

Parade began egg hunt festivities

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



Photo/Heather Hogan

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

By Erik Fay
Viewpoint staff writer

Last fall, the streets of Curtis Park were scraped, given a new surface, a temporary seal was applied, and new surface markers were painted. Unfortunately, the streets never received a final sweeping. Several streets almost immediately began experiencing loose gravel that ended up in driveways and sidewalks

and has moved down gutters all winter with the rain. Several instances of tar sticking to cars were also reported.

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

Please see Streets, page 6

Team of artists will paint mural along walls of underpass

By Andrea Rosen
Viewpoint staff writer

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

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

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

"This project has presented

Please see Mural, page 3

Young puppy trainer feels like she's helping others

By Viewpoint staff

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

Lydia, who turns 12 in June, is finishing up 6th grade at Leonardo da Vinci school. Her parents, Dann and Phoebe De Mund, and

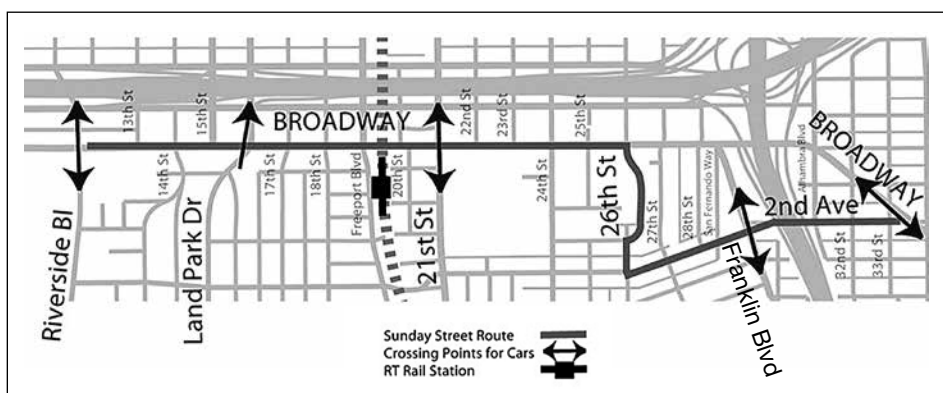
sister, Lila, 10, had to learn all the commands for Betty and help keep her training consistent.

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

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

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

Please see Puppy, page 6



The city's first "Sunday Street" event will be a happening place May 21.

Broadway will become a playground Sunday May 21

By Rosanna Herber,
Viewpoint staff writer

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Although exact details were not available at press time, the 40-50 mile ride will begin in the north area, go through all the council districts, and conclude in District 8. The stop for Schenirer's district, District 5, will be the Oak Park Farmers Market at Fifth Avenue and 35th Street, on the south side of McClatchy Park.

Up to date information is expected to appear on the City's Website.



Sierra 2 will host adult 'Dog Days' June 2

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

Sponsored by Grateful Dog Daycare in conjunction with Swanberg's for Men, the fundraiser will include goods by local crafters, games, and raffle prizes.

Admission is \$30, and tickets go on sale May 1 at Sierra2.org and the Sierra 2 office. Guests who bring a pet food donation for the Front Street Shelter will receive a free raffle ticket. Event beneficiaries are the Sierra 2 Center and the Front Street Shelter.

— Faith Johnstone



Photo/Will Carlton

Betty, the labrador retriever and golden retriever mix, is in training with the De Mund family to become a companion.

Notes from April 5th meeting

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

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

Budget Development Update

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

SCNA rental space is competitive with other spaces around town. The theater project will be the main improvement this year at the facility. We will be

Next meeting

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

creating a display to have at events to show the public what we do.

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

Senior Center film screenings, open houses and the craft fair were all successful and will be built into this year’s budget. There was a vigorous budget discussion by board members.

Big Day of Giving

Terri reported BigDoG this year is May 4. Community Foundation is taking on the entire project. To give online, go to bigdayofgiving.org/sierra2center and enter the amount you want to give. Minimum is \$15.

President’s Report

McClatchy High School tennis instructor would like to reserve the public courts in Curtis Park over the summer because the athletic field will be closed for repairs. The city has the final say.

Terri and Eric attended the Monterey Trail meeting with 75 business owners from the Franklin Boulevard business district. Their goal is for the district to be a destination.

The Craft House meeting was facilitated by Patrick Soluri and 30 people showed up to discuss their concerns. Most neighbors said that nothing having to do with a restaurant would be okay to open in the former Society for the Blind

building. The main issue brought up was if the restaurant gets approval but the thoughtful current owners fold, another restaurant with owners who don’t care about the neighbors could move in.

Executive Director

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

Terri will hire a booking specialist.

The cottage will now be a rental space.

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

The annual Egg Hunt takes place a week from Saturday. John Mathews will head the annual poop patrol cleanup along with Dogxillary members.

Strategic Plan/board retreat

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

Kim will meet one-on-one with board members and offer a short list of questions to get the ideas flowing. She will contact community influencers and partners to solicit input. Kim is currently attending board meetings to observe how it runs. The Impact Foundry (Kim’s

company) works with other clients such as SMUD, which has a community development beautification program that SCNA may consider for our facility.

Treasurer

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

Facilities

Terri reported on last year’s many repairs and maintenance projects. The question was asked if SCNA will benefit if money is spent to improve the center, with six years left on the lease.

SCNA could consider purchasing the building from the city, since we maintain, insure, and incur most of the costs as it is currently structured anyway.

Neighborhood Concerns Committee

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

— Submitted by Kate Van Buren, board secretary and Terri Shettle

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

By Viewpoint Staff

As many neighbors know from reading the Viewpoint, Petrovich Development Company decided to sue not only the City of Sacramento but also SCNA, Eric Johnson and Andrea Rosen to dispute the city’s denial of his company’s request for a Conditional Use Permit to build a mega-fuel center in Curtis Park Village. This new entitlement request came several years after entitlements were granted for the entire development back in 2010. Petrovich asserted that Safeway would not build a grocery store at the southern end of Curtis Park Village unless it had a full size mega-fuel center on site.

Judge Michael Kenny of the Sacramento Superior Court is hearing the writ of mandate case. In this type of case, a developer seeking a discretionary decision, like the granting of a land use permit to build a gas station, can challenge that decision.

Petrovich is continuing to dispute the completeness of the administrative record, which will form the factual basis for a court to decide whether the City properly exercised its discretion in making its determination and whether the applicant was denied due process.

While the most recent hearing on the merits was originally scheduled for May 12, that date has been pushed back to allow time for the petitioners to conduct limited discovery on four city-affiliated individuals (former Mayor Kevin Johnson; Scott Whyte, legislative aide to former Mayor Johnson;

Joe Devlin, district director for Councilmember Jay Schenirer; and former City Manager John Shirey. The California Supreme Court recently clarified (on March 3) that city-related texts and emails maintained on private devices are potentially “public documents” that may have been otherwise included in an administrative record. These four individuals may have deleted such communications before the Court’s clarification that would have required them to be maintained. The Court has allowed some limited questioning by Petrovich of these four public representatives to determine if any previously deleted documents may be recreated. At the time those public officials may have deleted relevant private texts or emails on their private devices; the law was unclear as to whether those communications were considered public records.

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

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

VIEWPOINT

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The Viewpoint appreciates neighbors who submit news about their babies, new neighbors, milestones and special events. This includes letters to the editor.

Please send them by the 15th of the month to jgscheible@hotmail.com.

Oak Park Farmers Market opens May 6

The Oak Park Farmers Market will open its 2017 season at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 6. Market manager Joany Titherington said she expects 20 vendors and a variety of activities on opening day, including free yoga, cooking demos, live music and free crafts for children.

The market is in McClatchy Park at Fifth Avenue and 35th Street and is open until 1 p.m. More information is available at www.nwsac.org.



What's new at Sierra 2

How to get a song published

Nashville Songwriters Association International will hold a workshop with prominent singer/songwriter/producer Megan Conner. Currently living in Nashville, Megan is a prominent singer/songwriter and producer. She was chosen as one of six finalists in the national competition "The Next GAC Star." Megan has had publishing deals in Nashville and New York City. Within the last few years, she has landed songs with Rascal Flatts, The Swon Brothers, Chris Young and many other indie and international artists.

Workshop participants will have the opportunity to play Megan's song or two to get mentoring and feedback. She will discuss the association's national song screening process, her career, publishing deals and what it's like to have her songs recorded by major artists.

The workshop will take place from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 14 in Room 12. The cost is \$50 for association members and \$60 for non-members. For more information or to reserve a seat, contact Gabrielle Kennedy at 476-5073 or by email at gabrielle@gabscourt.com.

— Valerie Burrows, Facility Administrator

Taylor's Market received irresistible offer for airport expansion

Taylor's Market had no intention of expanding its successful gourmet operation until its owners received an offer they couldn't refuse. According to market owner Danny Johnson, he and his wife and co-owner, Kathy, were approached two years ago by

Vino Volo, an Oakland-based wine business that runs a wine bar at Sacramento International Airport. That offer will turn Vino Volo's wine bar into a restaurant featuring Taylor's fresh produce, sandwiches and salads in Terminal A. Taylor's will also offer prepared food and Taste of Sacramento baskets.

"Our target date to open is May 6," Danny told the *Viewpoint* by phone. "For sure we'll be in there by May 15."

"We're aiming to make it the Taste of Sacramento," Danny said. All the products and prepared foods will come from this region. Kathy is making baskets of local products.

We'll have grab-and-go sandwiches as well as fresh ones. We're working on an individual pizza."

None of the market's staff will be working at the airport venue. Instead, the market will train Vino Volo employees to staff the airport restaurant.

The sketch at right shows a portion of the mural that is planned for the walls on the Second Avenue underpass. The mural is a collaboration of Oak Park and Curtis Park neighborhoods. Everyone is invited to participate in painting the background for the mural that will be brightly colored with positive messages.



Curtis Park neighborhood yard sale returns May 20

Bargain hunters can take advantage of the wide variety of treasures typically available during the Curtis Park Neighborhood Yard Sale. Homeowners can determine their own opening times. To be on the neighborhood yard sale map, homeowners need to register by going to the Sierra 2 Website, www.sierra2.org.

The event will be advertised in The Sacramento Bee and on social media. Maps will be available at the Sierra 2 Center and online. — Faith Johnstone

Mural: Art will focus on neighborhood unity

(Continued from page one)

another great opportunity for our two neighborhoods to collaborate to improve our connection and beautify our collective public spaces," Garcia said.

She also noted that this stretch will be part of the Sunday Street route on May 21, when Sacramento holds its first open streets event. Everyone is invited to participate in painting the background for the mural.

Artists who will design and execute the mural

include Luis Campos-Garcia (sol collective), Dea Monetlongo (sol collective), Claudia Anderson (Curtis Park resident), Markos Egre (Wes Kos Images), and Juliette Flores.

Former SCNA board member and former SCNA President Rosanna Herber represented SCNA in the early days of this project. The SCNA Board voted to contribute \$500 in seed money to get the project going. Caliph Assigai provided early leadership to the project as well.

Ice Cream Social at Belle Cooledge library May 19

Belle Cooledge library will offer more than books during its Ice Cream Social from 6-8 p.m. Friday, May 19. Besides the free sweet from Vic's, the event will feature music, a book and multi-media sale and a visit by Fire Engine No. 13 and its crew. The event is sponsored by the Belle Cooledge Friends group.

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MAY 2017 AT SIERRA 2

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Young Actor's Stage
Showtimes:

Fri., May 5, 7 p.m.
Sat., May 6, 11 a.m., 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.
Sun., May 7, 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.
Tickets: \$12 Adult; \$10 Children (12 and under)
Information: www.youngactorsstage.com

Disney's
Aladdin JR.
is based on
the iconic
animated film
with an Academy Award-winning score by Alan
Menken, Howard Ashman and Tim Rice. The show
sends the audience soaring on a flying carpet
into a story filled with romance and adventure.
Iago, Jafar, the Genie and more characters join in
this musical adventure filled with magic, mayhem
and the power of love.



WEST SIDE STORY
Young Actor's Stage
Showtimes:

Fri., May 19, 7 p.m.
Sat., May 20, 2 & 7 p.m.
Sun., May 21, 11 a.m. & 3 p.m.
Fri., May 26, 7 p.m.
Sat., May 27, 2 & 7 p.m.
Sun., May 28, 11 a.m. & 3 p.m.
Tickets: \$15 (all seats)
Information: www.youngactorsstage.com



Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet is transported to
New York City in the 1950s where two young, idealistic
lovers find themselves caught between warring street
gangs, the "American" Jets and the Puerto Rican Sharks. The
couple's struggle to survive in a world of hate, violence and
prejudice is one of the most innovative, heart-wrenching
and relevant musical dramas of our time. It's exciting,
sophisticated score by Bernstein and Sondheim is often
considered Broadway's finest.

AFTER SPRING
A documentary produced by Jon Stewart
Wed., May 31, 6:30 p.m.
Admission is free.

AFTER SPRING is a feature documentary that focuses on
the Syrian refugee crisis and the millions who continue to be
displaced by war. Following refugee families and aid workers,
viewers experience life in Zaatari, Jordan, the largest camp for
Syrian refugees.

Following the film there will be short presentations
from local human rights and refugee resettlement
organizations. This event is co-hosted by Amnesty
International and the International Rescue Committee.
Sponsor Info: www.amnestysacramento.org



ACTIVITIES AT SIERRA 2

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

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

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

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

Auntie Amy's Hula
Thursday, 3-4 p.m., Studio 1
Amy Cornellier, 792-5561

West African Dance class
Sundays, Noon-1:30 p.m., Studio 3
jessakaycruz@gmail.com

Kalanjali: Dance of India
Saturday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Rooms 10 & 11
510-526-2183, katherine.kalanjali@gmail.com

Sacramento Academy of Ballet
Tuesday/Wednesday/ Thursday
4:15-6:30 p.m., Studio 1
Janelle Sebren, 971-0945

Brazilian Dance
Call for schedule, Studio 2
Marta Santos, 833-9724

West African Dance
5 p.m., Saturdays, Studio 3. All ages
205-3970 or fenixdrumanddance.com

ART
Glass Mosaic Classes
Tuesday, Noon-3 p.m., Room 11
karensarp51@gmail.com

FITNESS
Fierce FUNK Dance Fitness
2nd & 4th Saturday, 10 a.m., Studio 2
\$5 at the door. All levels welcome
Jessica Brown, jnbrown23@gmail.com

Zumba with Toya & Linda
Monday/Wednesday, 7:30-8:30 p.m.,
Studio 2
LaToya Bufford, toybufford15@yahoo.com

Bellyfit®
Tuesdays, 2 p.m., Studio 3
Randi Robinson-Snaer
randirobinson@mac.com

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

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

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

Weight Watchers
Thursday, 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Saturday, 9 a.m. • Room 10 • (800) 374-9191

YouGotThis! Fitness
Easy 8s Dancercise
Thursday, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Studio 1
Shelly@yougotthisfitness.com

All Levels Pilates Mat Class
5:30 p.m., Mondays, Studio 1
\$12 drop in. 956-0876

YOGA
Iyengar Yoga
Tuesday, 10-11 a.m. • Studio 1
Gladys Callander: 743-0246



CHILDREN
Capital City Music Together
Children 5 and under. For schedule:
Jennie Ribadeneira: 990-3222
www.capitalcitymusictogether.com
Zumbini with Stephanie
Sundays, 9:30 & 10:30 a.m., Studio 1
Stephanie Tadlock, info@
zumbinisacramento.com

MARTIAL ARTS
Eagle Claw Kung Fu Academy of Sacramento
Wednesday, 6-7 p.m. 441-7215
Saturday, 12:30-2 p.m., Studio 2

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

Unified Chinese Martial Arts
For schedule, e-mail Shifu Byron at
Lohan36@sbcglobal.net

OTHER
Cochlear Community Meetings
6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. May 18, Aug. 17, Nov. 16
10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Apr. 11, Oct. 17
Room 12 • Cochlear.com/US/events

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

Marxist School of Sacramento
Speaker Series: call for schedule
799-1354, marxistschool.org

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

Japanese Taiko drumming
Tuesday, 7-9:30 p.m., Studio 1
Kristy Oshiro, kristyoshiro.com

West African Drumming
4 p.m., Saturdays, Studio 3. All ages
205-3970 or fenixdrumanddance.com



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

Baha'is
Call for schedule: 491-5871
sacamentobahais.org

Mustard Seed Faith Ministries
Sunday, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Room 9
Pastor Dorothy Hayes, 213-0901

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

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

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



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Lunch and Learn series focuses on caregivers

By Katie Byram
Special to the Viewpoint

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

Lunch and Learn

The second presentation in the new Lunch and Learn series at the Sierra 2 Senior Center will focus on support for caregivers.

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



Speaker Julie Interrante, MA, has more than 25 years’ experience in working with people in the midst of life-altering changes. She is an adjunct professor in the Department of Psychology at Sacramento City College. Lunch — an assortment of sandwiches and iced tea — is generously provided by Eskaton Monroe Lodge on Freeport Boulevard.

Lunch and Learn tickets are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door. For advance registration, call the Sierra 2 Center office at 452-3005 or visit the office in person.

Reading Our Lives

The beloved event, Reading Our Lives, returns at 1 p.m. Sunday, May 21 in Curtis Hall. This tradition celebrates and recognizes the talented senior voices of the Life History Writing group that has been part of the Senior Center almost since its inception in 2001. Life History Writing is a collection of creative Senior Center members who meet weekly to write and share short stories about their lives.

Reading Our Lives is a showcase

of the best stories that will leave attendees inspired to pick up a pen and capture life experiences and moments of their own. Equal parts nostalgia and creativity, these stories of lives well-lived range from romance-filled narratives and whimsical anecdotes to short tales of time of conflict. A brief reception will follow. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased through members of the Life History Writing group or at the door.

Support for our programs

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

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

Schenirer’s message

We should lead the country as a bike-friendly city

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

Recently, the city created a master bike plan, which lays out a number of significant steps that the city should take in moving this issue forward. In conversations with many neighbors, I know this is important to many Curtis Park residents. I particularly want to thank Jordan Lang, a community leader who serves as a project assistant on the board of Sacramento Area Bike Advocates. As the city looks for more permanent funding sources to improve our bike-friendly surfaces, the Council directed \$2.2 million



City Councilmember Jay Schenirer

of our mid-year budget reserves to bike projects. Of significance to Curtis Park, I have requested funding for enhanced bike lanes on Franklin Boulevard, 24th Street, and Fifth Avenue, all of which have come as requests from our neighborhood over the past two years.

I hope the bike lane on Fifth Avenue will run from 24th Street to Franklin Boulevard, helping to connect the Curtis Park and Oak Park neighborhoods. As final decisions are made, I will keep you informed.

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

May is Bike Month. To celebrate, I have suggested a Mayor/Council bike ride that will begin at the north end of the city in District 1, go through all the Council districts, and conclude in District 8. The ride will happen May 13, and will have one stop in each Council district. I have selected the Oak Park Farmers Market as the District 5 stop.

The final route and timing of the ride is being developed and will be posted soon on the city Website. All are welcome to participate. I hope you can join us.

Teens earn money by taking care of Curtis Park

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

Run by the city’s recreation department, the program is divided into three 10-week seasonal work periods. The teens work from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and receive \$10.50 an

hour. They work in crews of five with an adult leader. According to Monica Blanco, recreation superintendent for teen services, job applicants must be 14–17 years old and live in the city limits. Their job duties include non-skilled labor in park maintenance and general clean-up. The program is funded through the Landscape & Lighting Tax Assessment. For more information, contact Blanco at 916 808–6308.

MAY 2017 ACTIVITIES

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(Donations appreciated.)

FITNESS

Gentle Yoga
10–11 a.m., Wednesdays
\$10/drop in; \$30/4 classes
Pat Shaw: 856-0136

Fall Prevention

11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m., Tuesdays/Thursdays
4 classes \$20; 8 classes/\$35
Pat Shaw: 856-0136

LEISURE

Book Club
11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., 2nd Monday
May 8: “Born a Crime” by Trevor Noah
June 12: “My Life on the Road” by Gloria Steinem

Nonfiction Book Club

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., 3rd Thursday
May 18: “The Log from the Sea of Cortez” by John Steinbeck
June 15: The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown

Popcorn & Movie

1:30–3:30 p.m., 3rd Tuesday
“The Fall”
Donation: \$1-3 (includes popcorn)

Beginning Drumming

1-2 p.m., Tuesdays, Studio 1
\$7/class; \$25/ month

My Story Project meeting

1-3 p.m., 2nd Monday of the month

Life History Writing

1-4 p.m., Wednesdays

Open Art Studio

Noon–3 p.m., Friday. Room 11

EDUCATION

Grief & Loss Support Group
9:30-11 a.m., 1st and 3rd Fridays, Room 12

CARDS & GAMES

Ginasta & Mahjong
9:30 a.m.–noon, Mondays

Fun Bridge

1-4 p.m., Thursdays

Pinochle

1-3 p.m., Fridays

WELLNESS PROGRAM

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

Pilates with Lauren

11:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m., Tuesdays, Studio 3
10:30-11:30 a.m., Fridays, Studio 3

Chair Exercises with Allison

1-2 p.m., 2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesday, Room 11

Healthy Back

5-6:15 p.m., Tuesdays, Room 9

Yoga + You

Call for new day and time.

Fitness Walking & Lessons

9 a.m., Thursdays
Lessons: punch card; Walking: Free

Tai Chi

10:30–11:15 a.m., Mondays in Studio 3 and Thursdays, Room 12

EVENTS

Potluck

Noon- 2 p.m., Last Friday of the Month

Lunch & Learn:

Compassion Fatigue for Caregivers with Julie Interrante, MA
12 – 1:30 p.m., Thursday, May 11, Room 10
Fee: \$8/ in advance; \$10/at the door

AARP Driver Safety Program
9 a.m.–1 p.m., May 8 & 9, Room 10
Fee: \$15 (AARP members) or \$20 (non-members)
Register: Jim Finnegan, 804-9777

Reading Our Lives

Stories from the fascinating lives of seniors of the Life History Writing group
1-4 p.m., May 21, Curtis Hall. Tickets: \$5



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Curtis Park has what it takes

Does Sacramento still deserve its longtime logo City of Trees?

By Dan Pskowski
Viewpoint staff writer

A couple of months ago, when the visitors bureau replaced the “City of Trees” logo on the huge I-5 water tower with the words “America’s Farm-to-Fork Capital,” it generated some protests on social media. *The Sacramento Bee* and *Inside Publications* publisher, Cecily Hastings, supported this change.

As a degreed arborist who has lived and worked in Sacramento for the past 26 ½ years, I would like to weigh in on this discussion. What does it mean to be a City of Trees? Is it how many trees you have and the number of trees planted annually, or that you have a nationally recognized non-profit like the Sacramento Tree Foundation?

No, being a “City of Trees” is an attitude backed up by action. It is an attitude that the trees are not just an amenity but are an important part of a livable city and aren’t readily removed unless diseased, structurally unsound, or in severe declining health.

In 1940 Sacramento spent two percent of the city budget on tree care. Unfortunately, as Sacramento’s urban forest grew, the general fund budget for trees decreased to .65 percent in 2000. Currently, the majority of the City’s Urban Forestry section is funded directly by the property owners under a Landscape & Lighting Assessment district, which in 2013 was \$4,842,351. The city also relinquished the care and maintenance of approximately 50,000 street trees. What started out as a temporary moratorium in July 1990 became permanent when the City Council adopted the Urban Forest Management Plan in November 1993. The 50,000 trees were located in the front yards on residential streets without a City park strip between the curb and sidewalk. Thousands of these trees have been removed due to the lack of professional care and many have not been replaced.

The City of Trees attitude is that trees can co-exist with development/infrastructure improvements and they are incorporated into the project. It means protect and preserve, not remove and replace. The City, in 2007, removed its only heritage size Bunya-Bunya tree (*Araucaria bidwillii*) for the Crocker Art Museum expansion project. In 2011 when the K Street Mall was converted to allow motor vehicles, the City’s Public Works Department proposal designated seven street trees for removal. These were permanent removals with no replacement trees planted back at that location. Fortunately, a concerned citizen filed a tree appeal. Public Works reconsidered and decided on the removal of only two trees. However, I looked at the site and determined the proposed passenger drop off zones could be installed without the two trees being removed. Tree preservation required the

relocation of a bench and street light. An appeal was made before City Council and these two trees were preserved.

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

Puppy: Most important is socialization

(Continued from page one)

In spite of all the disciplined training, Lydia says the best part of raising Betty has been “feeling like you’re helping.”

Lydia was surprised how well behaved Betty is, but she’s learned that Betty was bred to be that way. She is a labrador retriever and golden retriever mix.

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

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

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

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

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



Photo/Will Carlton
Dann and Phoebe De Mund with Betty, and daughters Lydia, 11, and Lila, 10, who are training Betty to be a Companion Canine.

Streets: Work will start when the rain stops

(Continued from page one)

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

The City of Sacramento does not have an exact date and schedule for the project work to resume. A city media person told the Viewpoint last fall that work might resume in mid-March but just provided an update and stated the city is anticipating a return to the project work and impacted Curtis Park streets in mid-May. The City’s Public Works Website

currently lists no dates for any work.

Sixteen Curtis Park streets will receive re-work or new work in the permanent cape seal part of the project. Markers for stop signs, bike lines, etc. will be repainted. The impacted streets in Curtis Park are: 10th Avenue, 11th Avenue, 24th Street, 26th Street, 31st Street, Sixth Avenue, Seventh Avenue, Eighth Avenue, Ninth Avenue, Coleman Way, Curtis Way, Cutter Way, Donner Way, East Curtis Drive, Montgomery Way and West Curtis Drive.



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COMMUNITY CORNER

Marge Matsinger has called Curtis Park her home since 1942

By Craig McCulloch
Viewpoint staff writer

Marge Matsinger of 25th Street may hold the record for longevity as a resident of Curtis Park. She moved here with her parents from Yreka in 1942 to a house on Montgomery Way, west of the park. She attended the original Bret Harte Elementary School, a two-story brick building on Franklin Boulevard. Next she went to California Junior High, and graduated from McClatchy High School.

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

Note: Viewpoint likes to feature neighbors who have lived here for a long time. If you, or someone you know, is a longtime resident, please pass along the information to us at Sierra 2 office at 452-3005.

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

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

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

Marge remembers the electric trolley car that ran down Fifth Avenue and went either downtown on K Street, or over to Oak Park. The Fox

Theater on K Street was a popular destination for the Saturday matinee showings of newsreels, cartoons and serials such as Hopalong Cassidy and Flash Gordon in the 1950s, all for the admission price of 10 cents.

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

Since retiring, Marge has traveled extensively to Europe, China and Hawaii, and she has taken many



Photo/Craig McCulloch
Marge Matsinger at home on 25th Street.

cruises in the Caribbean. She always returns in time for the annual events with her 25th Street neighbors. Her neighbors appreciate Marge's engaging personality. She is always ready for interesting conversation and fun.

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

By Sylvia Oey
Special to the Viewpoint

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

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

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

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

More information about swarms and beekeepers is on the beekeeper website, www.sacbeekeepers.org/swarm-collection.html.



Photo/Sylvia Oey
A Curtis Park neighbor helped a Curtis Park visitor find a new home for the bee swarm that was clinging to her car's headlight.

NEIGHBOR-TO-NEIGHBOR CLASSIFIEDS

WANTED: Looking to rent a garage to store my 1948 Chrysler convertible to keep it out of the rain and sunlight. Car is licensed, registered, insured. Please call Leonard Miller at 916 372-4765 or cell: 916 502-2801.

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

ADS are \$5 for 25 words or less with advance payment. Deadline is the 15th of the month. Make check to Sierra 2 at 2791 24th St., Sacramento, CA 95818.

Are higher federal and California state taxes a concern?

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Students tuning up for spring concert May 9

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



Staff's aims to teach empathy and acceptance

By Adriana Gonzalez
Viewpoint staff writer

On Thursday, May 25 Bret Harte invites the community to join in and support the school's Diversity Day celebration. Parents and staff are planning this daylong event to create a platform for diversity, inclusion and highlight the importance of empathy, kindness and acceptance of others. It's a chance to learn about the rich sights and sounds of Sacramento's diverse population.

Throughout the day, the campus will circulate in class groups and visit activity tables hosted by



various organizations. The tables will have students participate in meaningful activities, and/or lead children in a traditional song, chant or dance and possibly help create an art project reflective of the population.

There are several performances during the day and into the evening so more people can enjoy them. Exact performance times will be announced soon.

The Diversity Day planning committee is still seeking volunteers. Contact Gerine Wiliams at caring4bears@gmail.com or 417-3415 no later than May 10 to volunteer, host an activity table, share your heritage or perform.

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

Volunteer gardeners take on beautification project

Teamwork seeds corner landscape

By Erik Fay
Viewpoint staff writer

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

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

landscaping the area around the corner of Franklin Boulevard and Ninth Avenue.

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

Nicole Brodeur, a professional gardener, volunteered to design the area and selected plants that are both native to California and drought tolerant. She emphasizes that right now is a perfect time to plant as the

soil is wet from this year's abundant rain but is still cool, which is great for encouraging plants to establish and nurture healthy roots. Nicole's design for the project includes a Red Maple tree, Deer Grass and Foothill Sedge Grass, and shrubs "Doctor Hurd" Manzanita, White Sage, California Buckwheat, Palmer's Abutilon, California Fuchsia, Lilac Verbena, and Sticky Monkey Flower.

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

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

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

CKM students plan town hall on pending legislation

By Lori Jablonski
Special to the Viewpoint

On May 12 students from CK McClatchy High School's Black Student Union, Brown Issues, and Feminist Coalition invite you to the first town hall on this important bill package for CA public college students and their parents.

This event at 4 p.m. Friday, May 12 in the McClatchy High Library will feature a discussion and Q&A with principal author, Assemblymember Kevin McCarthy.

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