

A Publication of the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association

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

K Street Orchestra musicians range in age from 18 to 74 years old. Here they're practicing with conductor **Krystyna Taylor** for their annual concert at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 28 in Curtis Hall. A reception with the performers will follow.



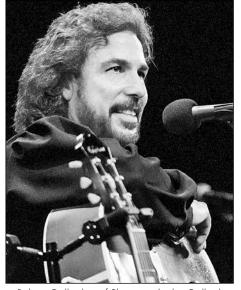
Photo/Carol Blackman

K Street Orchestra tunes up lapsed musicians

By Susan MacCulloch Viewpoint staff writer

C ometimes it takes us a lifetime \mathbf{J} to realize what we want to do," Krystyna Taylor of Curtis Park said. Backing up her statement is the work she does as conductor and teacher of adults in the K Street Orchestra.

Krystyna established K Street



Robert Gallagher of Photography by Gallagher

MAJICKATS' singer George Papailias delivers a memorable Cat Stevens sound.

Orchestra in 2006 with seven adult students. They met in various spaces, starting in a K Street law office basement and floating around for eight years among living rooms and school band rooms until putting down roots at Sierra 2.

Now the orchestra has 22 members and meets from 7:30-8:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays each month from September through June.

Krystyna is a professional cellist and teacher of violin, viola and cello. She has taught in various locales for the past 12 years and teaches strings at Kline Music. She also plays professionally as a session musician for recordings and with her husband, Please see Orchestra, page 6

Tribute to Cat Stevens opens Music in the Park June 28

By Faith Johnstone Sierra 2 Events Coordinator

The summer's Music in the ▲ Park series gets off to a lively start Sunday, June 28 with the return of the popular MAJICKATS band. Sacramento News and Review stated, "MAJICKATS, a tribute to Cat Stevens... does great justice to his storied catalog without sounding coerced or tired. Singer George Papailias does more than an admirable job of delivering Stevens' songs and is backed by a fine band." Concerts will be held on the last Sunday of June, July and August from 6-8 p.m. in William Curtis Park. Mr. Cooper will entertain the children at the first two concerts. The events are free and open to the public.

Alcohol is prohibited in city parks except by permit so Sierra 2 will again offer beer, wine, sodas and water for purchase at the Beer Garden.

Food trucks will not be in attendance so guests are encouraged to bring a picnic and a blanket to share.

Supporting sponsors for the concerts are Joseph Eschleman of Wells Fargo Advisors, Councilmember Jay Schenirer and Cook Realty.

City postpones hearing on use permit for gas station

By Rosanna Herber Viewpoint staff writer

Teighbors were heading to N City Hall for the Planning Commission meeting when they learned the conditional use permit for the Fuel Center in Curtis Park Village had been pulled from the agenda.

"After conferring with the City Attorney and our team working on the project, we all thought it was best to take more time to research the questions raised in the letters we received," said Lindsey Alagozian, a senior planner. She said it's not uncommon to receive letters after a staff report has been released, especially when the project is considered controversial.

The staff report recommended the Planning Commission approve the conditional use permit for the Fuel Center because, it stated, a gas station is allowed under the Planned Unit Development guidelines and is not inconsistent with a Traditional Neighborhood Shopping Center.

The report cited studies submitted by the developer's consultant that demonstrated the cancer risks associated with the project were not high enough to be significant, and that the traffic impacts from the Fuel Center were generally studied in the original environmental document. As a result, staff concluded that a supplemental environmental impact report was not required.

The staff report also concluded that, while the site is within a quarter mile of two light rail stations, it's not designated as a transit-oriented development, and a "Transit Overlay,"

Asian fare rolls in for First Friday

Teighbors can enjoy Asian street N food prepared by the chefs in the Slightly Skewed food truck from 6-8 p.m. June 5 in Curtis Hall at Sierra 2. Adult options for \$8 are a skewer set with one bulgogi beef skewer, one teriyaki chicken skewer, grilled Blue Lake green beans, and steamed white rice or a vegetarian Asian noodle salad. A child meal for \$4 is a set of three mini teriyaki skewers, grilled blue lake green beans and plain smashed fries.

Rob Jong is the owner of Slightly Skewed and a fourth generation Sacramentan. After training at Portland's Oregon Culinary Institute, Rob is eager to be back in Sacramento to pursue his passion for preparing



and sharing of good food. He uses fresh and seasonal ingredients for all the skewers and sides, great for a meal or as small plates to share.

Seating and beverage sales will be offered in Curtis Hall.

For more information, call the Sierra 2 office at 452-3005.

Got graduates?

If you have a graduate (high school, college or grad 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), home street and parents, school, major (if applies) and plans (college, job, travel).

Place the photo and information in an envelope marked Viewpoint and drop it at the Sierra 2 office. Or, send a high-resolution JPEG or TIFF file and information to Carol Blackman at carolxo@comcast.net. The deadline is June 15 for the July edition. Questions: 456-3352.

application was deeply flawed... I'm glad they are doing a closer review.' Eric Johnson, president SCNA

meant to promote transit-oriented objectives, has never been applied to the zoning of the site.

SCNA President Eric Johnson said he was pleased the agenda item was pulled. "It was obvious that the application was deeply flawed," Johnson said. "I'm glad they are doing a closer review. I know we weren't the only organization that commented on how the application was incompatible with the intent of Curtis Park Village. Please see Fuel Station, page 8

Notes from May 6th meeting

Home tour's net proceeds top budget by \$2,000; top issues are CVS design and gas station permit

Home tour a big success

Thanks to the tireless work of the Home Tour Committee, this year's Curtis Park Home Tour was a big success. The Board discussed the Home Tour's budget, with gross revenue totaling approximately \$26,500 and net proceeds of approximately \$2,000 over budget. These figures are impressive considering early bumps in the road for the Tour, including an initial shortage of homes and threat of rain.

The Board was also very happy with the total of around 1,100 attendees this year.

Board to draft letter to City about its approval of new CVS design

The Board heard an update from the Neighborhood Concerns Committee on several changes coming to the neighborhood. The

Next meeting

The next meeting of the SCNA Board will begin at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 3 in the Garden Room at Sierra 2. For more information, call the Sierra 2 office, 452-3005.

City has approved a different design plan for the CVS pharmacy, which will take over the current Mercado Loco property.

The Committee reported that the city-approved design for the CVS Pharmacy building will have the entrance in the rear of the building, adjacent to the parking location. This is contrary to the design that members of the SCNA Board had previously negotiated with CVS. That one included a corner entrance near

the street with a shade-providing arch trellis extending from the street corner to the corner entrance of the building, ensuring a pedestrian friendly design. The Board will be drafting a letter to the City expressing its concerns with the new design.

Adding electric signal at East **Curtis Drive and Sutterville Road**

The Neighborhood Concerns Committee is also working to help facilitate the installation of an ondemand red light at Sutterville Road and East Curtis Drive to increase pedestrian safety.

CPV fueling station

The Board discussed the CPV fueling station item that was to go before the City Planning Commission in mid-May. The Board will regroup

at its next meeting to discuss next steps as the item was pulled from the agenda.

Board focuses on the budget

Committees are working with our executive director to put together SCNA financials for the upcoming year. The Board is focusing on events in the coming fiscal year, improvements to facilities at Sierra 2 and financial issues regarding our possessory tax interest bill with the City.

The SCNA Executive Committee will be reviewing the fiscal year 2015-16 budget, which will then go before the board of directors for review and approval at the next scheduled board meeting.

> - Submitted by Cara Martinson SCNA Board Secretary

President's message Floating a few thoughts on water, using it or not and why

Tt's Wednesday night and Lmy sprinklers just finished their twice-weekly round of the house. Front shrubs, front lawn 1, front lawn 2, back shrubs, back lawn. I wince when I see the tell-tale darkening of the sidewalk: Will my neighbors call 311 to report runoff? To which circle are the water-wasters consigned? Are the xeriscapers

sticking pins into presidential voodoo dolls? I know that pain in my knee isn't because it looks like rain.

Eric

SCNA

Board

On the weekends, however, Chance and I play catch on the grass. He runs around being a ninja, karate-chopping the plane tree and sprawling in the green. The five of us have picnic lunches in the front yard, smiling at neighbors and enjoying the shade.

Later in the summer brings movie night in the



back, with the grass supporting dozens of kids curled up on blankets and pillows, lit up by the flickering light on our back wall. So our grass is useful, right?

I've taken to military showers, and hold the blue bucket up to the stream while the water heats up. Two gallons a day will keep our cucumbers

and tomatoes happy. We put more and more in the dishwasher, crossing our fingers that this glass's design can withstand the heat of Bosch.

Let's not talk about toilets.

We fill the tub for Chance's bath a little less, and wonder to ourselves, "Who are the people who leave the water running while they brush their teeth? Do those people actually exist, or are they



Faith Johnstone sets up for the Sierra 2 **Open House to** elebrate the

just straw men on conservation posters so the rest of us feel good?"

Our pecan tree in the back supports a pesky tribe of squirrels; how do we deep-water at the drip line when the canopy extends into the neighbor's yard, over our house, or into our driveway? Since the squirrels eat most of the pecans, is our water/ harvested nut ratio even worse than almonds?

Thank goodness we'll be getting water meters soon. I anticipate our bill shaming us with "your neighbors used 42 gallons." A concrete rectangle in our lawn also means two fewer square feet for the neighborhood cats to despoil.

In A.D. 850, a 240-year drought began. A 50year period of deluges followed; 1190 kicked off another 180 years of desiccation. For now, we'll cross our fingers that the days of Folsom Pond will not persist and that brown will not be the new green forever.



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Professional taiko instructor Kristy Oshiro (right) drums up the Big Day of Giving festivities at Sierra 2 with "guest drummers" Jade Walker (left), Deborah Fountain and Katie Byram.

BIG Day of Giving

Generosity boosts SCNA

n May 5, SCNA and Sierra 2 Center participated in the second annual BIG Day of Giving, a day of philanthropy. The 529 nonprofits participating in the region generated \$5.6 million from 36,000 donors.

Two events celebrated SCNA's participation: an Open House at Sierra 2 Center with tenant and renter booths, activities, tours and street tacos, and a Neighborhood Party at Pangaea Bier Café. They drew nearly 100 participants.

SCNA received 101 donations totaling \$7,300, an increase of \$500 over last year. The donations help fund neighborhood events and activities and support operations at Sierra 2 and the Senior Center.

A big thank you goes out to all who contributed, to Rob Archie for donating beer and appetizers at the Pangaea event, and to Sugar Plum Vegan for the celebration cake.

-Terri Shettle, executive director, SCNA

Big Day of Giving on May 5.

Photos/Joan Cusick

Production Carol Blackman Contributors Valerie Burrows **Dennis Cusick** Joan Cusick Erik Fay Rosanna Herber Faith Johnstone Char Klassen Craig McCulloch Dan Pskowski Andrea Rosen Terri Shettle Fran Coletti Ad Manager Distribution Gerre Buehler Rudy Calpo Photography Joan Cusick Judy Harper

Deadlines

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

Water lines and meter construction to begin in July and take about a year

By Craig McCulloch Viewpoint Staff Writer

ore than 75 neighbors gathered May 14 in MCurtis Hall to hear about the City's utilities staff report on the timetable for replacing water main lines and installing water meters. Curtis Park Water Main Replacement, Phase 2 of the project takes in streets starting on the north side of Donner Way, east to Franklin Boulevard, west to the railroad tracks, and north approximately to Second Avenue

Construction is scheduled to start in July and finish in 12 months. "The contractor, Navajo Pipeline, is experienced doing this work for the City," said Megan Thomas, project manager. She added that the total projected cost is about \$6.6 million. It involves replacing 24,600 feet of water mains and installing 1,031 meters. She said more than half of the neighborhood homes that have the lines at the rear of the property will have their lines moved to the front to the middle of the street.

Neighbors and the City will benefit from the

Water wise options

Rebates are available to homeowners for installation of reduced flow toilets (up to \$125) and washing machines. In addition, an appointment with a

water conservation specialist may be

replacement of old corroded water main lines with better water pressure, improved fire protection with new hydrants, and water conservation through meters use.

An 8-inch PVC water main will be trenched in the street with smaller lines running to each house through a new meter. The meters will go in one of three places: in the park strip between the sidewalk and street; in the homeowner's lawn or yard area adjacent to the sidewalk; or, the costliest choice, in the sidewalk.

The new water lines running to each home will match its existing size or be upgraded to a 1-inch pipe.

Water will continue to flow through the old mains until the switch over to the new supply lines.

Before construction begins, residents will receive notice by letter and a door hanger one week and again 24 hours prior to any water shutoff. The maximum water shut off time will be four hours, according to Thomas.

During the installation neighbors may anticipate some construction dust, noise, street

arranged for an on-site "Water Wise House Call" to discuss conservation measures with many tips and tools available. For additional information, call 311 or visit http://portal.cityofsacramento.org/utilities.

What's new at Sierra 2

Healthcare strategies in diverse communities

Three critical trends that affect healthcare with underserved populations and diverse communities will be the topic of an interactive workshop from 9-10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 9 in Room 9. Rashad Baadqir, M.A., principal consultant at Center Pointe Consulting, will share his insights regarding issues such as demographics in aging populations, mental health in urban communities, and traditional and holistic healthcare.

The objective is to help providers, administrators and practitioners increase their cultural competency and to identify strategies in responding to the needs of patients within diverse communities in a more effective way. Healthcare professionals and general public are encouraged to attend.

To sign up, learn about sponsorships or vendor opportunities, call Rashad at (916) 233-9047 or e-mail centerpointconsulting@yahoo.com.

Everyone can drum

Fenix African Drum & Dance group returns to the Sierra 2 Center to teach a two-hour workshop, Exploring Traditional African Drums, from 2-4 p.m. on Sunday June 7 in Studio 2.

The drums used will be Djembes and djun-djuns. All levels are welcome to join the fun. The class fee is \$15. To register or, for additional information, call 921-1576 or visit fenixdrumanddance.com.

closures, and limited parking with heavy equipment in use. This will be minimized by the contractor to reasonable hours and reduction of dust and dirt to the extent feasible. Some minor digging in the backyard may be needed to properly "abandon" the old water mains.

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The contractor is required to take photos of "before" and "after" of yards in order to restore the landscaping to its prior condition.

There are some limited alternatives available for homeowners to discuss with the City Inspector regarding location of the lines underground or connection points. Examples include impact to trees and in-ground swimming pools. A city arborist will review tree issues.

Once the lines are operative, there will be one year of comparative billing. It will show the current flat rate and the new metered rate by volume. Meter reading will be done using wireless technology.

The project manager may be contacted by email MeThomas@cityofsacramento.org. For more information, http://portal.cityofsacramento.org/ utilities.

Petition seeks data backing City's decision on water meter placement

C ome neighbors who attended the May 14 Water **J**Main Replacement meeting were surprised to learn their existing water service from an alley would be moved to the street, after 10 years of assurance from the Department of Utilities that alley service would not change.

Under this new plan, the city could dig a 3-footby-4-foot trench through the root systems of many 4th Avenue elms to install a new 12-inch ductile iron line in the street.

Neighbors are meeting to discuss alternatives in order to avoid the cost and potential damage to the street trees. Neighbors have asked for documents that support the assertion that their alley water service is failing or beyond repair.

It was stated in the May 5, 2011 Sacramento Utilities Department Operational Efficiency and Cost Savings Audit, "The mains are being replaced irrespective of their condition or remaining service life. The service life of water transmission and distribution mains varies depending on soil condition, pipe material, climate, and capacity requirement. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reports that water pipes have lifecycles from 50 to over 100 years, with some pipes in use in eastern cities that are almost 200 years old."

Neighbors are also asking for documents that indicate the utility department has considered the environmental and economic impact to the neighborhood if street trees are damaged or killed as a result of this project. A petition asking for the information is in circulation and will be sent to the SCNA Board and to Councilman Jay Schenirer.

Facility administrator

By Valerie Burrows

Meditation techniques

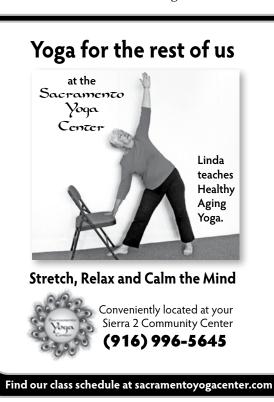
Shingon Shu Western Fellowship explores meditation through the eyes of Shingon Buddhism, a Japanese sect of Buddhism that began in the 9th century. Shingon Shu Western Fellowship is a Northern California based satellite sangha (community) of Shingon Shu Hawaii, a 100-year-old temple in Honolulu. Held from 7-8 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month in Room 9, this class is led by Associate Minister Rev. Jeff Hoji Keller. Each meeting explores meditation techniques that allow the meditator to let go of the concept of non-duality and to realize the interconnectedness of all things.

For information, contact Jeff Keller at 709-1392 or jpkeller7@earthlink.net.

Summer workshop for young dancers

The School of the Sacramento Ballet offers an intensive and fun two or three week summer dance workshop for 8 to 11-year-olds from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. June 15 to July 3 in the Sierra 2 Center studios. Classes include Ballet, Tap, Modern, Hip-Hop, Jazz, Acting, Russian, Stretch and Strengthening. The camp culminates with a performance on July 2. Cost: two weeks \$725 or three weeks \$850.

Information: www.sacballet.org/the-school/ summer-programs or contact Coordinator Vanessa Bautista at vanessa@sacballet.org or 225-4599.



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JUNE 2015 AT SIERRA 2

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



CATCH ME IF YOU CAN

Runaway Stage Productions

May 29-June 21

Showtimes: Fridays & Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 2 p.m.

Based on the hit film and the incredible true story that inspired it, CATCH ME IF YOU CAN is the high-flying, splashy new musical that was was nominated for four Tony Awards including Best Musical. The teenager, Frank W. Abagnale Jr., runs away from home in search of a glamorous life. With nothing more than his boyish charm, a big imagination and millions of dollars in forged checks, Frank successfully poses as a pilot, a doctor and a lawyer - living the high life and winning the girl of his dreams. But when Frank's lies catch the attention of FBI agent Carl Hanratty, Carl pursues Frank across the country. Along the way, though, both Frank and Carl forge an unlikely friendship and discover a way to ultimately work together. Tickets & Info: (916) 207-1226 or www.runawaystage.com

ALADDIN

Runaway Stage Productions June 6, 13 and 20 Showtimes: Saturdays at 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. \$8 general, \$6 kids (12 and under) Tickets & Info: (916) 207-1226 or www.runawaystage.com

MY MOTHER'S ITALIAN, MY FATHER'S JEWISH & I'M IN THERAPY

June 24-July 19

Showtimes:

Wednesdays at 2 & 7 p.m., Thursdays at 7 p.m. Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 & 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets: (855) 448-7469 or PlayhouseInfo.com

This national touring production has met with rave reviews throughout the country and is now one of the longest running one-man shows in New York history. It is an evening of hysterical comedy topped off with more than 30 voices of the most hilarious characters and situations you've ever seen.

One part lasagna, one part kreplach, and two parts Prozac, you don't have to be Jewish or Italian to love the show. All you need to know is what it feels like to leave a family dinner with heartburn and a headache. "My Mother's Italian, My Father's Jewish & I'm in Therapy" is a laughfilled fest for everyone; all brought to life on stage by the comic magic of Peter Fogel.

ACTIVITIES AT SIERRA 2

YOGA

lyengar 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

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

ART

Awaken My Art Collective Glass mosaic classes Tuesdays, Noon-3 p.m., Rm. II karensharp51@gmail.com

FITNESS

Essentrics Wednesdays, 5-6 p.m. Studio 1 Emily Wishman, (510) 299-1066

Motivational Aerobic Dance Exercise Mondays & Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Room 10

Kia: keynorrisfitness@gmail.com

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

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

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

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

SPIRITUAL SERVICES

The Vibe Church of Sacramento Sunday Services: 10-11:30 a.m., Garden Rm. Bible Study: 6:30-8:30 p.m. 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, Room 11 John Macdonell, pastor: 595-5622

New Destiny Ministries

Sundays, 12:45-2:15 p.m., Room 9 Pastor Singleton, 532-5581

CHILDREN

Capital City Music Together Children 5 and under Call for class schedules. Jennie Ribadeneira: 990-3222 www.capitalcitymusictogether.com

Rio Valley Charter School Arts Guild: K-12 Monday/Wednesday, 9 a.m.-noon Room 10 and Studio 3 www.riovalley.org

MUSIC

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

String orchestra lessons Second and Fourth Wednesday 7:30-8:30 p.m., Room 9 Krystyna Taylor, 216-0429

Japanese Taiko drumming For schedule: Kristy Oshiro, kristyoshiro@gmail.com

OTHER

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



Mexican Folk dancing Wednesdays, Studio 1 1st session: 7-8 p.m. (4 to 11 yrs) 2nd session: 8-9 p.m. (12 to Adults) 764-9059, www.aztlandesac.org

STEVE SOLOMON'S

MY MOTHER'S

Mindful Bellydance

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

Awakening Bellydance

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

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

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

River City Taps - Tap Dance Monday–Thursday 5–8:30 p.m. Thursday, 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Studio 3 www.rivercitytaps.com

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

West African Dance Fridays, 6-7 p.m., Studio 1

Watercolor class

Fridays, 9 a.m.-noon, Room 11 Michael Mikolon, 730-9347 www.artistmichael.com

Shingon Shu Western Fellowship Guided Meditation and Dharma Talk First Wednesdays, 7–8 p.m., Rm 9 Rev. Jeff Hoji Keller, 709-1392

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

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

Jessa Cruz: jessakaycruz@gmail.com

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





If you dream it, Emmett Corbin can build it!

Senior Center offers class on android smartphones

By Craig McCulloch Viewpoint *Staff Writer*

 $T^{\rm he \ Senior \ Center \ did \ a \ survey \ earlier \ this \ year \ to \ get}_{\rm suggestions \ on \ future \ classes. \ A \ high \ scoring \ request}_{\rm was \ to \ learn \ more \ about \ smartphones \ and \ tablets.}$

Now for the class: An Android smartphone and tablet class for beginners, and those with some experience, will start at 11:15 a.m. Friday June 5. The 90-minute class will be the first of six. A list of topics will be available at the class. Classes are open to those over 50 years.

Topics will vary, and they can be tailored to student interests. The first class will go around the typical phone's button and menu operations. It also will cover the basic telephone functions, such as calling and answering, adjusting volume, silencing the phone, and charging it. Later classes will include finding help, getting Apps, emailing, browsing the web, using the calendar, texting messages, photos, security/privacy and using maps. Individual attention will be available.

The class will be limited to Android phones and tablets, so Apple iPhones and iPads will not be covered. Classes will be held weekly on Fridays in Room 12 (Senior Center) at Sierra 2, 2791 24th St.

The instructors will be Bruce Moon and Craig McCulloch. The pair taught a similar class for the Renaissance Society at Sac State. Both have long experience with technology.

Fees for the class will be \$40 for all six classes or \$10 per single class. Please pay by check or credit card at the Sierra 2 office, or Senior Center in Room 12. For registration or more information, call the Sierra 2 office at (916) 452-3005.

Schenirer's message Top City issues also include food trucks and bike laws

Fueling station in Curtis Park Village

On May 14, the Curtis Park Village Fuel Center was supposed to be discussed as an agenda item

during the Planning and Design Commission meeting. However, after SCNA sent a letter inquiring into the cumulative impact of the station, the developer and staff mutually agreed to continue the item. Both the developer and City staff wanted additional time to further evaluate and appropriately address the concerns raised by SCNA. The item has yet to be rescheduled, but it will likely return



Jay Schenirer City Councilmember

to the Planning and Design Commission sometime in mid to late July. I will work with SCNA to ensure that everyone is made aware of a future hearing date.

Water main replacement project - phase 2

Additionally, the Department of Utilities recently held a meeting at the Sierra 2 Center to discuss the installation of water meters for residents living in the northern section of Curtis Park. The project will impact residents living on Donner North to Second Avenue, between Freeport and Franklin, and will begin construction in July. Installation of the 1,031 meters will be take about 12 months.

The installations will be done on existing water service lines, and will vary based on prevailing conditions – e.g. meter boxes may be adjusted depending on the location of the existing line. Some water meters may have to be placed in sidewalks, others in front yards.

Every effort will be made to work with the neighborhood throughout the installation process, including extensive pre-construction notification. Customers will receive flat rate billing for one year after installation. However, each household will have the option to transition to the metered rate earlier by contacting the utility's Customer Service. Constituents with any further questions should feel free to contact Project Manager Megan Thomas at 916 808-1729.

Food trucks

At the end of May, the Council approved an ordinance that will allow food trucks to park on City streets beyond the previous limit of 30 minutes. The ordinance will also streamline the permit process for selling food on private property. Both changes will allow for food trucks to serve a larger area within the City, and be more accessible.

Food trucks have become very popular but existing regulations prohibited them from effectively operating in much of the downtown area. After very lengthy talks with food truck operators and brick and mortar restaurants (three years!), the Council agreed to permit trucks to operate beyond the 30-minute limit with the condition that they remain 100 feet away from a business with outdoor seating so that patrons sitting outside are not adversely impacted by the noise, smoke, and exhaust of the trucks.

Bicycling in the City

Also in May, the Law and Legislation Committee met to discuss recommended changes to the existing City code for bicyclists, specifically pertaining to cycling on sidewalks. Staff concluded that cycling on sidewalks is not an issue in most of the City, but does impact specific areas in our downtown core. Recommendations were made to prohibit bicycles on sidewalks from third to 16th streets and N to H streets, as well as J Street all the way to 30th Street.

While I hope that these changes will make walking and biking safer throughout our City, we as a City need to advance a more comprehensive investment in education for both bikes and cars and in the City's bike infrastructure if we want to become a truly bike friendly city.

The City is in the process of completing its bike master plan, which the staff hopes to release at the end of May. I have also met with representatives of SCNA to discuss our neighborhood's specific biking needs, and I am developing some strategies to address those needs. As a final bike note, I hope you will consider participating in my 3rd annual GearUp Cycle for Youth ride on Sept. 19. This year we will add both a full century and a short family ride.

JUNE ACTIVITIES

SIERRA 2 SENIOR CENTER Room 12

455-6339 or seniorcenter@sierra2.org Everyone is welcome. Activities are free except where noted. (Donations appreciated.)

FITNESS

Gentle Yoga 10–11 a.m., Wednesdays, Studio 1 No classes: June 3 and 10 \$10/Drop-in; \$40/6-classes Pat Shaw: 856-0136

Active & Mindful Yoga

9:45-11a.m, Fridays \$10/class; \$90/10 classes Heera Kulkarn: 686-5785

Fall Prevention

11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m., Tues/Thurs No classes: June 2, 4 and 9 4 classes \$20; 8 classes \$40 Pat Shaw: 856-0136

Tai Chi

10:30–11:15 a.m., Thursdays \$40 per month

Walking & Polewalking Clinic 9 a.m., Thursdays

One-time instruction fee \$5

LEISURE Mandala Art

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Wednesdays Ages 55 & over: \$24, 54 & under: \$30 Marie Taylor: 692–5952

Improvisation Acting with Jetta 3–5 p.m., Last Friday of the month

Book Club

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., 2nd Monday **June:** "My Beloved World" by Sonia Sotomayor (Book club participants read the book of the month prior to meetings)

My Story Project meeting 1–3 p.m., 2nd Monday of the month

Everyone Can Drum 1-2 p.m., Tuesdays. Studio 1, \$5

Life History Writing 1–3 p.m., Wednesdays

Open Art Noon-3, Fridays. Room 11

EDUCATION NEW class: Android smartphones 11:15-12:45, Fridays

Retirement for Beginners Volunteerism with Snowline Hospice 9:30-11 a.m., June 9

Beginning Drawing 9:30–10:15 a.m. Patris: 397-8958

Cinema & Snacks 1:30–3 p.m., 3rd Tuesday \$1-5 Donation, FREE popcorn

CARDS & GAMES

Ginasta 9:30-11:30 a.m., Mondays (not 2nd Monday)

Mahjong 10-Noon, Mondays (not 2nd Monday)

Fun Bridge 1-4 p.m., Thursdays Pinochle

As always, if you need to reach me, please give me a call at 916-808-7005 or Jschenirer@cityofsacramento.org.

1-3:00 p.m., Fridays

EVENTS De-Mystifying the Spirit World 10–11 a.m., June 23 Suggested donation: \$5

Senior Committee Meeting 3 p.m., 1st Monday, June 1





Flavor of the Month in June:

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Heritage Matters The sounds of swinging Curtis Park lurk in Coffee Garden's walls

By Erik Fay Viewpoint staff writer

intage neighborhoods

Page 6

and their buildings

often contain unheralded history. Teens in 1965 thought swinging London or Los Angeles' riotous Sunset Strip were epicenters of the recording industry. Sacramento teemed with teen bands wanting to make a record in hope of hitting the big time, to sell at dances and to impress their friends. Bill Rase opened the Bill Rase Recording Studio and Talent Center in May 1965 at 2904 Franklin Blvd. Today it houses the Coffee Garden.

Bill Rase is notable in Sacramento's broadcasting and entertainment history. He was a Sacramento High grad who became a local television variety show host, a KCRA radio deejay, and is known to many Sacramentans as "Bosun Bill," the sidekick to "Captain Sacto" on KCRA kids' shows in the 1950s. Bill also had a popular big band dance



orchestra in the 1940s through the 1990s, reportedly playing over 7,000 shows, including many East

Sacramento Concerts in the Park.

The studio was small with two rooms, three microphones and 1940s recording equipment. Advertising appears to have been minimal, but musicians quickly learned there was a local studio where for \$100 they could record two songs pressed into 100 45 rpm singles, sometimes with their name printed on a custom label. Area groups named the Fugitives, the Coachmen, the Hustlers, the Opposite Six, the Chelsea Sidecar, St. George and the Dragons, the Psy-Kicks and others recorded singles. The studio also recorded religious music, local advertising, political ads, and provided tape duplication services.

The studio didn't record many groups after 1967 as it was not a money maker. The records probably didn't make the groups any money either but some may have been

played on local radio. Ironically, some mid-1960s singles by local teen garage groups now sell for hundreds of dollars apiece to record collectors, and there are numerous websites and books devoted to this music.

The most famous visitor to the studio was probably Ronald Reagan, who recorded campaign ads there. Rumor has it he once dispatched an aide to Gunther's to buy ice cream for everyone in the studio while talking

about his time in Hollywood. **Bill Rase** operated the studio through 1972 before relocating his business to a larger space in the Arden area. He died in May 2006.

You can still hear the mid-1960s sounds of Curtis Park. Big **Beat Records** issued a CD of **Bill Rase Studio**

recordings titled "The Sounds of Young Sacramento," which can be ordered via Amazon. The music is a gas, plus the CD is a boss, bitchin', solid, fab, gear, and go ape piece of neighborhood history. The next time you order a latte at Coffee Garden, just imagine skinny teenage guys with guitars hoping to be Sacramento's Beach Boys or Rolling Stones sitting with Ronald Reagan while awaiting their turn at a microphone.



The Bill Rase Recording Studio was on Franklin Boulevard, where the Coffee Garden is now located.

Orchestra: Musicians will perform movie themes for concert June 28

(Continued from page one) William Taylor, in their band, Calling Tempo.

The orchestra began as an outlet for Krystyna's beginning and intermediate adult students to play with other adults in a laid-back and easier orchestral setting. Emphasis is placed on a fun learning environment that allows adults to play at a basic level while still performing real orchestra pieces.

"I love this orchestra. It's my baby," said Krystyna. "I put in a lot of energy picking pieces that are recognizable, challenging, but still fun.'

Many students in this "late starter's orchestra" played an instrument in middle school, stopped

www.PalomaBegin.com Paloma Begin (916) 628-8561 palomabegin@gmail.com

for 30-40 years and then resumed music once in retirement or when their children left home. Other members just wanted to play a violin, viola, or cello their entire lives and now have the opportunity and time. Ages range from 18-84. Krystyna herself is a beginning conductor, developing a new skills as an adult.

One of those students is Linda Hayward, who started playing cello at age 7. Now at 74, she's an enthusiastic third-year member of the orchestra. "I find playing with a group a soulfilling experience," Hayward said. "To know you're providing one part of a harmonious whole is a great feeling... Krystyna Taylor has been a wonderful teacher for me to continue increasing my skills to meet her

high expectations. And, I believe the challenge of playing an instrument is a good way to exercise an aging brain with fun and satisfaction as reward!"

The orchestra is geared toward learning to play with others, follow a conductor and learn or relearn technique or theory that was skipped over or lost, Krystyna explained. The orchestra is open to all adult string players who can read music and want to learn to play in a beginning/ intermediate orchestra. Orchestra members pay \$20 a month.

Krystyna's goal as a conductor is to grow the orchestra to at least 40 regulars. "I really believe that having positive, creative, communityoriented hobbies gives people a sense of purpose and satisfaction that is

lacking in many people's lives," said Krystyna.

Just one performance is held each year. This allows K Street Orchestra to accept new members at almost any time and proceed at a relaxed pace without the stress of frequent performances.

K Street Orchestra's annual concert will take place at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 28 in Curtis Hall. They will be performing a movie-themed concert this year, playing the theme from James Bond, Hedwig's Theme, Spring and a mix of classical and a few surprises.

Admission is \$6. For more information, contact Krystyna at 216-0429 or email krystynataylor1@ gmail.com.

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Fran Coletti, front row, right, enjoys her friends at the Cuban Institute for Friendship, which worked with Global Exchange to facilitate the trip.

Neighbor finds that Cubans are interested in a better relationship with the USA

By Susan MacCulloch Viewpoint Staff Writer

ravel to Cuba is slightly easier as L the U.S. and Cuban governments work toward normalizing relations. Fran Coletti of 26th Street spent two weeks in Cuba in early March. She joined her college roommates on a Global Exchange program.

Their tour focused on Havana, but they also visited Cienfuegos, the colonial city of Trinidad (a UNESCO World Heritage site), Sancti Spiritus and Santa Clara. Fran's favorite moments were viewing the making of Cuban cigars by hand in Trinidad and touring the Che Guevara Memorial in Santa Clara. She noted that Che's Memorial was one of the few places where they saw armed guards.

Shopping opportunities have

expanded for Americans, who can now bring back cigars and rum, limited to \$100 as part of a \$400 overall limit. Fran noted rum is cheap so \$100 goes a long way.

Fran's group met with a variety of Cubans, from economists to various artisans. She said the Cubans were all interested in how the visitors felt about the U.S. easing relationships with Cuba.

There are many shortages of supplies. "Most striking to me were prescription and over-the-counter medications," Fran said. "Diabetes and high blood pressure are epidemic, but there are no drugs to help folks." Toilet paper is in short supply as well, with people standing in line for it. "Our Cuban guide loved that we had all brought toilet paper, which we gladly gave to her for her family," Fran said.

Trees in Curtis Park

In process of saving water, extra steps are needed to protect trees

By Dan Pskowski Viewpoint arborist

Tater conservation is still a ${f V}$ concern, and some neighbors are conserving water by turning their front lawns into a patio. Some have built a masonry wall, which provides privacy and security for small children and pets.

Before constructing any type of permanent structure, like a fence or wall, residents should contact the City of Sacramento Building Department to find out permit and building code requirements. Once these questions have been addressed, then the attention should turn toward impacts on existing trees in the front yard, the City park strip, and on your neighbor's property.

Care must be taken not to damage the root system. Roots support and anchor the tree. The absorbing roots, which are usually found in the top 6 to 18 inches, absorb water, minerals and exchange gases. Roots require water and oxygen to grow and function. The installation of concrete reduces oxygen exchange and prevents water infiltration.

However, there are alternatives. One is called porous concrete. This special material allows water to percolate down instead of run off. Another is a raised deck, which minimizes root damage.

Decomposed granite is not a viable substitute for concrete because it compacts and get hard just like concrete, which limits water and oxygen to the root system.

The installation of a trench type footing for a masonry wall can have devastating effects on trees since the footing is usually at a 12 to 24 inch

depth. Trenching within a few feet of the trunk can reduce the absorbing roots of a tree by as much as 50 percent.

An alternative to trenching is the pier and grade beam type of footing. Auguring holes for footings is a lot less damaging to the tree's absorbing roots then excavating a continuous trench.

When doing any root pruning, the general rule is an ISA certified arborist should inspect when cutting roots two



inches in diameter or greater.

These alternatives (porous concrete, pier and grade beam type footing) are more costly. However, trees take a long time to grow. I've seen trees in the neighborhood go into a slow decline over a period of years following the installation of a masonry wall close to the tree. The majority of tree problems could be avoided by having an arborist inspect your

> trees and assess the potential impacts that your project will have on them before you begin construction.

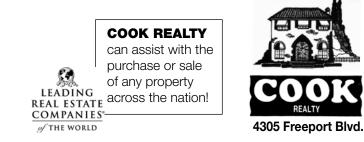
When constructing a wall this close to a tree, a pier and grade beam footing is usually required. You may want to consult an arborist first.

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Bret Harte News Bret Harte to take a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics focus

By Char Klassen Viewpoint *staff writer*

Changes are on the horizon for Bret Harte Elementary. Next year Bret Harte will implement a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics



(STEM) program school wide. This will make Bret Harte an elementary school with a focus.

According to Principal Lorena Carrillo, "This decision was made from input from parents and staff on creating a focus for the school. With the strong MESA and Engineering is Elementary (EIE) after school programs, we wanted to bring it into the regular school day."

The school will be networking

A most slippery moment in Nepal

Fleurette Kersey of Third Avenue had an earth-shaking experience in April. She was the in middle of a massage after several weeks of treatment at an Ayurvedic Health clinic in Pokora, Nepal when the first big earthquake struck April 25.

"First there was sudden silence," she said about the six women who'd been massaging her and lavishing oil on her body. After a bit of shaking, Fleurette said she was suddenly thrown sideways, and slid over the table right into the women. It was then that she realized it was an earthquake.

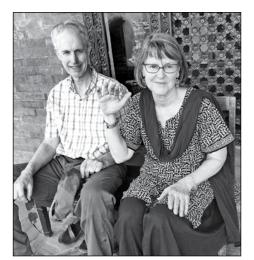
"The attending doctor instructed the women to wrap Fleurette in sheets and take her outside. Then they all stayed outside much of the time for the next three days.

The long quake lasted more

with Project Lead the Way. This group is the nation's leading provider of STEM programs.

The Project's website boasts, "Through world-class K-12 curriculum, high-quality teacher professional development, and outstanding partnerships, PLTW is helping students develop the skills needed to succeed in the global economy."

Bret Harte's STEM program will build teacher leaders and curriculum that will eventually go across all grade levels, from Kindergarten to sixth grade. The curriculum focuses on three areas: Engineering, Biology and Computer Science. The intention of the program is to develop students to become problem solvers. Students use structured approaches, like the engineering design process, and employ critical thinking. They apply STEM problem-solving techniques,



Charles and Fleurette Kersey came home from Nepal with earth-shattering stories.

than two minutes, according to **Charles Kersey**, Fleurette's husband. The two of them were at the end of a two-month trip focused on transcendental meditation, which they have been practicing for 40 years.

Fleurette said they are still in contact with their Nepali friends and send financial aid when they can. learning that it is okay to take risks and make mistakes. Teachers and students are encouraged to learn and discover together, which creates an engaging learning environment. The proposed curriculum is rigorous and relevant. Its project-based program fosters collaboration and builds critical thinking skills.

Principal Carrillo added, "The U.S. Department of Commerce estimates that jobs in STEM will grow 17 percent by 2018 — nearly double the growth for non-STEM fields. By 2018, the U.S. will have more than 1.2 million unfilled STEM jobs because there will not be enough qualified workers to fill them. STEM is where jobs are today and where the job growth will be in the future."

Bret Harte staff will go through training this summer for implementation of STEM-based learning in the fall.

Mark Your Calendar

6TH GRADE PROMOTION TUESDAY, JUNE 9 ↓ LAST DAY OF SCHOOL THURSDAY, JUNE 11



Photo/Lorena Carrillo Andrew Klassen is busy building at the San Jose Tech Museum.

Fueling station: RT encourages City to push developer to build a more transit-oriented site

(*Continued from page one*) I hope they come back with a new application."

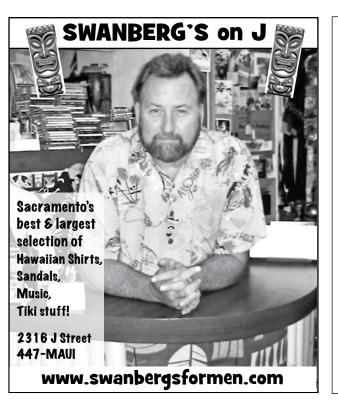
Johnson was referring to letters from Regional Transit and the Sacramento Council of Governments (SACOG). Both asked the Planning Commission to deny the permit based on the significant amount of public dollars invested in this project to make it transit friendly. SACOG provided \$10 million in Measure A funds for the pedestrian overcrossing to Sacramento City College, and the State provided another \$9 million in Prop 1.C housing funds to build infrastructure that supports infill, transit-oriented developments.

The letter from Regional Transit stated, "A fueling center of this size will not encourage transit use in this neighborhood... We strongly encourage you to reject this application and encourage the developer to build a more transitsupportive use for this site."

Another letter from the Air Quality Management District agreed with SCNA's conclusion that the developer's environmental consultant failed to adequately address toxic air contaminants, including the potent cancer causing agent called benzene.

Alagozian acknowledged the project received a large number of letters, and staff needed time to research several issues that were raised. She said the permit issue could be on the Planning Commission agenda as early as July 16. SCNA will receive a 10-day notice before the meeting, and will alert neighbors.

To ask the City about the letters and other documents, contact Lindsey Alagozian at 916-808-2659. More information about Curtis Park Village appears on SCNA's website at www.Sierra2.org.



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