

## Neighbors respond to changes in open space in Village plan

By Dennis Cusick  
Viewpoint staff writer

The developer of Curtis Park Village is proposing to eliminate a 6.4-acre park from the project, add a pond that would drain into the city's storm drain system, reduce the amount of commercial property and add 99 single-family homes.

Developer Paul Petrovich described the changes in a two-hour contentious meeting before a standing-room-only crowd at Curtis Hall on Jan. 15.

"What you're seeing tonight," said Councilmember Jay Schenirer, "is a proposal from the developer. I'm seeing it for the first time with you."

Petrovich said the proposed changes were prompted by revised city estimates of the amount of storm runoff the project will have to accommodate from the adjacent Curtis Park neighborhood — 26 acre-feet in a projected 100-year flood. The

changes in the project will require City Council approval.

"We were dealt a very serious blow concerning the amount of storm water flowing into this project," Petrovich told the meeting. He added, "We negotiated in good faith. We went to the city. We were told we had to deal with your water."

Petrovich said the proposed changes would accomplish several things — providing \$1.9 million to upgrade Curtis Park to compensate for not building the new park in the development, eliminating some commercial space that was widely opposed, adding single-family houses on smaller lots that make the project affordable to more potential homeowners, and solving a drainage problem.

Tony Bertrand, a supervising engineer for the city's Department of Utilities, said water has been flowing from the Curtis Park neighborhood since the 1920s into what was then the



Photo/Joan Cusick

**Developer Paul Petrovich answers questions from Curtis Park residents about his proposed plan to handle drainage in Curtis Park Village by adding a pond.**

Western Pacific Railroad yard. "Why that condition wasn't caught years ago, I don't know." But, he said, "If you have an existing condition, the new developer has to deal with that."

Under Petrovich's proposed solution, the storm water would feed

into the Donner Trunk, a 100-year-old storm sewer that runs under Donner Way, eventually connecting with the water treatment plant in Freeport. CPV project manager Phil Harvey explained that because the Donner

*Please see Proposal, page 8*



Photo/Joan Cusick

**Owner Rob Archie, left, and new chef Robb Venditti at Pangaea Bier Cafe at Franklin and Third Avenue**

## Pangaea Bier Café adds a chef, expands kitchen and menu

By Rosanna Herber,  
Viewpoint staff writer

Rob Archie is known as an innovative entrepreneur. Ever since he opened Pangaea Two Brews Café on Franklin Avenue five years ago, he has consistently introduced ideas and products to the neighborhood. He started with coffee and sandwiches, and then quickly built the most extensive Belgium beer offerings in the city. He added outdoor seating and decorated it with small trees, plants, a large bicycle corral and distinctive black awnings.

Archie then expanded to open a Bottle Shop with 300 different beers and offered free bicycle delivery in the Curtis Park neighborhood.

Most recently, he hosted the City's first mobile "pocket park" in the street in front of his café.

"Business has been great, but the lack of a full kitchen has been a real problem," said Archie. "I can't offer much creativity with our sandwich and salad menu."

That's about to change. He is installing a full kitchen in the newly renamed Pangaea Bier Café on the east side of the building. It will cost about \$65,000. He also hired Chef Robb Venditti to develop a menu of fresh, seasonal food made from scratch and paired with unique beers.

The new menu is expected to roll out Feb. 1 and will include traditional pub meals of burgers, steaks and fries

*Please see Pangaea, page 3*

## Sponsors and volunteers needed for the 28<sup>th</sup> annual Curtis Park Home & Garden Tour

Plans for April's Home Tour look promising. The lovely homes and gardens expected to be on view range in style from Tudor and Foursquare to Monterey. This year's focus is on South Curtis Oaks. A walking tour brochure for this area is in production by SCNA's Preservation Committee.

This significant fundraiser for our neighborhood does not happen without plenty of volunteers pitching in for various jobs.

The organizing committee asks you to:

- Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 26, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Plan to have lunch in the park and enjoy vintage cars.
- Volunteer to serve as a docent in one of the homes (and get a discounted tour ticket), or help with park/picnic set up or take down by contacting Andrea Azevedo at 284-1170 or by email at: andreaazevedodds@gmail.com.
- Sponsor the fundraising event benefitting the Sierra 2 Center and SCNA activities. Sponsorships range from \$100 to \$2,500. For more information, contact Terri Shettle at Sierra 2 at 452-3005 or by email at: terri@sierra2.org.

Interiors of the homes on tour range from traditional to contemporary, including new kitchens and lovely living rooms incorporating original woodwork and architectural features. Exteriors showcase the variety of 1920s and 1930s styles that



Photo/Rudy Calpo

**Vintage vehicles will again enhance the historical atmosphere outside some of the homes on the Home Tour.**

exemplify the unique beauty of our neighborhood.

More information, including tour-day activities, home and garden features, ticket release dates and ticket sales locations are forthcoming.

In addition to the *Viewpoint*, updates will be posted on SCNA's website at sierra2.org and Facebook.

## Soup night for First Friday

Neighbors will find a warm meal with friends at the First Friday gathering Feb. 7 in Curtis Hall. Dantorels, the restaurant at 2nd Avenue and 24th Street, is cooking. Dinner will be served from 6 to 8 p.m.

Diners will have a choice of three soups with a side salad and fresh rolls. One choice will be vegetarian.

The cost will be \$8 a serving for adults and \$4 for children. Beverages will be sold separately.

Notes from January 8<sup>th</sup> meeting

Board elects officers; search for senior center coordinator continues; city reviews petition to halt palm tree removal

Board officers elected

Nicole Quinonez was re-elected to a third term as board secretary. Serving second terms are Joe Eschleman as treasurer, Kara Leon-Olkowski as member-at-large, and Eric Johnson as president. Robert Giblin was elected to his first term as vice president, replacing Andrea Rosen, who remains on the board.

Senior coordinator search is on

SCNA received an impressive 75 applications for the senior coordinator position. The first round of interviews is complete, and the second round will begin soon. The goal is to have a new coordinator in place by spring.

The SCNA Board meets at 7 p.m. in the Garden Room on the second Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is March 12. For more information, call the Sierra 2 office at 452-3005.

Strong financial outlook

Halfway into the 2013/14 budget year, we're ahead of projected revenues. Rentals are going strong, especially with new block users (ongoing monthly renters) at Sierra 2. Once a new senior coordinator is on board, the center's income is expected to improve as well.

Appealing palm tree removal

SCNA appealed to the city to stop the removal of three palm trees on 21st Street and 2nd Avenue. SMUD petitioned to remove the trees because they are interfering with power lines above. The city is reviewing the petition. It is expected to hold a public hearing at 7 p.m. Feb. 6 in the Commission Hearing Room, which is on the second floor of the Historic City Hall at 915 I St.

Mercado Loco update

SCNA chose not to take a formal position on the proposed CVS Pharmacy at the current Mercado Loco location. The Neighborhood Concerns Committee did work with the developers of the project to improve the design, but it is unclear where the project stands at this point.

— Submitted by Nicole Quinonez, Board Recording Secretary

Join SCNA! Visit [www.sierra2.org](http://www.sierra2.org)

Neighbors urged to save water

Sacramento City Council approved a Stage 2 water shortage plan, requiring a 20-30 percent water use reduction in the city. The city will increase enforcement of the winter watering ordinance, which limits outdoor irrigation to one day a week. Repeat violators face up to \$1,000 fines.

Curtis Park residents are encouraged to abide by the ordinance and continue to reduce indoor and outdoor water use.

President's message

Another exciting year looms for SCNA

There was a gratifyingly large turnout for the meeting the other night regarding possible changes to the water retention basin/park space in Curtis Park Village. The juxtaposition of discussions of 100-year floods with the Governor's declaration of a drought emergency was ironic to say the least, and disturbing to say the most. Our water situation is nothing to be sneezed at.

Be assured that the Board and I will work closely with the City, the developer and our neighbors on the next stages of Curtis Park Village.

ERIC JOHNSON  
SCNA Board President



You can read all about the meeting elsewhere in the issue, so I'll devote this column to other big and small issues as I jump into my second term as president of the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association.

There appear to be at least two candidates, Jay Schenirer and Ali Cooper, running for election

to the City Council's seat in District 5. Curtis Park has a history of strong participation in elections, and candidates have a history of bruising their knuckles on Curtis Park doors.

The primary election is less six months away, so please engage in a spirited discussion with any candidates or canvassers who visit your porch. The Board is investigating holding a candidates' forum later in the year, as those events have been well-received in the past. Note also that the SCNA Board's bylaws expressly prohibit any political activity, so we cannot endorse any particular position or candidate.

The other day I was building Legos with my son Chance in his room, when the doorbell rang. Chance scampered over, answered the door, had a short conversation, and came back with an intent look on his face: "Daddy, there's some very bad news."

A tree limb had fallen on our Camry, shattering the back window and denting the roof enough for our insurance company to later declare it a

total loss. If you see limbs that are looking dry or dead, please call an arborist and take them down if necessary. Being in a well-canopied neighborhood can have its drawbacks.

As always, be safe and healthy. I hope your 2014 is full of success and good cheer — you are always welcome to be a part of that good cheer at our second-Wednesday board meetings. Perhaps you'd even consider being a board member yourself, as we are always looking for new faces and new perspectives. All the best.



Photo/Eric Johnson  
Eric's Camry was totaled after a limb fell on it last month.

VIEWPOINT

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Deadlines

Deadline for Viewpoint copy is the 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

Quilt show set for Feb. 1-15

In celebration of Black History Month, Sisters Quilting Collective will host its third annual Quilt Exhibit entitled "Our Stories in Quilts: Quilts That Are Inspired by the Stories in Our Lives." The show will run Feb. 1-15 at the Brickhouse Art Gallery, 2837 36th Street.

The exhibit will highlight African-American

quilters and their quilts. Accompanying the show are various presentations, including family history stories, group discussions and a film.

A schedule of the dates and times is online at <http://sistersquiltingcollectivesqc.blogspot.com/>.



# Dogxilliary group gathered donations to Loaves and Fishes

By Susan MacCulloch  
Viewpoint staff writer

Members of Curtis Park’s Dogxillary demonstrated their generosity at Christmas with a large donation to Loaves and Fishes. Their gifts of dog food and supplies as well as clothing and toys surprised the service organization’s volunteer who took inventory, according to Dogxillary manager Jenn Garrison.

She and neighbors Mike Abbott and Renee Krale delivered the gifts Dec. 16. They included more than 350 pounds of dry dog food, 10 new dog coats and sweaters, 12 new nylon and leather leashes and matching collars, 10 collapsible canvas dog bowls and a few gently used harnesses.

The Dogxilliary members also

donated supplies for the human guests at Loaves and Fishes. Those included a dozen down coats and several large garbage bags full of sweatshirts, shoes and new toys for students at Mustard Seed School.

“The volunteer who took inventory of our donation was stunned by the group’s generosity and couldn’t stop smiling and thanking Mike and me,” Jenn said.

Jenn plans to organize another drive this spring or early summer. Donations of dog food or other dog items in good condition — crates, harnesses, collars, leashes, collapsible dog bowls — are appreciated.

For more information, contact Jenn Garrison at dogxilliary@gmail.com.

# What’s new at Sierra 2

By Valerie Burrows  
Facility Administrator

If you are considering adoption, you may want to attend an informational meeting Feb. 20 at Sierra 2. Adoption Connection, a San Francisco-based company, is hosting a Domestic Adoption Orientation from 7–8:30 p.m. Feb. 20 in the Garden Room.

This free, single-session meeting will introduce the process of domestic,

infant, open adoption and the services of Adoption Connection. Topics include understanding the process, the myths and realities of open adoption and options when adopting. Registration is at [www.adoptionconnection.org/workshop.php?id=205](http://www.adoptionconnection.org/workshop.php?id=205).

For more information, contact Malia Kane, Outreach and Education Manager, (415) 359-246 or visit [www.adoptionconnection.org](http://www.adoptionconnection.org).

# Water meters by summer 2015

The Sacramento Utilities Department will soon begin replacing water mains and installing water meters in the remaining areas of Curtis Park. One section is bounded roughly by 21st Street, 2nd Avenue, Franklin Boulevard and Marshall Way. This section of the project is called Curtis Park Water Main Replacement and Meter Installation Phase 2.

The construction in this area

is expected to begin in spring 2014 and be completed by summer 2015. Before the first shovel digs in, the City notifies residents through the media and postcards. A week prior to construction, a door-hanger notice is left on front doors and again 24 hours prior to the water shut off.

More information about the water meter plans check is at: [www.cityofsacramento.org/utilities/water/water-meters.cfm](http://www.cityofsacramento.org/utilities/water/water-meters.cfm).

# Pangaea: New chef plans to pair specialty beers with food fare

(Continued from page one)

as well as vegan fare.

For people who want to eat well at home, Archie will have an online ordering system that will offer pick up and home delivery.

The café expansion will also give the café room to cater birthday parties and special events. “We want to bring the food up to the quality of the beers we serve,” Venditti said. He will have a short commute from his home on 9th Avenue, not far from his dad’s childhood home on Portola Way.

Venditti’s professional experience includes working as a chef for Mulvaney’s B&L and Formoli’s Bistro. He had wanted to open his own café at 5th Ave and Franklin Boulevard, but when his plans fell through, Archie convinced Venditti to team up with him.

“I knew I wanted to expand. I’ve been asked to open other places in Midtown, but I love Curtis Park,” said Archie. “When Robb became available, it was a no brainer. I had to hire him.”

Rob and Robb are an interesting

pair. Both are the same age and have the same first name, although spelled differently. Their dynamic energy radiates when they talk about unusual dishes for the new menu.

Vendetti wants to pair sour beers with sweetbreads or sausage and liver dishes. Archie wants to pair mussels with a sweet Belgian tripel (a strong ale). They are also planning special Saturday and Sunday brunches with food from local farms and brews from regional beer makers. It is as if Archie has met his creative match.

“I have the confidence to spar with him on beer pairings and specialty foods,” Archie said, with a smile. “This is where the magic can happen.”

Venditti responded, “I’m very excited about getting some weird, creative ideas on a plate for neighbors to try.”

Pangaea is open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Tuesdays–Thursdays and Sundays, and 11a.m. to 11 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. For more information: [www.pangaeatwobrews.com](http://www.pangaeatwobrews.com).



Photo/Joan Cusick

Behind the bar at Pangaea Bier Cafe, owner Rob Archie (left) and new chef Robb Venditti prepare for lunch service. Behind them, the existing kitchen will be expanded into adjacent space at the rear of the cafe, allowing Venditti to upgrade the menu.

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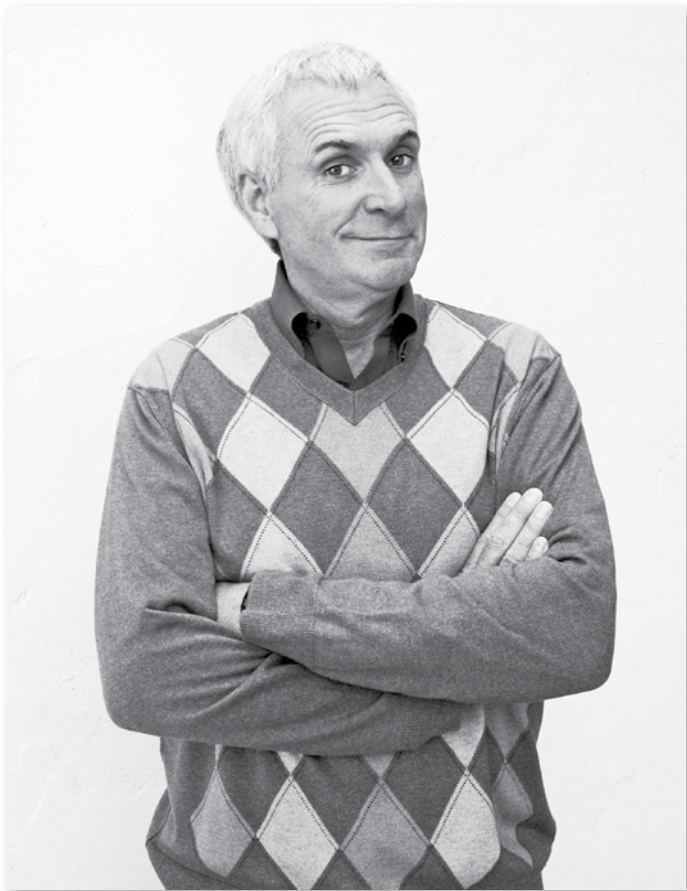
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# FEBRUARY AT SIERRA 2

## AT THE 24<sup>TH</sup> STREET THEATRE



**JACK GALLAGHER**  
**4th Annual**  
**(eventhoughweskipperedoneyear)**  
“The Joke’s On Me”  
Saturday, Feb. 22  
**Shows:** 5 p.m. & 8 p.m.  
General Admission: \$25  
**Tickets:** [www.inticketing.com](http://www.inticketing.com)  
**Info:** [www.swell-productions.com](http://www.swell-productions.com)  
**Starring:**  
Dick Bright - Maestro and Violin  
Tommy Dunbar - Guitar  
Al Chan - Bass  
Allen Leong - Keyboards  
Kevin Hayes - Drums  
Dean Chance - Harp  
Jack Gallagher - Host and Warbler  
Plus comedian Geoff Bolt

Humorist and rock & roll raconteur Jack Gallagher makes his long pilgrimage down the corner and around the block from his Land Park home to the 24th Street Theatre in neighboring Curtis Park. As he irregularly says “ New music, new stories — same band and price!”

**SEUSSICAL, THE MUSICAL**  
**Runaway Stage Productions**  
Feb. 28 - March 23  
**Shows:** Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m.  
**Tickets:** \$25 Adults, \$23 Seniors (60+), \$18 Kids (12 and under)  
**Info:** 207-1226 or [www.runawaystage.com](http://www.runawaystage.com)

Based on the incredible Dr. Seuss books, The Cat in the Hat tells the story of Horton, an elephant who discovers a speck of dust containing Whos, including Jojo, a Who child sent off to a butter battling military school for thinking too many “thinks.” Horton’s attention to the speck of dust and his “loitering” care of Mayzie LaBird’s egg has elicited taunting and accusations from the rest of the animal kingdom, except



for Gertrude McFuzz, who longs for his attention, and Jojo, whose “thinks” save them all in the end. Suitable for theatregoers of all ages.

## ACTIVITIES AT SIERRA 2

### OUR TENANTS

All Seasons All Reasons Fine Catering  
451-9393

Charr Crail Photography  
505-1154

Angela Curiale Ph.D. Psychologist  
455-1592

Great Beginnings  
Child Development Center  
456-4642

Suzanne Hambleton  
Right Light Images Photography  
214-9067

Hope Harris Photography  
454-2111

Italian Cultural Society  
Language School  
482-5900

La Famiglia Catering  
739-6034

River Song Meditation  
212-0062

Runaway Stage Productions  
207-1226

Sacramento Braille Transcribers  
455-9121

Sacramento Yoga Center  
996-5645

Straight Men's AA  
454-1100

### DANCE

**New York Salsa**  
Tuesday, 7-8 p.m., Studio 1  
Sunday, 12:30-3 p.m., Studio 2  
Oscar Castenada • 296-2216

**Mindful Bellydance**  
Tribal fundamentals class for all levels  
Thursday, 7 p.m., Studio 1  
Sawako Ama • [lovebreath@infocircle.net](mailto: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](mailto:lovebreath@infocircle.net)

**Irish American Ceili Dancers**  
1st and 3rd Monday, 7-9 p.m., Studio 1  
Helen Healy: 444-8051

**Manasa Tribal Dance**  
Sunday, 2-3:30 p.m., Studio 1  
Patrice Norris: 736-1730

**River City Taps – Tap Dance**  
Monday–Thursday 5–8:30 p.m.  
Tues: Tues/Thurs 10 a.m.–1:30 p.m.  
Saturday 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Studio 3  
[www.rivercitytaps.com](http://www.rivercitytaps.com)

**Polynesian Dance**  
Tuesday, 6-7:30 p.m.  
Studio 2 • [alohatyra@aol.com](mailto:alohatyra@aol.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 Bushido Kai**  
**Japanese Martial Arts for ages 4-Adult**  
Monday, 6-7 p.m., Studio 2  
Wednesday, 6-7 p.m., Studio 1  
For schedule, Michael Mason: 616-5452

**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](mailto:Lohan36@sbcglobal.net)

**Typhoon Philippine School of Martial Arts**  
Tues./Fri, 8:30-9:30 p.m., Studio 2  
Master Maurice Gatdula: 509-6671

### MUSIC

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

### FITNESS

**Zumba**  
Friday, 6-7 p.m. Sunday, 11 a.m.-noon • Studio 2  
Abraham Contreras, [pakko.zumba@yahoo.com](mailto:pakko.zumba@yahoo.com)

**Weight Watchers**  
Monday, 5:30 p.m. • Wednesday, 9 a.m.  
Thursday, 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.  
Saturdays, 9 a.m.  
(800) 374-9191 • Room 10

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

**Zumba**  
Monday/Wednesday/Friday, 10-11 a.m.  
Tuesday/Thursday. 5-6 p.m.  
Saturday 11 a.m.-noon • Sunday 4-5 p.m.  
Studio 2 • Vanessa • [itsvtime@live.com](mailto:itsvtime@live.com)

**Nia**  
Tuesday, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Studio 1  
Kelly Holland • [www.NiaNow.com](http://www.NiaNow.com)

**ZUMBA**  
Thursday, 8pm, Studio 1  
Natalie, (917) 501-0206

**Movement Medicine**  
Wednesday, Feb 12–Mar 5  
7-8:45 p.m., Room 10  
Laura Valente • 226-0774

### SPIRITUAL SERVICES

**Baha’is** Call for schedule: 491-5871

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

**Believers Fellowship**  
Sunday, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Room 10  
Lee Aviles: 203-6461

**The Vibe Church of Sacramento**  
Sunday Services : 10-11:30 a.m., Garden Rm.  
Bible Study: 7-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Room 11  
John Macdonell, Pastor: 595-5622



### CHILDREN

**Curtis Park Community Play Group**  
Infant–5 years old  
Tuesday, 10 a.m. – Noon, Room 9  
452-3005

**Capital City Music Together**  
Children 5 and under  
enjoy singing, dancing,  
drumming, playing, giggling  
Call for class schedules.  
Jennie Ribadeneira: 990-3222  
[www.capitalcitymusictogether.com](http://www.capitalcitymusictogether.com)

**Young Actors Stage**  
Saturday, Studios  
Call for schedule  
Musical Theater: (ages 6–14)  
Broadway Tap: Beginning (all ages):  
Theater Dance (all ages)  
Info: [youngactorsstage.com](http://youngactorsstage.com)

### YOGA

**Iyengar Yoga**  
Tuesday, 10-11 a.m. • Studio 1  
Gladys Callander: 382-9943

**Tai Chi - Chi Kung & Yoga**  
Call for schedule. Tara Stiles: 454-5526

**Art of Living Foundation**  
**Yogic breathing/meditation**  
Thursday, 6:30-8 p.m., Room 11 • 601-3101

### OTHER

**Master Sha’s Soul Power Group**  
**Soul Healing Techniques**  
Schedule: [soulpowergroupsacramento.com](http://soulpowergroupsacramento.com)

**Know Thyself as Soul – Meditation**  
1st Sunday of the month, 1 – 4 p.m. Curtis Hall  
[knowthyselfassoul.org](http://knowthyselfassoul.org)

# My Story project records family history on DVD

By Craig McCulloch  
Senior Center member and  
Viewpoint staff writer

Your life stories, memories, photos, and documents can be preserved on a DVD made at Sierra 2’s Senior Center. A dozen active senior volunteers started the My Story Video Project to record video interviews of friends and neighbors at Sierra 2 Center for the Arts and Community. These volunteers help other seniors and their families keep their heritage and stories alive for future generations through an archival quality DVD.

The My Story team includes story coaches, videographers, set-up crew and digital editors. All have continued to learn about their craft to improve the productions. Professional moviemakers volunteered to provide the initial and ongoing training.

The recording team has found that everyone has a worthwhile story to tell. Many of our volunteers coach storytellers in making their story fit into a 30 to 45 minute program. The coaches are experienced at organizing the story content, and drawing out important details to make the story more vivid and engaging. Other family members may participate in the filming either on or off screen.

The project started in 2011 with an initial anonymous grant used to obtain equipment, including cameras, and a large screen Apple Macintosh computer for digital editing. A camera team films the session using professional cameras. Lighting equipment and backdrops help create the best atmosphere to film the interview. Photos and documents are scanned into the computer for compilation into the final video. A digital editor oversees the finished video by integrating the interview and the family photos.

So far more than 45 DVDs have been produced. The topics include:

- Stories about the struggles and hardships of pioneering families, with some dating back to the late 1800s.
- One client’s stories about meeting three U.S. Presidents and the Pope.

- A couple married for over 66 years shared the tale of their love and respect in the “Stories of Our Life.”
- One person related his sky-diving adventure at age 80.
- Four former World War II Japanese internees related their experiences at a camp in southwestern Arizona and the subsequent building of a memorial near the former camp.

Those of us working on the My Story project welcome seniors who want to preserve their family stories through this process. We suggest a donation of \$100 one DVD and \$10 for each additional copy. The project team encourages additional volunteers to become part of this activity and learn various aspects of the project, and assist with the video productions. No experience is necessary. A sampler DVD is available for checkout. For more information, call 452-6339 and leave a message for the My Story Video Project team.

## Sierra 2 Senior Center in February

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

## Schenirer’s message

# Curtis Park battles drought and flood issues

A famous quote in the West, largely attributed to Mark Twain, says “Whiskey is for drinking and water is for fighting.”

There is little doubt water can elicit strong emotions when talking about drought or flood. Curtis Park is currently dealing with the two water extremes: first, being a potentially serious regional drought and, second, the ironic challenge of managing large volumes of storm water in the Curtis Park Village site in the event of a large rain event while also preserving the planned park at the development site.

**The drought:** We broke the record for days in a row without rain: 52 – during the traditional rainy season. Last year, 2013, was the driest year on record. Folsom Lake is less than 20 percent of capacity, and with little rain in the forecast.

In January, the Sacramento City Council unanimously voted to implement Stage 2 of the City of Sacramento Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP). Stage 2 requires all customers to reduce water usage by 20 percent. Customers are limited to watering landscaping one day a week on Saturday or Sunday. Irrigation will be reduced at parks, except for those supplied by well water. Because water meters are still not universal across all properties, 100 percent enforcement will be difficult. However, I know all our neighbors will take this seriously, and do everything possible to conserve water.

Should the dry weather conditions persist into the late winter and early spring, it may become necessary to implement Stage 3 and /or Stage 4 measures. A Stage 3 would require that customers reduce their water usage by 30 to 40 percent, while a Stage 4 would require that customers reduce their water usage by 40 to 50 percent. The City of Sacramento has done a good job managing its



Jay Schenirer  
City Councilmember

water resources. Our ground water supply is healthy, and recent improvements made to the 100-year-old water treatment facility on the Sacramento River couldn’t have come at a better time. However, the next 12 months will require regional cooperation, collective action and some shared sacrifice, if we are to continue to have the water that we need.

**CPV changes:** On Jan. 15, SCNA President Eric Johnson and I hosted a neighborhood meeting to discuss changes to the Curtis Park Village Project.

Developer Paul Petrovich was on hand to present the change. In summary: Mr. Petrovich is proposing to reduce the size of the park space that also served as a detention basin and create a permanent water feature. The need is to hold a recently calculated large volume of storm water flowing from the Curtis Park neighborhood onto the project site in addition to the site’s own drainage. Under the existing plan, the roughly seven-acre park would be converted into a detention basin almost entirely to store the necessary amount of water during a major storm event.

During the meeting, many neighbors expressed the need to preserve open space for the future residents of Curtis Park Village. There were a number of good suggestions on how to possibly preserve more open space, while still meeting the City’s storm water requirements. My office has already begun researching these ideas, and I welcome you to send me your thoughts on this issue and on how you think we can best meet this challenge. My email is: jschenirer@cityofsacramento.org.

It is important any proposal is consistent with the City’s General Plan, and that it includes enough open space to meet the needs of future residents. To that end, I will work with City staff, Mr. Petrovich and SCNA to explore every option to protect open space and make this the best project possible.

## SIERRA 2 SENIOR CENTER

February 2014

Room 12

Info: 455-6339.

Everyone is welcome.  
Activities are free (donations accepted) except where noted.

### FITNESS

#### Community Acupuncture Clinic

9:45-11:15 a.m. (\$15)  
Feb. 4 and 18  
Zoë Griffin: 212-2170

#### Fall Prevention

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

#### Gentle yoga

Wednesday, 10-11 a.m. (6 classes \$40)  
Feb. 19–Mar. 26. Tara Stiles: 454-5526

#### Tai Chi

Wednesday, 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.  
(6 classes \$40)  
FREE Class Jan. 8 “Can Tai Chi Help Me?”  
Feb. 26–Apr. 2. Tara Stiles: 454-5526

#### Walking and Polewalking Clinic

9 a.m. Thursdays

#### Meditation and Chi Kung

Friday, 10-11 a.m. (6 classes \$40)  
Feb. 21–28. Tara Stiles: 454-5526

### LEISURE

#### Beginning Drawing

Thursday 9:30–10:45 a.m.  
(4 classes \$48)  
Patris: 397-8958

#### Improvisation acting with Jetta

3–5 p.m. Last Friday of the month

#### Book Club

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday  
Feb: “The Sense of an Ending”  
by Julian Barnes

#### My Story Project meeting

1–4 p.m. Monday/Tuesday

#### Everyone Can Drum

1-2 p.m. Tuesdays (\$5) Studio 1

#### Crafts and Conversation

1-3 p.m. Fridays (except last Friday)

#### Sierra 2 Jewels

1–3 p.m. Fridays (except last Friday)

#### Life History Writing

1–3 p.m. Wednesdays

#### Open Art Studio

10 a.m. – noon Fridays Room 11  
Bring projects to work on

### CARDS AND GAMES

#### Mahjong

10 a.m.–noon, all Mondays except second

#### Fun Bridge

1–4 p.m. Thursdays

#### Ginasta

9:30-11:30 a.m. Mondays

#### Pinochle

1-3 p.m. Fridays

### EVENTS

#### Potluck

Noon–2 p.m. Room 10  
Last Friday of the month

#### Senior Committee Meeting

1<sup>st</sup> Monday, 3 p.m. (Feb. 3)

#### AARP Driver Safety Program

Feb. 10 & 11, 9 a.m.–1 p.m., Room 11  
Registration: Jim Finnegan 804–9777

seniorcenter@sierra2.org



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Living and Working in Curtis Park



# Heritage Committee thanks schoolhouse light donors



By Susan MacCulloch  
Viewpoint staff writer

Last spring, the Heritage Committee initiated a fundraising drive to replace the 17 fluorescent tube light fixtures from the 1970s in Sierra 2’s first floor hallway. Only one possible original schoolhouse light fixture remained. Rejuvenation Hardware cast the replica light molds from other original schoolhouse lights that appeared similar to the ones originally installed at Sierra School.

Within a few months enough sponsors stepped

up to pay for the replica schoolhouse lights at \$200 per light. Installation was completed in June 2013.

A plaque with the donor names is on the wall outside of Room 10, the original kindergarten room.

On a further positive note, enough money was raised to fund the installation of replica lights in the kindergarten room within the next year.

The committee thanks Rejuvenation Hardware for providing a nonprofit discount and SCNA for funding the installation and supporting additional fundraising efforts.

Here are the people who pulled together to get the job done:

Barbara and Frank Cook  
Carol and Peter Blackman  
Carol Conti and Victor Pottorff  
Carolyn Tarnay and Michael Benjamin  
Cook Realty, Trey Bonetti  
Ellen Peter and Dan Murphy  
Evelyn Fallon  
Genevieve Shiroma and Michael Abbott  
Gerre Buehler  
Janet Carlson and John Bailey  
Janice and Rudy Calpo  
John Johnson and Douglas Patton  
Joseph Barnes  
Judy and John Brush  
Kathryn Beltrami and Martin Pierucci

Lynda White and Alan Wade  
Lynn Franks  
Nancy Anton and Family  
Nicoletta Anselmo and John Matthews  
Paul Jorjorian  
Robert A. Piering and Piering Law Firm  
(in memory of Jerry Piering)  
Sharon and Mark Helmar  
Sharyn Kaplan and Mark Schneider  
Shirley and Bob Olson  
Steven McNeal  
Susan MacCulloch and Steven White  
Terri Shettle and Melissa McKenzie  
Trey Luz, Sierra and Brooke Bonetti

Photos/Rudy Calpo  
Above is one of the 17 light fixtures now installed in the first floor hallway. Below is a portion of the plaque on the wall listing the donors.



## Trees of Curtis Park

# Girdling roots must be addressed at planting time

By Dan Pskowski  
Special to the Viewpoint

As spring approaches now is still a good time to plant trees. An important practice often overlooked is to check the tree’s root ball for girdling roots before setting it in the planting hole. Girdling roots are those that circle the trunk or other roots. Once the roots begin to entwine the trunk, the pattern will continue.

Why should these girdling roots be removed before the tree is planted? Girdling roots will limit trunk development and compromise its structural strength. This will lead to the trunk snapping off at ground level, just above the girdling root, during a windstorm. Unfortunately, tree failure might not occur until 20, 30, even 40 years later when the tree is mature and provides benefits of shade, oxygen, carbon dioxide sequestration, removal of dust and other particulates.

This problem with girdling roots seldom occurs in the natural forest. Girdling roots are caused by growing trees in containers. The roots begin to turn about the container and develop into circling roots. When the tree is planted the roots continue to grow in this circular way. On young trees the circling/



Photos/Dan Pskowski

Proper trunk/root development.

girdling roots should be removed. Gently shake and remove the soil from the outer periphery of the entire root ball and examine it for girdling/circling roots. On older trees it is best to leave the girdling roots alone. More harm than good may be done in attempts to remove large girdling roots.


Now that you know the importance of inspecting for girdling roots, here are some resources that provide free trees for Curtis Park residents. If the park strip in front of your home is vacant, call



The above photo shows a girdling root limiting proper trunk/root development.

311 or email 311@cityofsacramento.org to ask the City of Sacramento Urban Forestry section to plant a tree for you. Outside of the public right-of-way, if you are looking to shade your home, the SMUD shade tree program has trees available. The program is managed by the Sacramento Tree Foundation at 924-8733 or sactree.com. If you don’t qualify for either program then visit a local nursery. But when selecting a tree, avoid the tallest, largest ones that will most likely have girdling roots.

At HOME in Curtis Park.



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# COMMUNITY CORNER

## Funds approved for bike lanes

By Andrea Rosen  
Viewpoint staff writer

Some \$1.6 million in federal and State funds have been authorized for a long-anticipated project to add bicycle lanes to Freeport Boulevard north of Sutterville Road while reducing motor vehicle traffic to one lane in each direction.

Total cost of the project is \$2.49 million. Additional planning and design work is set for this year. Construction is expected in the summer 2015. The Sacramento Area Council of Governments authorized the \$1.6 million expenditure in December.

The project, which was approved by City Council in November 2012, calls for converting Freeport Boulevard to a single vehicle lane

in each direction from Vallejo Way to Sutterville Road, with a center turn lane and a bicycle lane in each direction. The project also calls for bus cut-out lanes, new and improved crosswalks for pedestrians, the elimination of all 61 parking spaces on the west side and 14 spaces on the east side, and the reconfiguration of the traffic island by Taylor’s Market to accommodate a southbound bicycle lane through that intersection.

The purpose of the project is to improve safety, move traffic more efficiently and connect with existing bicycle lanes. The project area is a stretch of Freeport Boulevard that includes McClatchy High School, Sacramento City College and several parks. It is heavily used by pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists.

## Website helps neighbors share ideas, keep informed

By Craig McCulloch  
Viewpoint staff writer

The new website [www.curtispark.nextdoor.com](http://www.curtispark.nextdoor.com) has been set up for residents in Sierra-Curtis Park and nearby neighbors. This free service is a private social network established to promote communication among neighbors. People use it to post lost-and-found pet messages, crime reports or suspicious persons, recommendations for home repair businesses, local events, classified ads and neighborhood watch programs.

To get started, neighbors can sign up at the [nextdoor.com](http://nextdoor.com) website with their name, email address and home address. Only real names may be

used and addresses are verified. Once you are set up, neighbors may invite other neighbors to join via email, text message, or postcards sent by the [nextdoor.com](http://nextdoor.com).

So far almost 500 neighbors have signed up in Curtis Park, and a total of 1,949 in the nearby neighborhoods. More than 10,000 Sacramento residents are members.

The website is controlled by password access. The email address is not provided to advertisers. Communications are secured (encrypted) by industry standard techniques. To protect your privacy, house numbers may be hidden on the website after they have been verified as within the established

## Harvesting backyard produce



Photo/Joan Cusick

Harvest Sacramento coordinator Tim Bowles (left), who lives on Castro Way, led a group of Curtis Park volunteers for the MLK Day Citrus Harvest. This mandarin harvest at the home of Dennis and Joan Cusick on Portola Way was just one of 50 MLK Day projects tackled by 150 volunteers, yielding about 6,000 pounds of fruit to donate to food assistance agencies. To volunteer your backyard produce for Harvest Sacramento, visit the website of its parent organization, Soil Born Farms, at [www.soilbornfarms.org](http://www.soilbornfarms.org).

neighborhood boundaries. Only member-neighbors can see your postings, unless a wider distribution is desired.

There are many privacy settings available to further control the information you post or view. For example, if you are not interested in “nearby neighborhoods” (Land Park, Oak Park etc.) you can restrict emails to be sent to you to only for Curtis Park. A help page on the web-site explains the various settings.

The Sacramento Police Department often posts on the

website to further educate neighbors about crime concerns, including recent trends, and starting neighborhood watch groups for your street.

However, the police do not have access to our neighborhood website to view postings by our neighbors. They often remind the users to call them with suspicious situations on either 911, or the police non-emergency number 264-5471.

Founded in 2010, Nextdoor is based in San Francisco and funded by Benchmark Capital and Shasta Ventures, according to its website.



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**Bret Harte News**

# Students participate in a special celebration honoring Dr. King

By Char Klassen  
Viewpoint Staff Writer

With songs, poems and historic recordings, students celebrated the accomplishments of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during a special evening program Jan. 17 at Bret Harte.

Teacher and Master of Ceremonies Ted Richardson kicked off the event by welcoming parents and praising the students for their hard work on the program. Fourth graders from Mr. Kreutz's class and Mr. Richardson's fourth and fifth graders participated.

With the name "Let freedom ring!", the program included a recording of John F. Kennedy



announcing the death of Martin Luther King Jr. and one of King's "I Have a Dream" speech. Both were powerful to hear.

Students performed the nine speaking roles in a choral poem about Dr. King by Joan Nichols.

A dozen students sang a daring two-part a capella rendition of "My County Tis of Thee (America)." Two brave and talented students, 4th grader Nehemiah Smiley and 5th grader Aldina Kelecija, performed a dramatic memorized poem titled, "Dr. Martin Luther King Jr." The whole class was required to commit the poem to memory. According to the teachers the whole presentation



Photo/Char Klassen

**Julian Stard and her fourth-grade son, Nehemiah Smiley, enjoy refreshments following the Dr. Martin Luther King presentation.**

was part of the students' educational experience.

Mr. Richardson said of the evening, "I hope everyone walked away with a sense of appreciation for who Dr. King was, a man of faith and conviction. Furthermore, I hope our students feel proud."

## Mark Your Calendar

**NO SCHOOL: LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY**  
Monday, Feb. 10

**NO SCHOOL: WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY**  
Monday, Feb. 17

# Proposal: Pond would be surrounded by green space

(Continued from page one)

Trunk is only three feet below grade level, drainage fed by gravity had to be shallow, which would take up most of the park space. By using a pump system, estimated to cost \$1.25 million, the project can have a smaller pond sloping to a depth of 16 feet that catches the storm runoff, and then pumps it directly into the Donner Trunk.

The 2.3-acre pond would be surrounded by green space — 100 feet by 340 feet on its western shore, 40 feet by 340 feet on the eastern shore. Because of the proposed gentle slope of the pond, Petrovich is proposing that it not be fenced, which he said was in line with similar ponds in McKinley Park and Natomas. That prompted safety

objections from a number of people in the audience, one of whom said there were as many as eight small children in his nearby block who would be endangered by an unfenced pond.

A number of people lamented the reduction in green space that Petrovich is proposing and weren't mollified by the requirement that in compensation for not providing a park, he pay a \$1.9 million fee that could be used to upgrade Curtis Park.

"My biggest concern is you've added so many more houses and reduced the amount of open space," said Rosanna Herber. She suggested that "a couple of pocket parks" in the project could address the reduction in green space.

One neighborhood resident, Earl Withycombe,

countered that Curtis Park Village residents would have access to existing parks, living 900 feet from Curtis Park and 1,800 feet from William Land Park, which is closer than he lives to any park. Withycombe said existing pocket parks in the neighborhood are underutilized. "Think about the use rates we have. Is this what we want to break our pick on?"

SCNA President Eric Johnson said the board would gather more information on the project changes and take a position that it will submit to the city.

Councilmember Schenirer urged anyone with a question or comment on the proposed project changes to contact him via the city's website.

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