbarrow and tried many other veggies, including cucumber and fresh beets.



First graders in Mrs. Sardelich's class enjoy salads made with produce picked from their award-winning wheelbarrow garden.



Mrs. Spiers celebrates her long teaching career with students.

Four Bret Harte Teachers Retire

Bret Harte said goodbye to four teachers who retired. Ms. Jensen, Ms. Miranda, Mrs. Spiers and Mr. Galvez will all be missed. Together these teachers represent more than 60 years of teaching experience. Notability, Ms. Jensen spent all of her 23 years teaching at Bret Harte.

"My experience over the last six

years is that teachers at Bret Harte don't leave by their own choice, unless it is to retire.

The length of most teachers' tenures at Bret Harte says a lot about the connectedness that staff have to their students, their colleagues and the community," said Principal Santiago Chapa. He went on to say, "We will miss each of these retirees

tremendously, and wish them the best in their next life journey."

Bret Harte faces other losses next year due to budget cuts. There will be no bus transportation. Custodial staff hours have been reduced, and a few grade levels will adopt a split grade classroom due to fewer teachers being employed district wide.

Chapa assures families, "In spite of the current budget situation, we remain committed to providing students with a diverse, enriching experience that prepares them for future success."

Letter to the Editor

On streetlights, repair is the way to go for SCNA

In the "Velveteen Rabbit," a classic 1922 children's story, a toy rabbit eventually becomes a little shabby and worn through loving use by the boy who owns him. However, the same loving use also makes the rabbit real.

Some of us in Curtis Park feel that way about our neighborhood's original streetlights. They have become a little shabby and worn standing as silent sentinels since the 1920s and have become thereby part of the neighborhood's historic fabric. For us, they are an authentic and tangible connection, like our few remaining horse and buggy hitching posts, with bygone decades.

The City Department of Transportation, citing cost concerns, is proposing to replace the original

streetlights in South Curtis Oaks subdivisions east of the park with replicas, rather than repairing them. (The City) has received bids for this replacement proposal and for a smaller repair proposal for the streetlights in the St. Francis Oaks subdivision. The results for the two proposals will be released soon and hopefully will provide more information about the comparative costs of repair versus replacement.

However, even if the repair costs are greater, I hope the neighborhood and the SCNA Board will support repair over replacement. The value of an antique exceeds the value of a replica. You could call this a mere sentimental value, but for those who love them, that does not make it any less). . . real.

— Dan Murphy, Third Avenue



Montgomery Way circa 1925

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