VIEWPOINT

A Publication of the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association

Vol. 35, No. 19

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

June 2014

Curtis Park Village update

Green space with amenities, speed bumps to calm traffic, no Walmart

What is the status of the park in Curtis Park Village?

Councilmember Jay Schenirer reports that the current plan has 6.18 acres of green space. This means most of the park will be built to act as a detention basin, a "dry" or "holding" pond that protects against flooding by storing water for a period of time. Schenirer reports that Petrovich is undecided about adding a water feature. At a recent neighborhood meeting, Petrovich said a pump and fountain would take 2.3 acres. This would leave about four acres of green space. Schenirer said the detention basin, "will have all the amenities of a neighborhood park. That means play fields, picnic tables and trees." Schenirer projects the revised plans will come forward to the City Council in the next two to three months.

What about the rumor of a Walmart coming to CPV?

"That's just ridiculous," said Schenirer. "I spoke to Paul Petrovich about it and he said there is no way he would ever consider putting a Walmart there. That's one rumor we can put to rest." Schenirer also said that Petrovich Development is in talks to bring a grocery store to the development, but nothing is firm yet.

How many houses have sold?

According to Kathy Anker, sales consultant for Black Pine
Communities, initially there will be
12 cottage-style homes built along
24th Street with 3-5 bedrooms, 2 ½
baths ranging in price from \$518,990
to \$628,990. One has been sold. Only
one? "Considering we have no models
built and I only have dirt to show, we
are doing fine," said Anker. "There's
lots of interest in this location. Once
the foundations start going in, these
homes will be snapped up."

Why were speed bumps added to Crocker Blvd?

Several neighbors asked why speed bumps were installed on Crocker Blvd. According to Lindsey Alagozian, senior city planner, the speed bumps were required as part of the development's approval process — another sign of good planning and a watchful eye by the staff in the City Planning Department.

— Viewpoint staff



Dennis Johnson and the Mississippi Ramblers will perform lively dance music.

Dennis Johnson kicks off summer concert series June 29

Residents of Curtis Park and beyond can look forward to a great line-up this year with a variety of music and fun. Held on the last Saturday of June, July and August, each of these free concerts is open to the public and takes place in Curtis Park.

Beer, wine and beverages will be sold in the beer garden. Food trucks will be on-site for food purchases. Those in the know arrive early with their blankets and low lying chairs to get a good spot. SCNA reminds guests that alcohol may only be consumed within the designated permit area.

Beginning at 6 p.m. Saturday, June 29,

Mr. Cooper will entertain children of all ages, followed by Dennis Johnson and the Mississippi Ramblers. Dennis Johnson is one of Sacramento's elite slide guitarists who performs Blues, New Orleans, Rock and Swing. He and his band deliver stirring live performances that move the audience to get up and dance.

Once again the major sponsor for Music in the Park is the Heede Team: Meg, Michael and Melissa of ReMax Gold. Supporting sponsors for the summer concert series are Joseph Eschleman, Wells Fargo Advisors and Councilmember Jay Schenirer.

Audience hears clear differences at well-attended candidates forum

By Craig McCulloch Viewpoint staff writer

On May 5, the League of Women Voters and SCNA held a forum for the two candidates for the District 5 City Council seat. The primary election is Tuesday, June 3. The candidates participating in the forum were Jay Schenirer, incumbent councilmember, and Ali Cooper, the challenger. Some of the estimated 150 neighbors in attendance had to stand during the event

The forum was conducted by the League with pre-determined rules, which included a two-minute opening and closing statement by each candidate.

The League screened questions submitted by members of the audience covering a variety of topics. Every question was allowed a two-minute response by each candidate.

The candidates rotated the order of their responses.

The candidates differed on certain issues — notably support for the new Kings Arena and the "strong mayor" program backed by Mayor Kevin Johnson.

Cooper strongly criticized the City's approval of the arena development, calling it "reckless" and "lacking a sound economic analysis." On the other hand, Schenirer supports the arena as a job creator. He said it would bring thousands of new jobs to Sacramento and revitalize downtown. He said, "Outside experts were brought in to consult with city officials in order to reduce the financial risks to Sacramento."

The strong mayor concept will be on the ballot in November. Schenirer said, "I didn't support the original proposal by Mayor Johnson."

Please see Forum, page 8



Photo/Carol Blackman

Pangaea: Friendly staff, good food, all within walking distance from home.

Restaurant Review

Impressive new Pangaea menu

By Martin Pierucci Special to the Viewpoint

On a recent Friday night Pangaea was doing everything right for the 20–30 year-old Happy Hour crowd. There were just two open tables. Unfortunately for newcomers, we didn't understand that it was counter service, so we sat for a while waiting for a server.

The menu is certainly a step-up from pub food with a nice selection of small plates and entrees. Staff at the counter were very friendly and, considering the number of beers available, very knowledgeable.

The interior seating offered cafe tables and stools or picnic-style wood benches and table.

Interior noise was through the roof, fine for a brewpub but tough on diners who would like to talk below a scream level. Outside seating is beneath stylish awnings with large plantings blocking the street and Gunther's across the street.

The dining experience would benefit from servers. Staff was friendly, but counter service means you get your own silverware and must request salt and pepper and water. When you close your tab at the bar, meaning that you pay for dinner, you are unlikely to get up from the table and ask about dessert and coffee. This is a missed opportunity for Pangaea.

The special was Beef Stroganoff, Please see Pangaea, page 8

Looking for Curtis Park grads

If you have a graduate (high school, college or graduate school), the *Viewpoint* would like to give your grad a shout-out. We need a photo (color is fine), name (on back of picture, too), name of street and parents, name of school, major (if appropriate) and plans (college, job, travel).

The photo and information may

be placed in an envelope marked *Viewpoint* and dropped off at the Sierra 2 office from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. Or, a high-resolution JPEG or TIFF file and information may be emailed to Carol Blackman at carolxo@comcast.net.

The deadline is June 15 for the July edition. Questions: 456-3352.

Notes from May 14th meeting

Board to vote on final SCNA budget at June meeting; town hall meeting to be held to discuss park plan in Curtis Park Village

Welcome New Board Member

Jonathan LaTurner is the newest SCNA Board member. A Curtis Park resident for over two years, Jonathan is a financial advisor with Wells Fargo Advisors in Sacramento. Jonathan and his girlfriend, Samantha, enjoy walking the neighborhood with their Golden Irish Retriever, Franklin.

2014-15 draft budget discussed

The hard work of each committee and the executive director all came together this month when the draft 2014-2015 budget was presented to the board. The overall revenue is proposed at \$759,500. Based on discussions this month, revisions will be made and the board will

vote on the final budget at the June board meeting. Some of the highlights include:

- Revenue is projected to increase by 5% (approximately \$60,000).
- Increasing membership both household and businesses will be a strong focus next year.
- The Neighborhood Concerns Committee set aside funds for a message board/kiosk in the park, consulting services related to CPV if needed, and elm tree treatments.
- The Facilities Committee proposed an update to the facility assessment plan to better understand the capitol project needs at Sierra 2. They also budgeted for improvements to both the Garden Room and Curtis Hall patios.
- A new database is proposed

The SCNA Board meets at 7 p.m. in the Garden Room on the second Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is June 11. For more information, call the Sierra 2 office at 452–3005.

to help streamline registrations for events, membership and volunteers.

Tree Ordinance update

Responding to the city's plan not to release the draft tree ordinance until it goes to the Law and Legislative Committee later this summer, the board sent a letter to Councilmember Schenirer requesting the plan be released prior to that meeting. Consultants for the

project have presented concepts in the revised ordinance to various commissions — such as the Parks Commission — without releasing the draft. SCNA would like time to review and comment on the proposal.

Draft CPV park design

Councilmember Schenirer has received a tentative design draft for the Curtis Park Village park. It reportedly maintains the same acreage as previously approved, but is a new shape and includes a play structure and picnic tables.

Schenirer is currently vetting the design with city staff. A town hall meeting will be held in the future to fully discuss the plans.

> Submitted by Nicole Quinonez, Board Recording Secretary

President's message

Scenes from last month in the Sierra-Curtis neighborhood

Our neighbors were tired of people stealing and breaking their lawn ornament, so they hauled in a cast-iron lamp-post from their family ranch. One Sunday morning, they hosted a lamp-raising party with orange juice, Marie's donuts and coffee. A dozen people were there at 8 a.m. sharp to help out with strong muscles and expert supervision.

ERIC JOHNSON

SCNA Board President



Harrington couldn't plate her sweetpea appetizers quickly enough to meet demand. That's to say nothing of the Hawaiian dancers and the -- PG-rated -burlesque show.

Tara Stiles, who has taught yoga at Sierra 2 for almost 35 years, was featured on the front page of the Bee's Local section. Tara has been a mainstay of the

neighborhood and a constant steadying influence on the Center. We will miss her easy smile as she retires to traveling and her family. We hope to see her around the Center, teaching a few classes for old times' sake.

A standing-room only crowd gathered to hear a candidate forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters. Both candidates sent teams into Curtis Park to knock on doors and listen to concerns. Both candidates made it clear that our neighborhood is important to them.

This is, of course, only a smattering of events, big and small, that happen in Curtis Park every day. We live in the best neighborhood in Sacramento, and it's your efforts and care that help keep it that way. Thank you.

My son and I were riding down Castro on our way home from day care and work, respectively, and we saw a friend framed in his picture window. We rang the doorbell, he invited us in, and his family of five found room for two more around the dinner table: fried rice, broccoli, Brother Thelonius, popsicles, Legos and conversation.

More than 900 people through our neighborhood, touring seven lovely homes open to the public. Food trucks, music, camaraderie, vintage cars and vintage clothing were hallmarks of the scene at the north end of Curtis Park.

I invited a long-time friend over for grilled sausage, rice and broccoli, a tradition dating back 10 years. He brought a chili-infused beer from the Curtis Park Market and a half-gallon of Swiss Orange Chip from Gunthers.

The community at large gave more than \$10,000 to the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association on the BIG Day of Giving. Pangaea donated a keg. At the Sierra 2 Center there was some fiendishly competitive beanbag tossing, and Chef Ame

NOW HIRING Position: Seasonal Facility Monitor at Sierra 2 Center

General position description:

Responsibilities include assisting facility monitors with the setup, breakdown and cleanup of event rental rooms. Some janitorial tasks. Monitoring of rooms and guests during rental events. This includes: patrolling facility; ensuring rental rules are adhered to during events; monitoring event noise levels and securing the facility at the end of the evening.

Skills and abilities required:

Must possess the knowledge, skills and abilities to successfully perform the essential duties of the position. Must be able to perform heavy manual labor (must be able to lift a minimum of 50 pounds). Ability to follow oral

and written instructions. Ability to establish and maintain cooperative and effective working relationships with co-workers and customers. Ability to write clearly and neatly. Ability to assume the responsibility for safe working conditions. Light handyman, janitorial and general maintenance skills.

Hours:

10-20 hours per week, June-September. Shifts may include days, evenings and weekends. A complete job description can be found on the website or in the office.

Resumes:

Fax to 731–4386 or email valerie@sierra2.org.







First Friday dinner set for June 6



Mama Kim's On the Go food truck rolls up Friday,
June 6 for First Friday from 6 to 8 p.m. Menu
offerings are Green and Cannellini Bean Salad with
Baked Ciabatta, Fish Tacos, Orange Chipotle Black Bean
Tacos, and BBQ Chicken Thigh with Watermelon and
Pasta Salad. Adult plates are \$8; children \$4. Guests pay
the truck directly for their meals. Beer, wine and soft
drinks will be sold separately.

— Faith Johnstone

Best Friend Friday focuses on the environment on June 13

From 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday, June 13, Sierra 2 Center will host Best Friend Friday in partnership with Environmental Voices. This local non-profit organization helps to preserve our future by providing education and research about toxic chemicals and how they affect the environment. Guests can attend this social mixer for \$5, which includes tasty appetizers. Beer, wine, and soft drinks will be available for purchase. Information will be available about how you can support this organization's important efforts. — Faith Johnstone



Dinner and a Movie returns June 27

Summer starts to sizzle with the return of Dinner and a Movie and "Beach Blanket Bingo," starring Frankie Avalon and Annette Funicello Friday, June 27. Starting at 6 p.m. guests will enjoy a gourmet sandwich bar with all the picnic fixins' from Café Dantorels in a beach party atmosphere in Curtis Hall.



Movie goers will then rejoin in the adjacent 24th Street

Theater for popcorn and frolicking fun. Dinner and Movie price is \$30 and includes beverages with dinner and popcorn with the movie. Tickets are available in advance at brownpapertickets.com. Movie only price is \$5 and includes popcorn. — Faith Johnstone

What's new at Sierra 2

By Valerie Burrows Facility Administrator

Attention songwriters, artists and musicians

Songwriters Rick Beresford and Deanne Walker will conduct an allday songwriting and evaluation class from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 14 in Room 12. Class topics include: six tricks to original hits and music power, the musical hook, and the sum is greater than its parts. They will also listen to, and offer, feedback on how to make your songs more commercial.

The instructors come through the Northern California Chapter of the Nashville Songwriters Association International. Class fees are \$55 for NSAI members and \$65 for nonmembers. RSVP to Gabrielle Kennedy at gabrielle@gabscourt.com or 476-5073. Reserve your spot soon as this yearly event sells out.

Non-lethal horseshoes

A Cornhole (bean bag toss) league will be held at 6:20 p.m. Wednesday evenings from June 18-Aug. 27 in the shade of the Curtis Hall courtyard. Fees are \$200 per team or \$50 per free agent. Included in the cost is a seven-week league plus playoffs — everyone makes the playoffs weekly raffle prizes, and end of season awards and prizes. Participants can register online at sacsportandsocial. com or in person at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, June 14 at Kupros Craft House. For information, call Brad Satterwhite at 606-8779 or email commissioner@ sacsportandsocial.com.



Photo/ludv Harpe

Members of the Vintage Model A's Club chat in front of one of the homes on tour.

Annual Curtis Park Home and Garden Tour

900 attendees enjoy touring homes

Our record stands — it never rains on Home Tour Day — but the temperature was on the chilly side. The last Saturday in April was a great day for a long walk or bike ride through our beautiful, shady neighborhood bursting with rhododendrons, roses and azaleas.

Tour goers enjoyed seven lovely homes and gardens in Tudor Revival, Monterey, and Foursquare styles. Vintage cars rallied around the park before settling in front of the tour homes. Neighbors and friends enjoyed food, music and informational displays at the north end of the park.

This important fundraising event for SCNA and the Sierra 2 Center gained several additional sponsorships this year and grossed \$22,000 with 900 people in attendance, an increase of 100 attendees from 2013. SMUD returned as the major sponsor with additional sponsorships from Joseph Eschelman with Wells Fargo Advisors, Mark Baker with Fantasy Builders, Steffan Brown with Coldwell Banker, the

Greater Broadway Partnership and Councilmember Jay Schenirer.

The Curtis Park Heritage
Committee developed an
informational brochure with a selfguided walking tour featuring the
South Curtis Oaks subdivision.
The brochure contains historic and
architectural information, highlighting
many homes and original owners.
This year's brochure and past years'
efforts are available for \$1 each at the
Sierra 2 office.

Area historian and author Dan Murphy gave a presentation on South Curtis Oaks, one of the last subdivisions built in Curtis Park. The area features a large collection of Dean and Dean designed homes with an exceptional collection of various Spanish Revival style houses.

SCNA board member and certified arborist Dan Pskowski also gave an informative presentation on tree selection and care.

Thank you to the homeowners who opened their homes and gardens and to the dozens of volunteers who helped on tour day. — *Lori Harder*

BIG Day of Giving raised \$10,000 for Sierra 2

On May 6, SCNA participated in the 24-hour regional BIG Day of Giving campaign. In conjunction with the online donation activity, a Block Party was held at Sierra 2 Center to showcase the events, activities, and wide variety of community engagement work of SCNA.

More than 100 attendees participated in the Block Party, enjoying demonstrations of tap, line dancing and hula plus learning about activities such as cornhole and mosaic art. News 10 featured the Block Party on the Five O'Clock Live segment dedicated to the BIG Day of Giving.

The outcome and financial support was tremendous — contributions from the neighborhood, SCNA members, Sierra 2 Center fans, and loyal Senior Center followers amounted to \$10,808. The donated funds and matching portion are expected to be released to SCNA in late June. The board and executive director are working on plans for using the campaign's donations.

— Terri Shettle

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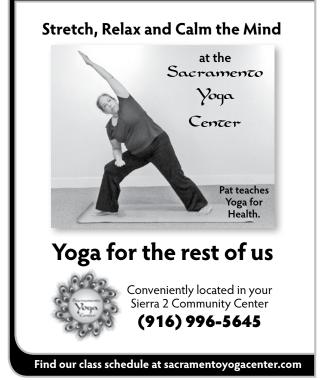
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Please Contact Us For Schedule Information



rivercitytaps.com



JUNE AT SIERRA 2

AT THE **24**TH **STREET THEATRE**



THE PRODUCERS **Runaway Stage Productions**May 30 - June 22

The winner of a recordbreaking 12 Tony awards, The Producers is set in New York with the latest Broadway musical by Max Bialystock closing as a box office failure. After finding an accounting error in the musical flop that benefits Max, he and his accountant, Leo Bloom, hatch a plan to get rich quick by producing the worst Broadway show ever. They set off to find the worst musical ever written, hire the worst director and actors, open the destinedto-flop musical, and then run off with the investors' money. Suitable for ages 17 and older.

Shows: Fridays and Saturdays at 8p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m.

Tickets: \$25 adults;
\$23 seniors (60+)

Info: (916) 207-1226 or

www.runawaystage.com



ONCE UPON A STORYTIME Runaway Stage Productions
Storybook Theater

June 7, 14 and 21

Once Upon A Storytime is an award winning original interactive musical in which the audience helps Fairytale Princess Lilly, who has lost her memory, embark on an exciting and madcap adventure to find and return to her own Fairytale Story. With help from the audience, she wanders through other famous fairytales searching for her own while the evil Nefaria, for her own devious purposes, tries to keep Lilly trapped in those other stories.

Can Princess Lilly and other beloved Fairytale characters, find her way back home to her own Prince and in the process help the other Fairytale folks as well? This is a feel-good musical tale of Princes, Princesses, poisoned pineapples, tall dwarfs, unexpected love, Happily-Ever-After's and discovering oneself, which will have adults and children alike sharing laughter and dancing in the aisles.

Shows: Saturdays, 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. **Tickets:** \$8 general, \$6 kids (12 and under) **Info:** (916) 207-1226 or www.runawaystage.com

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



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DANCE

Mindful Bellydance

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

Awakening Bellydance

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

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

Polynesian Dance

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

YOGA

Iyengar Yoga

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

Art of Living Foundation Yogic breathing/meditation

Thursday, 6:30-8 p.m., Room 11 • 601-3101

OTHER

Center for Soul Healing

2nd Thursday and 4th Tuesday 6:30-8 p.m. • Room 9 CenterForSoulHealing.com

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

Speaker Series: call for schedule 799-1354, marxistschool.org

ART

Awaken My Art Collective Glass mosaic classes

Tuesdays, Noon-3 p.m., Rm. 11 karensharp51@gmail.com

MUSIC

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

FITNESS

Zumba with Annalisa

Tuesday, 7-8 p.m., Studio 1 Annalisa Brown, (530) 513-0768

Zumba

Friday, 6-7 p.m. • Studio 2 Abraham Contreras, pakko.zumba@yahoo.com

Weight Watchers

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

Gokhale Method

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

Zumba

Saturday, 10 a.m. & 11 a.m., Studio 2 Vanessa: itsvtime@live.com

Nia

Tuesday, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Studio 1 Kelly Holland • www.NiaNow.com

Zumba

Thursday, 6 p.m. • Studio 1 Natalie, (917) 501-0206

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

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



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 Call for class schedules. Jennie Ribadeneira: 990-3222 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

Children's Ballroom Dance Lessons

Salsa, tango, swing, and waltz. Ages: 7-10 (girls and boys) Saturdays, 4 p.m., Studio 1 Naja: (219) 707-2382

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

New Direction Ministries

Sundays, 12:45-2:15 p.m., Room 11 Pastor Singleton, 532-5581

With gratitude senior center says good-bye to Tara Stiles

Farewell, Tara

Tara Stiles, the much beloved instructor at the senior center, has taught Yoga and Tai Chi classes at Sierra 2 for the past 30 years. She also taught classes at the Sacramento Natural Foods Co-op, Sutter Senior Center and for people with health challenges at Kaiser.

Since 1982, Tara has conducted over 50 weekend retreats in Northern California and taken people on



Tara Stiles moves on.

Tai Chi Yoga adventures all over the world. Her gentle approach was especially appreciated at Sierra 2's Senior Center. Tara also conducted weekend collage workshops and provided massage services in her home.

Sierra 2 Senior Center

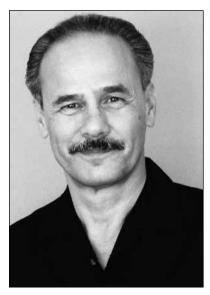
The Senior Center is open to all seniors (age 55 and up). It is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday in Room 12 of Sierra 2. The center provides opportunities to keep learning, exercise, meet new people and be actively involved with neighbors. Free (donations accepted) and fee-based classes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

Tara's retirement plans include a visit to her native Australia and traveling with her husband.

New martial arts class begins

Beginning June 4, Frank Gaviola will teach Tai Chi on Wednesday mornings from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (no class on June 18). Frank has studied martial arts since 1968, including Tai Chi, Qi Gong, Karate & Kobudo (the study of ancient weapons) and Oriental philosophy pertaining to martial arts. He received his 6th Degree

Black Belt in June 2000. Frank is an adjunct professor of martial arts in the Kinesiology Department at Folsom Lake College. He also teaches Tai Chi & Qi Gong at Kaiser Permanente, South Sacramento and works in the Health **Education Department** at the YMCA Central. Frank has also competed as a USA team member in international competitions.



New instructor Frank Gaviota

Do you use Facebook?

If you use Facebook and want to see what's going on at the Senior Center, visit www.sierra2.org and click on the Senior Center page.

- Phoebe Celestin, Senior Center Director

Schenirer's message

Focusing on commitments to Curtis Park Village and assure completion of pedestrian bridge

y the time you read this column, it is Dlikely the June 3 election has already taken place. I have either been re-elected to represent Curtis Park and District 5 on the City Council, or not. Either way, I wanted to express my sincere gratitude for the opportunity to be your representative. The past four years have been some of the most challenging and rewarding times of my personal and professional career. Whether working to resolve the City's structural budget deficit, saving the

heritage trees in Curtis Park Village, or scooping ice cream at Music in the Park, it has been an honor to serve on the Council, and I thank you for that opportunity.

If I am fortunate enough to have earned your support one more time, my intent is to continue focusing on those issues impacting our neighborhood. Specifically, the need to ensure that all of the commitments made around the development of Curtis Park Village project are enforced, and that the project moves forward in a



Jay Schenirer City Councilmember

manner complementary to, and aligned with, our neighborhood. Additionally, we need to make sure the pedestrian bridge from CPV to Sacramento City College is completed and that current and future traffic issues, particularly related to 21st Street, 24th Street, Sutterville Road, are addressed and sufficiently mitigated.

Finally, I look forward to supporting the neighborhood lead the effort to incentivize small, locally owned businesses in our neighborhood, along Franklin Blvd, Sutterville, Freeport Blvd and Broadway.

Curtis Park is more than a great neighborhood. We are a community in the truest sense. Nowhere in the city is the discussion as spirited as in our neighborhood. The constructive dialogue that comes from this neighborhood shapes issues of importance to our city and our region. Thank you again for allowing me to serve as your Council representative these last four years.

I hope to see you all at Music in the Park concerts this summer as well as our annual Curtis Park Movie Night. You can always reach me in my council office at 752–3609 or my cell at 808–7005 — or found walking my dog around the park.

SCNA's Wine Tasting Committee wants YOU!

The 2014 Curtis Park Wine Tasting & Silent Auction L event committee is looking for committee members to help plan and coordinate the event to be held on Saturday, Oct. 4. This event is the largest fundraiser event held annually for SCNA and also one of the most fun. While we seek a variety of volunteers, the committee is especially looking for assistance in the following areas:

Sponsors: Solicit and coordinate sponsorships and sponsor ads in the program.

Restaurants: Solicit and coordinate participating food vendors and provide day-of event direction for load in and set up.

Silent Auction & Raffle: Solicit, collect and organize items for the silent auction and raffles. Coordinate the setup and administration of the silent auction bidding and reconciliation. **Volunteers:** Coordinate scheduling and tasks for

volunteers and established volunteer groups. The committee will begin meeting in June, generally

once per month.

If you or someone you know is interested in being part of this team, contact Committee Chair Cari Anderson at cariandersonconsulting@gmail.com or Executive Director Terri Shettle at terri@sierra2.org or 452-3005.

SIERRA 2 SENIOR CENTER

June 2014 Activities

Room 12

455-6339 or seniorcenter@sierra2.org EVERYONE IS WELCOME. Activities are free except where noted. (Donations appreciated.) SENIOR CENTER IS ON FACEBOOK. PLEASE "LIKE" US!

FITNESS

Community Acupuncture Clinic 10:15-11:15 a.m. (\$15)

June 3 and 17 • 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

Therapeutic Yoga

9–10 a.m. Tuesdays • Rm. 12 Fee: \$25 per calendar month \$7 walk-in fee. Linda Roye

New Instructor: Pat Shaw 10:15-11:15 a.m. Wednesdays

New Instructor: Frank Gaviola

Wednesdays 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Rm. 12. \$40 per month. 455-6339

Walking and Polewalking Clinic 9 a.m. Thursdays

Book Club

New! Arts & Music Lecture Series

Tuesdays 3-4 p.m. Starts June 3 Rm. 12. To sign-up: 455-6339

Improvisation acting with Jetta

3–5 p.m. Last Friday of the month

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 2nd Monday June: "Infidel" by Ayaan Hirsi Ali July: "A Tale for the Time Being" by Ruth Ozeki

August: "A House in the Sky"

by Amanda Lindout

Travel Writing with Phoebe Celestin 11:15 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Fridays Rm. 12 Fee: \$3 per class

My Story Project meeting

12:45-2:45 p.m. Tuesdays

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

ARTS & EDUCATION Make friends with your Computer, **Computer and Internet**

9-10 a.m. Wednesdays. Rm. 12 Marganne Meyer. Fee: 6 classes/\$40

Open Art Studio

10 a.m-noon Fridays Rm. 11 Bring projects to work on.

AARP Drivers' Safety Classes For next class dates: 455-6339

Beginning Drawing by Patris Thursdays, 9:30-10:45 a.m.

CARDS AND GAMES Monday Morning Games Ginasta,

Mahjong & More 9–11:45 pm

Fun Bridge 1-4 p.m. Thursdays

Pinochle 1-3 p.m. Fridays

EVENTS Potluck

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

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Senior Committee Meeting

Monday June 2



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R. Andrew Murray, JD/MBA

Heritage Matters

Curtis Park and the Western Pacific Railroad (Part I)

Viewpoint staff writer

Owerful business leaders, private financing versus taxpayer subsidies, undeveloped land, access issues and a mayor with a grand vision for Sacramento. It may read like 2014 but these were much discussed topics in Sacramento in 1906.

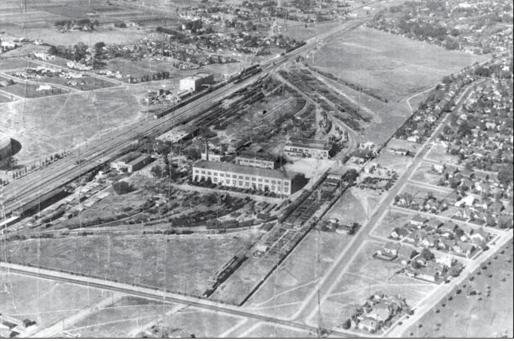
The Western Pacific Railroad was becoming a California business powerhouse and Sacramento wanted to create connections to it. The development of the Curtis Park neighborhood and the growth and ultimate demise of the Western Pacific Railroad — are closely aligned both historically and in the present development of Curtis Park Village.

Western Pacific Railroad was headquartered in San Francisco. It was planned as the railroad to compete with the Southern Pacific Railroad for service in and out of California and would follow routes from Salt Lake City, through the lower Sierra elevations, to San Francisco. Southern Pacific Railroad developed a huge railyard adjacent to downtown Sacramento. The location gave them a competitive edge in maintaining trains and fabricating equipment, plus it employed a lot of local people.

Western Pacific was ambitious. It laid 1,266 miles of mainline track, 237 miles of secondary mainline track, and 216 miles of branch track. The company provided employment for thousands of people and actively encouraged industrial development in cities like Sacramento that were on its main route.

The Sacramento Chamber of Commerce and a group of local business leaders began lobbying the Western Pacific in early 1906 to build a railyard shop in Sacramento. Sacramento Mayor M. R. Beard also actively campaigned for a site to be built in Sacramento. The Sacramento Bee and Sacramento Union articles had much commentary and descriptions of the added jobs and the economic boon a second railyard would bring to the city. The interested parties began looking for property where a railyard could be built and settled on 90 acres south of and adjacent to the Curtis Oaks subdivision.

The Sacramento business team and the City developed a plan to first acquire and then turn the 90-acre site over to Western Pacific Railroad for its exclusive use. After it was announced in January 1908 that options on the property had been secured, Western Pacific agreed to build a railyard in Sacramento provided the City approved of the purchase of the site. A campaign to raise the purchase money was organized and in a few weeks the funds were secured. The land was purchased from several owners, including the estate of William Curtis. Taxpayers provided all the funds to purchase the land. Taxpayers subscribed one percent of the assessed value of their city properties to purchase the 90-acre site. Newspaper articles addressed concerns of landowners with possible eminent domain actions, easement issues, and the use of taxpayer funds to acquire the land for use by a private entity. The shape of the site, which raised local concerns regarding train access, was in part determined by the location of the Curtis Oaks subdivision and the



The Western Pacific Railyard, with shops and undeveloped acerage circa 1930. Curtis Park, with newly planted trees, is partially visible on the lower right and Sutterville Road is along the bottom of the photo. 24th Street is between the West Curtis Oaks subdivision homes and the railyard. Just visible on the left, adjacent to the railroad tracks, is a rounded corner of the newly built Hughes Stadium.

college that was being planned to the west of the property.

One key issue, which has shaped the City of Sacramento and our daily work commutes ever since, still needed to be addressed. It was the location of Western Pacific's tracks that would move trains going north/south and east/west. Several parties suggested trains move directly through the city between 19th and 20th Streets and between Q and R Streets. The majority of the Sacramento Board of Trustees voted against having trains going through the City. The Board wanted the trains to go around the city's outer borders, and they blocked the establishment of the Western Pacific franchise in Sacramento.

Supporters of the railyard called

for a public vote on the matter in 1908. Sacramento real estate agents were very active in supporting the railyard and organized the first automobile pools in Sacramento to get people to the polls. Voters, in a nearly unanimous vote, approved the plan for Western Pacific trains to go through the city. Only 177 votes were against having trains travel between Q and R Streets and only 173 were against having trains travel between 19th and 20th Streets.

This public vote laid the foundation for the Light Rail trains that thousands of Sacramentans now commute on every day, the famed California Zephyr that came through our city until 1970, and freight trains that still run north/south through Sacramento. (Next month: Part II)

Tree care when converting your lawn to drought tolerant plants

By Dan Pskowski Viewpoint *staff writer*

eeking to cut their personal water consumption by 20 percent, some residents are converting their lawns to drought tolerant plants. However, care must be taken to avoid damage to the health of trees in the lawn area. You want to minimize injury to the tree's roots and also ensure the tree receives adequate irrigation after the conversion to drought tolerant plants.

Some methods to remove the lawn are (a) spray herbicides, (b) use of a sod cutter machine, or (c) installation of composted manure, cardboard, and wood chip mulch — lasagna garden method.

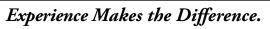
Deciding which method to use depends on the tree species and the amount of surface roots. Take a shovel and dig in a few areas to see how the root system developed. If it is difficult sticking a shovel in the ground because of roots, avoid using a sod cutter machine. Any herbicides applied must be labeled for use around trees. The least invasive method on a tree's root system is the lasagna garden method. Start off by mowing the turf as low as possible, put down a layer of cardboard, spread a layer of composted manure, and finally top with 4–6 inches of wood chip mulch. You will be ready to plant in about 4 to 6 months.

Also, you must consider how the trees and drought tolerant landscape will be irrigated. With an existing automatic irrigation system, consider changing to low pressure spray heads. Drip irrigation, black soaker hose, and Netafin™ are other water delivery systems readily available.

Removal of the turf and installation of mulch will reduce the tree's water requirements, but you

will need to closely monitor soil moisture. Why? Because the tree regularly received water every time the turf was irrigated. When the watering regiment is radically altered, especially during the hot summer months, branch dieback may occur. In extreme cases, the tree dies.

No more than a 20 percent reduction in the amount of water in the first year during the hot dry months will allow time for the tree to develop deeper roots. Due to variations in soil types, use a moisture meter or dig down to ensure the tree is receiving the proper amount of water. Don't wait until the leaves wilt and fall off. As roots head down, watering can be further reduced but monitoring is key to avoid wasting water. No more lawn means less competition for water and nutrients which will improve the health and vigor



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COMMUNITY CORNER



Photo/Carol Blackman

Standing left to right, Mary Durbrow Gwyn Tracy, Paul Durbrow, Mark Helmar, Roscoe Bender, Sharon and Jason Helmar, Bert and Ruth Pierroz, Mark and Alisha Wenzel; and neeling in front, Jessica Bender, Jacob and Otto Helmar, Eric and Chance Johnson and Peter Blackman show their muscles after helping to place the 1,000 pound lamppost in front of the Helmar home last month.

Antique lamppost raising

We've all heard of barn raising, but only in Curtis Park will you find a lamppost raising. On an early Sunday morning last month, neighbors gathered on the corner of Rochon Way and 26th Street to help "raise" an early 20th century refurbished lamppost.

Sharon and Mark Helmar of Rochon Way acquired the post in 1975 from her father. He purchased it at a sale in the Central Valley town of Riverbank for \$30, knowing that Sharon would appreciate it. The lamppost languished at the family ranch in Elk Grove until the recent drought caused the Helmars to rethink their landscaping.
With the help of paighbor

With the help of neighbor Robert Knode, the lamppost was sanded and repainted. Signs and e-mail were posted and about a dozen neighbors, including the Helmar family, lent their expertise and physical strength to install the post. Coffee, juice and doughnuts added to the celebration.

A small solar light can be seen nightly on the corner. The lamppost has a container for five small flags. Sharon and Mark wonder if SCNA has a flag they might display. If not, maybe it's time for an SCNA flag design contest? —Viewpoint staff

Martial arts student develops community service project

For Cole Arnold, a 7-year-old student at Zen Martial Arts Center and Curtis Park resident, practicing the martial arts is much more than just learning kicks, punches and throws. His martial arts lessons also focus on the skills of kindness, empathy and building community.

As the final step to achieving his Little Dragon black belt, Cole is putting his leadership skills to the test by developing his own community service project.

Martial arts instructor,
Sensei Mike Oliver, encouraged Cole
to find something that inspired him.
Cole loves school and learning new
things. A talk with his parents helped
him understand that not all students
have access to things he uses to learn
—pencils, paper, crayons and even a
backpack. Cole decided to help more
kids have the supplies that will help
them learn. His neighborhood school
was a good place to start.



Photo/Carol Blackman
Cole Arnold at the
start of his project.

Cole met with Elizabeth Sterba, the resource center coordinator at Bret Harte Elementary School to set up his service project.

Cole will work through the summer collecting backpacks and school supplies for Bret Harte students. "Cole's project is going to be an exciting gift to our school," said Elizabeth. "This is a way for our students to see that they are never too young to do good things for others."

Cole has set a goal of collecting 25 backpacks

filled with school supplies. He is seeking donations of new backpacks, pencils, lined notebook paper, crayons and colored pencils.

You can donate by contacting Cole's mother, Chris Mathias at cfcmathias@gmail.com or 520 954–4925. Supplies may also be placed in the donation box at the Sierra 2 office. —Viewpoint staff

Running camp keeps kids active

Are you looking for an activity to keep your teen or pre-teen active this summer? Grant Carboni, McClatchy's head coach for cross country and track, has just the solution.

This summer Coach Carboni runs two conditioning camps: one for McClatchy athletes entering 9th–12th grades in the fall; and another for the Mighty Lions. All students enrolled in the Sacramento City Unified School District who are entering 6th–8th grades are eligible to join the Mighty Lions.

High school athletes meet

6:30-8:30 a.m. Monday—Thursday, starting June 23. Mighty Lions meet from 8:30 to 10:15 a.m. every Tuesday and Thursday starting on June 24. Both camps are free and run through the first week of August.

If you are interested in getting involved in this running camp, plan to attend the Summer Kickoff BBQ at 6 p.m. Monday, June 16, at the McClatchy track. For more information, visit www.ckmtrack. com or contact Grant Carboni at CoachCarboni@yahoo.com.

— Leslie Goodbody

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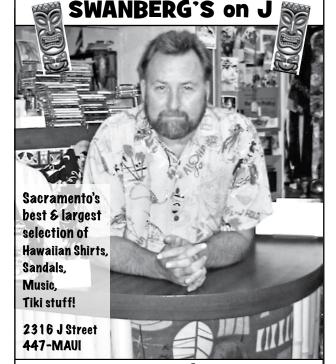




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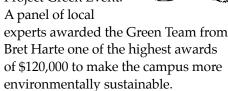


Bret Harte News

Bret Harte awarded \$120,000 for improving energy efficiency

By Char Klassen Viewpoint Staff Writer

On April 22, Bret Harte competed with 24 other SCUSD student-led "green teams" for \$1 million in Measure Q money at the 2014 Project Green Event.



The team consisted of eight motivated students: Archana Jones,

Roselizabeth Martinez, Mak Tiric, Estephania Martinez, Jordan Kaitapu, Kylie Kaitapu, Toni Ellis and Tran Hoang. While the students were allowed guidance from teachers and parents, they did the research, conducted audits, constructed models, wrote the report and gave the presentation. Bret Harte's Green Team's submitted proposal consists mainly of installing solar tubes throughout campus making the school more reliant on natural light, thus dramatically reducing energy costs.

Project Green is an initiative started three years ago that encourages students to learn about sustainable living by conducting green audits on their campus. The



For their efforts to improve energy efficiency, the Bret Harte Green Team was awarded \$120,000. Left to right, Jeff Kessler (UCD grad student), sixth grade teacher Renee Smith, student Archana Jones, Interim Superintendent Dr. Sara Noguchi, student Tran Hoang, SCUSD board president Patrick Kennedy, student Rosalizbeth Martinez, Bret Harte Principal Lorena Carrillo and SCUSD Environmental Sustainability Manager Farah Wissinger.

audits are used to help shape studentdriven recommendations for facility upgrades to improve energy and water efficiency — making campuses healthier places for student learning.

Mark Your Calendar

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

Thursday, June 12

Rebuilt home at Portola Way and 26th Street now up for sale

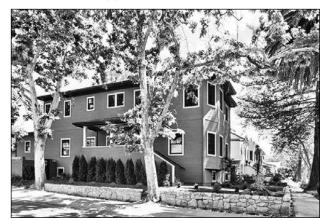
By Craig McCulloch Viewpoint staff writer

Portola Way in the spring of 2013. Many were surprised when a contractor gutted the house down to the subfloor after discovery of extensive wood rot during remodeling. The construction was "red tagged" by the City to stop construction as it went beyond the repairs authorized by the initial building permit. The owners and contractor were later authorized to remodel and rebuild the house.

With construction completed, the realtor held an open house on a sunny early May weekend. The three-story house now features four bedrooms and 4 1/2 baths with a finished basement. After the remodeling, the house is 3,931 square feet with many wooden dual-pane windows throughout.

A large kitchen with granite counters and an island opens to a family room and dining room at the rear of the first floor. Features include hardwood floors throughout the main level and crown molding around the ceiling. The upstairs master bedroom is spacious with a walk-in closet. The master bath has both a large shower and soaking bathtub.

From the street, the house appears large with gray wood lap siding but seems less imposing as it is partially hidden by the large trees in front and along the side. From the sidewalk, there is a short set of stairs leading to the entrance along 26th Street. While larger than most homes in the area, the size seems consistent with others a short distance away.



Mature trees partially hide this large new home.

The list price is \$975,000. For more information, contact William Lercari, Lakewood Realty at 916 718–2712.

Pangaea: Friendly service, nice selection of small plates and entrees

(Continued from page one)

made with New York steak over angel hair pasta and a tasty broth that was much lighter than the mushroom soup base that one often finds. The Pasta Primavera also came with a broth or "brodo" as the Italians would call it, rather than a heavy cream. Vegetables were fresh and this made for a light spring dish. The best buy for the money was the New York steak served with fries and asparagus for \$16. The grilled asparagus was cooked to medium rare and served with mayo. An aioli dressing might add a little spark to the vegetables. Both our salads were entrée-sized but could have used a little more dressing. What also looked good from the next table

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was the Eggplant Parmesan and the Hamburger.

It's a treat to have another affordable restaurant that serves good tasting food in walkable distance for most of us in Curtis Park.

Over all, this was a satisfying experience. My

dining companions said they were coming back for lunch to try the burger. And maybe some of the dozens of beers offered.

Martin Pierucci was a restaurateur, caterer, wine buyer and is a noted bon vivant.

Forum: 'Strong mayor' program and arena

(Continued from page one)

The latest revision was placed on the ballot by Council action in October 2013, with a yes vote from Schenirer. He stated, "There are now tools to measure accountability by the Mayor in the measure coming to the fall vote."

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Cooper does not support the strong mayor proposal. He predicts, "This will increase the power of the wealthy, well-connected developers in City government."

For more information: www.votealicooper.com and www.jayschenirer.com.



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