

## Home & Garden Tour April 25 promises a fun day steeped in history

One of the happiest days in our neighborhood is the annual Curtis Park Home and Garden Tour. This year it's on April 25. That's when about 1,000 people from all over the region stroll under our leafy canopy to see charming historic homes, enjoy pretty gardens and outdoor entertainment spaces, and relax with refreshments and music in the park. Adding to the fun will be the touring of the Capitol A's Model A Ford Club.

The event is a key fundraiser for SCNA programs and the Sierra 2 Center. Several neighbors are graciously preparing their homes and gardens for the tour. Featured homes will range from stately Tudors to classic wooden bungalows. There will be a special row of three homes that complement a centerpiece bungalow celebrating its 100th birthday this year. Guests will see a variety of interior

Home tour organizers are seeking volunteers to work two-hour shifts as docents and as helpers in the park with the set up and take down. These volunteers may buy their tickets for \$10. If you can help, contact Lori Harder at 451-4661 or by email at lorikoi@sbcglobal.net.

designs and color palettes, with décor ranging from modern artistic to traditional.

The tour is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 25. There will be a price break for those purchasing tickets in advance. Tickets can be purchased at Sierra 2, online at www.Sierra2.org or at Collected Works or Haus. Advance general

admission tickets are \$25 (\$20 for SCNA members), and day of the tour tickets are \$30 (\$25 for SCNA members).

SCNA is seeking program advertisers and sponsors to help with this event. For opportunities, contact Terri Shettle, SCNA executive director, at 452-3005 or by email at terri@Sierra2.org. Tour proceeds benefit the Sierra 2 Center, production of the *Viewpoint*, and other SCNA community activities.

For more information, call Sierra 2 at 452-3005 or visit www.Sierra2.org.



Photo/Rudy Calpo

This Tudor home will be on tour April 25.

## March 16 forum to focus on ethics in government

Two civic groups concerned about ethics and transparency in government will host a public forum at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 16 in the Garden Room at Sierra 2. Title of the forum is City Ethics, Transparency and Redistricting Reform, and the hosts are the League of Women Voters and Eye on Sacramento.

Guests will hear a brief report and a panel discussion. Members of the panel are City Councilmember Jay Schenirer; League of Women Voters representative Paula Lee; Eye on Sacramento representative Craig Powell; and Terry Franke of the First Amendment Coalition.

Questions will be welcome. For more information, contact the SCNA Neighborhood Concerns committee at NCC@Sierra2.org.



Photo/Sherry Sherry

## A delicious fundraiser

Hannah Adams of Girl Scout Troop 1648 was among the many volunteers who helped make Sierra 2's first Crab Feed a grand success. Hannah is the granddaughter of Jacki Phillips, a longtime resident of 4th Avenue. Details of the Crab Feed are on page 7.

## First Friday Irish menu marks St. Patrick's Day

Curtis Park neighbors will celebrate St. Patrick's Day a little early with the First Friday menu served from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. March 6 in Curtis Hall.

Encore Catering will provide savory corned beef and cabbage with potatoes and carrots. A vegetarian option will be available.

A neighborhood volunteer team gathered by Judy Scheible will serve the food. Prices are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children. Beverages will be sold separately. There will be activities for children.

For more information: 456-3005.



## Shoki Ramen House heads for new home at former Trails

The Shoki Ramen House on 24th Street near 2nd Avenue has closed for now. Its owners are planning to reopen in the former Trails Restaurant on 21st Street near

Broadway. No opening date has been set, but the staff at their 1201 R Street location said remodeling work and permits for the new site are under way.

## SCNA tells City gas station plan needs environmental review

By Viewpoint Staff

Upon advice of legal counsel in February, the SCNA Board approved preparing a letter to City planners asserting environmental concerns about the proposal to build a large gas station in Curtis Park Village. The letter states that a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report is required by the California Environmental Quality Act before the City can approve or reject a conditional use permit for the station.

At the neighborhood meeting Jan. 28, City Planning Director David Kwong told the 400 attendees that the City is reviewing the proposed gas station's environmental impacts and that the type of required environmental document had not been determined. Early on, the City said that no additional environmental documents would be needed since they wanted to rely on the 2010 Environmental Impact Report certified for the Curtis Park Village Planned Unit Development. The 16 pump Safeway Fueling Center proposed for Curtis Park Village has not been scheduled for a hearing at the Planning Commission by press time.

In its letter the SCNA Board states three reasons why a supplemental environmental report is required.

First (and arguably most important): Gas stations emit benzene, which is classified as a toxic air contaminant because it has short term and long term health impacts, specifically increasing cancer risks. The State's environmental law requires the study of toxic air contaminants. The 2010 EIR for Curtis Park Village did not consider benzene since no gas station was proposed at that time. The California Air Resources Board recommends that high volume gas stations not be placed within 300 feet of residential receptors such as houses, schools and day care centers. The new houses in Curtis Park Village are about 85 feet from the proposed gas station, and many existing houses are within the 300-foot range.

Safeway has not disclosed how many gallons of gasoline it intends to pump annually. The City needs this number in order to evaluate the impact of benzene emissions. In 2009 the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment adopted a more health-protective method for

Please see Gas Station, page 5

## Volunteers for park cleanup March 14 need to bring tools

Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association has adopted William Curtis Park through the City of Sacramento's Partners in Parks Adopt-a-Park program. From 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, March 14, the Neighborhood Concerns Committee asks for neighborhood volunteers to help

us clean up around the tennis courts and children's playground. We will rake leaves, pick up fallen branches and clean the flower beds. Please bring your own gloves and wear hard shoes.

For more information, contact the committee at NCC@Sierra2.org.

— John Mathews



Notes from February 11<sup>th</sup> meeting

Board checks updated employee handbook and hears financial report

Ethics forum

Paula Lee, co-chair of the League of Women Voters, spoke to the SCNA Board on the upcoming public forum on City Ethics and Transparency Reform that the League and Eye on Sacramento are hosting. She is meeting with neighborhood organizations in the city and asking them to sponsor the public forums. Sponsorship means the SCNA Board will promote the forum. The SCNA Board unanimously agreed to be a sponsor.

The City Ethics and Transparency Reform meeting for Curtis Park will be at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 16 in the Garden Room.

Employee handbook

The Personnel Committee shared proposed changes to the Employee Handbook for Sierra 2 employees. The task was undertaken to keep Sierra 2 current on new employee laws and to help our employees better understand their benefits. Andrea Rosen, the committee chair, reported, "It was a lot of work that wasn't glamorous."

Next meeting

The SCNA Board's regular meeting is the second Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. March 11 in the Garden Room at Sierra 2. For more information, call the Sierra 2 office, 452-3005.

The Board thanked committee members Andrea Rosen, Jonathan LaTurner, Angelia Mia and Terri Shettle for completing the herculean task. The Board will review the proposed guidelines and vote on them in March.

Trees and traffic

Dan Pskowski, co-chair of the Neighborhood Concerns Committee, reported that the City Planning and Design Commission will survey the tree canopy in Sacramento by Council district. He said that it is concern that trees are being removed from neighborhoods at an alarming rate.

Pskowski also said that City staff will recommend significant changes to traffic standards and the required mitigation measures for existing and

new developments for the General Plan. In the past, when streets were rated with an "F" for traffic flow, developers were required to provide traffic mitigation measures. The update to the General Plan will no longer require traffic mitigation measures for streets that already have an "F" rating for traffic flow.

If the City accepts this change, it could impact SCNA's efforts to secure traffic mitigation measures for the streets serving Curtis Park Village. SCNA will join the Land Park Neighborhood Association in sending a letter to the City Council opposing any changes to the existing traffic requirements in the General Plan.

SCNA speaks up

The Board discussed the recent survey sent out by Petrovich Development Company. It was agreed that President Johnson would send a letter to the City Council pointing out the false choices in the survey. SCNA will also send letters to Councilmember Schenirer about proposed changes to the Tree Ordinance and improving bike lanes on 24th Street and Franklin Boulevard.

Financial outlook good

Joe Eschleman, Finance chair, reported that the year-end financials for SCNA look good. The Senior Center had a \$13,000 deficit and administrative costs were higher than projected, but overall SCNA is on track. Eschleman asked that the Personnel Committee quantify the increased costs for the proposed changes to the Employee Handbook.

Crab, roof and home tour

Executive Director Terri Shettle reported that the Crab Feed was very successful. She asked Board members to share any neighborhood feedback about the event with her.

The roof repair at Sierra 2 is now complete. The Home Tour is confirmed for April 25. The water fountain at Curtis Park is now repaired and working.

Shettle also reported the SCNA website needs to be updated so information is easier to find. The Board agreed to discuss this item at its Board Retreat at the end of February.

— Submitted by Rosanna Herber for Secretary Cara Martinson

SCNA President's message

Curtis Park's strong spirit guarantees a banner year

It is almost impossible to overstate how gratifying it was to see hundreds of Curtis Park residents turn out for the January meeting regarding Curtis Park Village and the proposed

fuel station. The tenor of the conversation was hospitable and inquisitive, and while I do apologize to those who sat outside due to space constraints, I also must recognize the staff of Sierra 2 and Bianchi Sound for the amazing last-minute work they did to accommodate the overflow.

I wish I had a crystal ball to see how Curtis Park Village gets sorted out. Fortunately, despite the debate about what kind of retail features are appropriate for the development, some aspects of the development are still able to move forward: construction of the bike/pedestrian overcrossing

ERIC JOHNSON  
SCNA Board President



to City College is in full swing, and our daughter has instructed us to sell our 1923 classic home in order to purchase one of BlackPine's homes with rooftop access. Apparently our existing treehouse can't compete with a couch on the fourth story. The Board is in constant communication with our city councilmember, Jay Schenirer, regarding Curtis Park Village and other topics. To borrow a phrase from my illustrious predecessor, I remain cautiously

optimistic about the commercial aspect of Curtis Park Village, largely due to our excellent relationship with Jay and his staff. You can always get the latest on what we're doing, and see the latest documents and official correspondence, on the Sierra2.org website.

Lest we forget, the SCNA Board is also working on many other projects. By the time you read this, we will have had our annual Board Retreat in exotic Room 10 at the Sierra 2 Center. This meeting is where we set our priorities for the coming year, assign committees to those priorities, and take time

away from the details of roof repair, First Friday volunteer staffing and other micro issues to take a hard look at who we are and what we want to do. I look forward to sharing the results of the meeting and our progress.

I'm excited about my third term as SCNA Board president. We have a strong board, both in quantity and quality of members, and I firmly believe 2015 will be a banner year for our neighborhood.

Cards for Kids

Neighbors and children in Curtis Park created more than 50 Valentine's Day cards for youngsters in hospital care. The cards were donated last month to the radio station 106.5 Cards for Kids program. They were added to cards and toys gathered by other civic groups to present to children in Sacramento hospitals. In total, the groups delivered more than 50,000 cards and gifts. The program was spearheaded by radio celebrity Greg Tanner of Star 106.5.



Photo/Faith Johnstone

SCNA collected handmade Valentines from neighbors to give to kids in local hospitals.

— Faith Johnstone

VIEWPOINT

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



# City delays bike lane project to save time and money

By Dennis Cusick  
Viewpoint staff writer

The city now plans to complete the Freeport Boulevard Bike Lanes project in summer 2016 — the second one-year postponement—to coordinate with another city project involving the replacement of 1,000 feet of sewer and storm drains underneath the roadway.

“We know that there’s been a lot of community interest in getting the bike lanes project completed,” project manager Adam Randolph said. “We’re kind of sad that we can’t get it done this year.”

The decision to delay the project for another year was made recently in consideration of the city Utilities Department’s project to upgrade the sewer and storm drain pipes. In that project, trenches will be dug this summer along a stretch of Freeport Boulevard from McClatchy High School to Vallejo Way.

Because the bike lanes project involves slurry sealing and remarking the roadway, such work would have to be repeated if it were done



Upgrading sewer and storm drain pipes postponed bike lane project.

before the sewer and storm drains were replaced. Both projects are targeting the same “three-month window” in the summer, when traffic is lighter because fewer students are present at McClatchy High School and Sacramento City College, Randolph said.

The bike lanes project, as approved by City Council in November 2012, calls for converting Freeport Boulevard to a

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

One recent addition to the project involves the expansion of Cervantes Park, between 10th and 11th Avenues, by about 40 feet on its western edge. That will make Freeport Boulevard a uniform width and will make the pedestrian crossing distance shorter at the park.

The bike lanes project was originally targeted for the summer of 2014, but delays in securing funding caused the first one-year delay. All funding for the bike lanes project has been secured from state and local sources, Randolph said.

“There won’t be a long-term interruption to traffic to get the work done,” said Randolph, an associate civil engineer in the Department of

Public Works. “At a minimum, there will always be two lanes of traffic maintained.”

The new target date for beginning the bike lanes project is a week or two after the end of spring semester 2016, Randolph said, although the work on expanding Cervantes Park and some sidewalk improvements could be done before that.

## SCNA Board seeks Schenirer’s help with bike access projects

The SCNA board is seeking Councilmember Jay Schenirer’s help in accomplishing three bicycle access projects in the neighborhood.

In a Feb. 10 letter to Schenirer, SCNA President Eric Johnson outlined the three projects:

- New bike lanes along 24th Street from Second Avenue to W Street and the reduction of vehicle lanes from four to two;
- Green-painted “sharrows” with bicycle stencils on Franklin Boulevard between Marshall Way and Second Avenue to remind motorists that bicyclists may be present;
- Sharrows and/or traffic-calming

humps on Fifth Avenue between Franklin Boulevard and McGeorge School of Law.

The first two projects are listed in the city’s 2014 Transportation Planning Guide. The Department of Public Works ranked the Franklin Boulevard project sixth in priority and the 24th Street project 13th out of 55 bikeway proposals citywide.

Johnson’s letter requested Schenirer’s help in elevating the proposals on the city’s priority list. Johnson said the three projects “would improve bicycle access to key destinations for Sierra-Curtis neighborhood residents.”

— Viewpoint staff

## What’s new at Sierra 2

By Valerie Burrows  
Facility Administrator

### The art of watercolor

Beginner to Advanced Watercolor classes are held from 9 a.m. to noon Fridays in Room 11. Students learn techniques, the use of value, color, line, texture and materials. Paint application and techniques are demonstrated weekly.

Instructor and artist Michael Mikolon works with each student individually. Walk-ins are welcome.

For more information, contact Michael at 730-9347 or michaelmikolon@gmail.com or www.artistmichael.com.

### A celebration of song

The Sacramento Children’s Chorus will celebrate 22 years of

music with an evening performance March 20 in Curtis Hall. Entitled A Harmony of Tastes 2015, the program will begin at 6:30 p.m. Festivities will include food from local restaurants, fine wine, and local beer, and a silent auction.

Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased at Ticketguys.com. For information, phone 646-1141 or www.sacramentochildrenschorus.org.

### Floral design classes

Classes are from 10 a.m.–noon Saturdays in Room 11. Upcoming classes are:

- March 21, A Bouquet & A Bout: creating bouquets for flower vases or wedding bouquets;
- April 25, Beginning Centerpiece: learning the basics;
- May 16, Designing in Foam: Mom’s

Garden Style Centerpiece (trendy and popular garden styles).

For more information, www.aspecialdaydesigns.com.

### Get your creative juices flowing

Remember your exuberant 5-year-old creating messes, drawing, painting or making mud pies? As we mature, we often lose the ability to be free and creative in the moment. The Bloom True, A Workshop for Finding True North, is about recapturing that joy and creative freedom and learning to paint and write from the heart.

No painting or writing experience is necessary. The workshop will be from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, March 28 in Room 11,

The \$75 fee includes materials and lunch. To register, contact instructor Toni Tiedemann at 468-9440,

bloomingmoonarts@gmail.com or visit bloomingmoonarts.com. Dress comfortably as you might get messy.

### Learn Japanese drumming

Kristy Oshiro, a professional taiko artist based in the Sacramento and San Francisco Bay Area, will teach a Japanese drumming workshop from 8:30-10 p.m. Tuesday, March 31 in Studio 3. This Katsugi Okedo Taiko class focuses on a dynamic style where the drum is played while strapped to the body, allowing the drummer to walk and dance while drumming. Previous taiko experience is helpful. The class fee is \$25 cash. For info and registration contact Kristy at kristyoshiro@gmail.com or visit kristyoshiro.com.

For a list of her upcoming classes and workshops: www.Sierra2.org.

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So long, Dolly and move over, Mame. Make way for the biggest of Broadway's "big ladies," Molly Brown. The Titanic may have sunk, but Molly Brown survived. This spirited tale of a legendary, real-life American original follows the exploits of Molly Brown, whose feisty determination to rise above her impoverished beginnings leads her from the backwoods of Hannibal, Missouri, to the European palaces.

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This adaptation of Roald Dahl's story follows the adventures of Charlie Bucket on his visit to Willy Wonka's mysterious chocolate factory. Willy Wonka has hidden five golden tickets in five of his scrumptious candy bars. Whoever finds one wins a free tour of the Wonka factory, as well as a lifetime supply of candy. The children must learn to follow Mr. Wonka's rules in the factory — or suffer the consequences. This version of Willy Wonka is guaranteed to delight everyone's sweet tooth.

ACTIVITIES AT SIERRA 2

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

MARTIAL ARTS

Eagle Claw Kung Fu Academy of Sacramento

Wednesday, 6-7 p.m. 441-7215  
Saturday, 12:30-2 p.m., Studio 2

Sacramento Bushido Kai

Japanese Martial Arts for ages 4-Adult

Monday, 6-7 p.m., Studio 2  
Wednesday, 6-7 p.m., Studio 1  
For schedule, Michael Mason: 616-5452

Sacramento Sword School

Martial Sword Arts of Europe

Thursday, 6:15-8:15 p.m., Studio 2  
Maestro Eric Myers: 276-2247

Unified Chinese Martial Arts

For schedule, e-mail Shifu Byron at [Lohan36@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Lohan36@sbcglobal.net)

Typhoon Philippine School of Martial Arts

Tues/Fri, 8:30-9:30 p.m., Studio 2  
Master Maurice Gatdula: 509-6671

ART

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Tuesdays, Noon-3 p.m., Rm. 11  
[karenssharp51@gmail.com](mailto:karenssharp51@gmail.com)

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Michael Mikolon, 730-9347  
[www.artistmichael.com](http://www.artistmichael.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](mailto: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](mailto:pakko.zumba@yahoo.com)

Weight Watchers

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Room 10 and Studio 3  
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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](mailto:kristyoshiro@gmail.com)

OTHER

Center for Soul Healing

2nd Thursday and 4th Tuesday  
6:30-8 p.m. • Room 9  
[CenterForSoulHealing.com](http://CenterForSoulHealing.com)

Know Thyself as Soul – Meditation

1st Sunday of the month, 1 – 4 p.m. Curtis Hall  
[knowthyselfassoul.org](http://knowthyselfassoul.org)

Marxist School of Sacramento

Speaker Series: call for schedule  
799-1354, [marxistschool.org](http://marxistschool.org)

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

DANCE

Mindful Bellydance

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

Awakening Bellydance

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

Irish American Ceili Dancers

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

Manasa Tribal Dance

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

River City Taps – Tap Dance

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Studio 2 • [alohatyra@aol.com](mailto:alohatyra@aol.com)

West African Dance

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Jessa Cruz: [jessakaycruz@gmail.com](mailto:jessakaycruz@gmail.com)

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# Senior center needs funds to protect its programs

By Phoebe Celestin  
Senior Center Program Coordinator

I began working with the senior center a year ago. With an army of support, we have made great progress. We hired class instructors, added activities, recruited staff paid with federal funds, and added an intern from the Sac State Gerontology Department. We also have valuable volunteers.

During the year, many people told me their personal history of the Senior Center and asked questions. I want to answer those questions here and at the All Seniors Meeting at 3 p.m. Wednesday, March 18 in Room 12.

The SCNA Senior Center began in the fall of 2000 when former SCNA President, Harlene Barrett proposed a Senior Center to meet the social needs of older adults. The SCNA Board approved the program, and the Center began with two days a week. Harlene made a significant monetary donation and secured a \$100,000 grant from the Ethel Hart Foundation. Thereafter, programs expanded to five days per week in 2004. The city of Sacramento provided other funding, but that ended in 2009. SCNA also allocated \$2,000/year from 2001 to 2008.

During this time, the Senior Center management and participants anticipated losing City funding and increased its fund-raising efforts in 2006. These included an annual Appeal for donations from members and friends, a Business Appeal, Holiday Faire and other events. The Center was self-supporting for several years. However, since July 2013, the Center has operated at a deficit.

From October 2012 through February 2014, the coordinator position was vacant for two periods totaling 12 months. While operations continued with other SCNA staff, the Senior Center lacked a dedicated person driving the growth and outreach efforts.

### What is the Reserve Fund and how can it be used?

The \$50,000 Reserve Fund was developed in prior years when our income exceeded expenses. Now, when

our expenses are greater than our income, the Reserve Fund is about \$38,000.

### What is the role of SCNA regarding the Senior Center and how does it help?

SCNA continues to support the Senior Center by making Room 12, and other rooms, available. SCNA provides management oversight and administrative services, utilities and janitorial service.

However, if the Reserve falls to a critically low point, SCNA would likely evaluate its ability to continue the current Senior Center operating model. Seniors surveyed informally want the Center to remain open and well-funded.

Replenishing the reserve fund creates an economic cushion for our programs. A healthy reserve fund demonstrates sustainability and interest for senior activities in the community. Conversely, continued depletion would call into question the operating viability, and no one wants that to occur. The Reserve Fund can be used to invest in programs that help grow the Senior Center.

Today the Senior Center is at a crossroads. I believe it is an essential part of our organization as a whole. It would be a shame if the Center had to reduce its offerings or even close. In order to protect our Center, we need your help. We can solve this problem together.

### Ways to support the Senior Center

- **Contribute** monthly, quarterly or annually (check [www.Sierra2.org](http://www.Sierra2.org) website for details) If 300 people gave \$144 per year (\$12 per month) and we had four fundraising events per year that raised \$2,000 each, we would have a sustainable annual budget scenario.
- **Support us** by attending classes, activities, events.
- **Volunteer.** Share your skills or learn: video production, leadership, memoir writing, get fit.
- **Introduce** a friend to the Senior Center.

# Gas station: SCNA to meet with City planners

(Continued from page one)

calculating health risks from benzene emissions. The City is required to use the most health-protective method for determining health impacts of any proposed project. In the SCNA letter to the City, SCNA's air quality expert applied the Health Hazard agency's methodology and, assuming 7 million gallons of gas pumped per year, which is typical of other similar Safeway high volume loyalty gas stations, projected 70 increased cancer risks per million. The Village's 2010 EIR identified 10 increased cancer risks per million as the relevant threshold of significance for long term chronic health impacts. Using the 2010 EIR threshold, the proposed gas station would produce seven times the cancer threshold.

Benzene is not the only toxic air contaminant generated by a gas station. Diesel particular matter from tanker trucks servicing the proposed gas stations, expected daily, is also a carcinogen and a toxic air contaminant. The supplemental environmental report would quantify the amount and impact of diesel particulate matter coming from tanker trucks and other diesel delivery trucks, and would be added to the benzene emissions calculation. Emissions from diesel tanker trucks were not studied in the 2010 EIR for Curtis Park Village.

Upon performing the required analysis of toxic air contaminants, the City will likely be faced with requiring ways to reduce the health risk (mitigation) to less than significant. If it is infeasible to reduce the health risk, then the City could accept the increased cancer risks if it finds the benefits of the project outweigh the increased cancer risks to the community. SCNA believes that the City decision-makers must have this scientific information in order to understand the consequences of their decision to

approve or reject the proposed gas station.

**Second:** Decision-makers must consider the increased traffic that this high volume gas station will generate. The City of Petaluma recently recognized that the standard traffic volume (trips) generated by a typical gas station could not be used in its environmental analysis due to the much more attractive nature of a loyalty gas station and its much larger size. Petaluma commissioned a traffic engineering study to determine a more accurate number of vehicle trips that would be generated by a large loyalty gas station. Sacramento will be asked to do a similar analysis to estimate traffic impacts of the proposed gas station.

**Third:** The environmental quality act requires analysis of hazardous materials to which people might be accidentally exposed. Gasoline is a hazardous material. In 2010, the Curtis Park Village EIR dismissed risks of hazardous materials as follows: "These land uses would not involve the routine use, transport, or disposal of hazardous materials. In addition, the truck routes designated for the commercial uses would not utilize the proposed residential roadways."

The gas station application (P14-036) shows the gasoline tanker trucks accessing the underground tanks for the gas station via residential roadways. The proposed gas station dramatically alters the analysis of hazardous materials due to tanker trucks accessing the gas station using residential roadways. Any accident involving a tanker truck could expose residents to gasoline. This possibility presents a hazard not previously studied for Curtis Park Village but is required to be studied by the state's environmental laws.

SCNA expects to meet with City environmental planners this month to discuss these issues.

### MARCH ACTIVITIES

#### SIERRA 2 SENIOR CENTER Room 12

455-6339 or [seniorcenter@sierra2.org](mailto:seniorcenter@sierra2.org)  
Everyone is welcome.

Activities are free except where noted. (Donations appreciated.)

#### FITNESS

##### Community Acupuncture Clinic

9:30-10:45 a.m. March 10  
10-11 a.m. March 24  
Zoë Griffin: 212-2170

##### Meditation/Movement/Verse

##### Instructor: Alexa Mergen

9:45-11 a.m. Fridays  
\$30 for 4 sessions

##### Chair Yoga

##### Instructor: Alexa Mergen

3:15-4 p.m. Fridays • Room 11  
Class fee: \$ 8

##### Gentle Yoga—Instructor: Pat Shaw

10-11 a.m. Wednesdays

##### Fall Prevention

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

##### Tai Chi—Instructor: Frank Gaviola

10:30-11:15 a.m. Thursdays

Rm. 12 • \$40 per month

##### Walking and Polewalking Clinic

9 a.m. Thursdays

One time instruction fee \$5

#### LEISURE

##### Mandala Art Instructor: Marie Taylor

9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays  
March 3, 17, 31, April 14, 28.

Phone: (916) 692-5952 or

Class fee: \$ 8 each; 5-class series/\$35

##### Improvisation acting with Jetta

3-5 p.m. Last Friday of the month

##### Book Club

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday

##### March 9: "A Confederacy of Dunces"

by John Kennedy Toole

##### April 13: "Where'd You Go Bernadette?"

by Maria Semple

(Book club participants read the book of the month prior to each meeting.)

##### Travel Writing with Phoebe Celestin

11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Wednesdays

Rm. 12. Fee: \$3 per class

##### My Story Project meeting

1-3 p.m. 1st Monday of the month

##### Everyone Can Drum

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

##### Open Art Studio

11 a.m.-3 p.m. Fridays (not last Friday)

##### Life History Writing

1-3 p.m. Wednesdays

#### EDUCATION

##### Beginning Drawing by Patris

9-10:15 a.m. Thursdays

##### Popcorn and a Movie

3rd Tuesday of the month 1:30-4 p.m.

Donation requested \$2. FREE popcorn

##### AARP Driver's Safety Classes

##### Instructor: Jim Finnegan

Register: 804-9777 • Location TBA

##### Cohousing Workshop

2-3:45 p.m. Tuesdays Feb. 10-April 28

Registration: 995-6629 or 451-8142

#### CARDS AND GAMES

##### Ginasta

9:30-11:30 a.m. Mondays (not 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday)

##### Mahjongg

10 a.m.-noon Mondays (not 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday)

##### Fun Bridge

1-4 p.m. Thursdays

##### Pinochle


1-3 p.m. Fridays

#### EVENTS


##### Senior Committee Meeting

3 - 5 p.m. March 2


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Heritage Matters

Home Tour will highlight unique features of Curtis Park bungalows

By Erik Fay  
Viewpoint staff writer

Even though the word bungalow originated in England, the home style is uniquely American. We are lucky to have many bungalows throughout the earliest Curtis Park subdivisions. Luckier still, this year’s Curtis Park Home & Garden Tour on April 25 will feature several wonderful examples of this home style.

The bungalow is usually one or one-and-a half stories. The majority in our neighborhood feature a front gabled roof with a full or partial width porch. Generally the front porches are covered by the main roof, but some have a separate extended roof. Exposed decorative rafter tails are common as are beautifully finished Douglas Fir wood in wall panels, ceiling beams, cabinetry and window frames. Bungalows with these architectural details can be found on Fifth Avenue, Portola Way and Donner Way.

The West Curtis Oaks subdivision features examples of larger bungalows



with a side gabled roof extending over a front porch. The two-story bungalows often feature a full width front porch. The materials used for porch piers, columns and chimneys vary. Neighborhood examples include graded bricks, klinker bricks, concrete molded stone, stucco, and river rock—most certainly from the American and Sacramento rivers.

Bungalows were the dominant style of American homes from 1905 to the early 1920s. The style originated in Southern California with an emphasis on sunshine, health, craftsmanship and natural materials in the architecture. Many landmark examples are in and around Pasadena. Bungalows were featured in numerous magazines and architectural books of the period, and they quickly became popular across the country. Sears, Roebuck and Company offered a range of quality



Photo/Erik Fay

This Fifth Avenue bungalow is among the featured homes on the 2015 Tour.

bungalow models with precut lumber and detailing that could be shipped to any location and assembled by a homeowner or builder.

The 2015 Curtis Park Home & Garden Tour committee consists of Janice Calpo, Lori Harder, and Kara Leong-Olkowski. They have assembled a great collection of bungalows for us to tour and enjoy.

Please know that volunteer docents are needed to work two-hour shifts at each home on the tour. If you would like to be a docent, please contact Lori Harder at lorikoi@sbcglobal.net or at 451-4661.

Planting the right trees and shrubs can create a privacy screen

By Dan Pskowski  
Special to the Viewpoint

Construction crews are building two and three-story homes on the east side of Curtis Park Village. Some residents whose properties abut the site are concerned about their privacy. Suddenly, their six-foot backyard fences don’t provide much privacy.

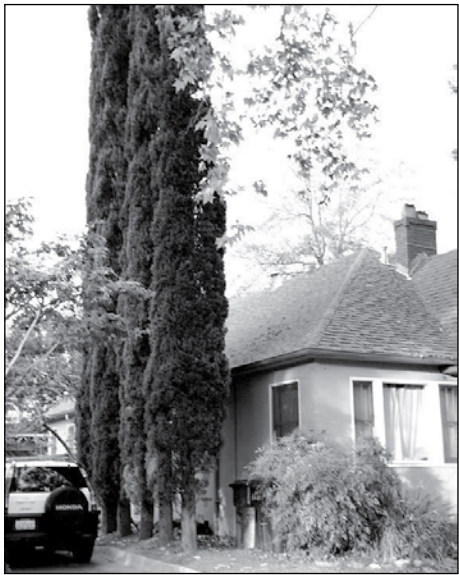
At one of the Neighborhood Concerns Committee meetings last year, residents expressed a need for tree recommendations that would provide a screen. Careful selection of trees and shrubs allows for privacy where homes are tightly clustered. Since our soils do not freeze, Sacramento’s mild winters are an excellent time for planting. This allows the plant to develop a root system before the hot summer months, which is necessary for a tree’s successful growth.

The narrow lots and limited



A Japanese camellia screens the front porch at this Third Avenue home.

planting space between homes necessitate the use of trees and shrubs that grow upright. A few suggestions for planting the area between homes are columnar juniper



Photos/Dan Pskowski

A row of Italian cypress on Portola Way makes a privacy screen.

(*Juniperus chinensis* ‘Columnaris’) which attain a 15-foot height with a six-foot spread. Japanese camellias (*Camellia japonica*)—a Sacramento favorite—will also attain a 15-foot

height with a 6–10 foot spread.

A taller choice for a confined space is the Italian cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*) or podocarpus (*Podocarpus macrophyllus*). It will attain at least a 35-foot height. The crape myrtle can also be planted between homes but requires annual pruning to develop a columnar shape.

While there are other tree species that have columnar cultivars—the red maple being one—these tree species develop root systems that aren’t compatible for confined spaces and could threaten a home’s foundation. When planting in the backyard, look up to see if there are any SMUD high voltage wires overhead. If so, then consider a tree species with a mature height of 35 feet or less.

One final suggestion: walk around the Curtis Park neighborhood for ideas from the many nicely landscaped homes which have created the privacy you are seeking.

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# COMMUNITY CORNER



Photo/Sherry Sherry

## Sell-out crowd festively awaits the crab at this successful fundraiser. First annual crab feed to net \$5,000

By Terri Shettle  
SCNA executive director

It's easy to say SCNA's first Crab Feed was a success. The sell-out crowd of 200 attendees enjoyed fabulous musical entertainment from the Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus and a festive environment of friends, old and new, mixing it up at the tables in Curtis Hall and Room 10.

The silent auction created extra activity but one of the most popular activities of the night was the Dessert Auction, pitting tables against each other in a friendly competition to get the dessert of their choice.

The table service provided by

choral members and Girl Scouts in Troop 1648 and Troop 1028 kept the attendees full and entertained all night long. The choral group raised nearly \$3,000 with the dessert auction, and SCNA took in just over \$12,000 from ticket sales, beverages, and the silent auction. Net proceeds for SCNA will be between \$5,000 and \$6,000. The event most assuredly started a grand winter tradition in Curtis Park.

Stay tuned for updates as staff works on design concepts for the children's Exploration Station in the coming months. SCNA extends a special thanks to men's choral group and the Girl Scouts for helping kick off this event in such a memorable way.

## Enjoying an East Coast wedding



Dennis Cusick of Portola Way celebrates the wedding of his daughter, Lauren, right, to Navy Lt. Caitlin Castello. Dennis and his wife, Joan, traveled to the East Coast for the big event on Jan. 16 in Moyock, N.C. The newlyweds have returned to Yokohama, Japan, where Caitlin is stationed.

Photo/Joan Cusick



Photos/Joan Cusick

## Young yogis

Lee Wilhem and daughter Luch, above, participate in a family yoga session led by Instructor Michelle Kizner with her daughter Camilla (at right). In keeping with its "yoga for everyone" mission, the Sacramento Yoga Center has begun offering Thursday sessions for infants and toddlers. The Sacramento Yoga Center is in Room 6 at Sierra 2.



## Hoping to lure Nugget Market to CPV



Photo/Ted Fink

Curtis Park residents deliver a special Valentine card signed by 50 neighbors to Nugget Stores, asking Nugget to consider locating a store in Curtis Park Village. Left to right, Janice Calpo, Rosanna Herber, Nugget Store Manager Angel Nolasco, Cheri Davis and Ted Fink.

### NEIGHBOR-TO-NEIGHBOR CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE: Kirby Vacuum Sentria II w/ zip brush & attachments, \$500; Paid \$1,000. New May 2014. Little use since then. Too heavy for me. Kathy @ 916 454-2406

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

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Photo/Joan Cusick



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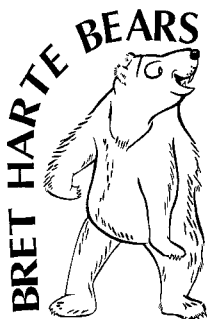
Bret Harte News

Safe School Ambassadors at Bret Harte learn skills to stop bullying

By Char Klassen  
Viewpoint staff writer

Thanks to a generous grant from SIA for Kids, an empowering student leadership program is coming to Bret Harte.

The Safe School Ambassadors program is the nation's most



effective bystander education program. Created in 2000 by the nonprofit Community Matters, the Safe School program draws students from a variety of social groups across campus and trains them to be leaders in positive peer relations and a positive school climate. Bret Harte elementary school will be one of the first SCUSD schools to implement the program.

Thirty-four students in third through sixth grades and five staff members undertook a two-part

training Feb. 24 and 25 with a Safe School trainer. Participating students received extensive instruction in communication and intervention skills that can stop emotional and physical bullying and improve school climate. Priority was given to students practicing these skills.

"The students will serve as role models and 'upstanders' in their own classrooms, on the playground and in their own social circles," said Liz Sterba, the Student Support Center Coordinator and Safe School program

adviser. "Students will meet with me weekly for ongoing training, support and coaching."

The Safe School program has shown a high chance of increased academic performance, increased tolerance and respect, less bullying, fewer discipline problems' including suspensions and expulsions, and increased leadership skills.

For more information on Bret Harte's work with the program, contact Liz Sterba or Principal Lorena Carrillo at 277-6261.

Students share insights from Neighborhood Business Survey

By Rosanna Herber  
Viewpoint staff writer

The Sac State sociology students smiled nervously in mid-February as they faced 35 neighbors waiting to hear an analysis of the Curtis Park Neighborhood Business Survey. Professor Jennifer Murphy started by outlining scientific methods used for the survey.

The students opened with a comment that got a chuckle. "I think most everyone here has probably heard the results about the gas station being rejected by 82 percent of the respondents," said student Jonathan Eggert. "But, there are other insights we want to point out."

The students outlined other observations from the report: About 87 percent of the respondents said that formula businesses (retail chains) impact the character of a neighborhood.

A majority (55 percent) said the impacts from retail chains could be positive or negative, but almost 39 percent said the impacts were negative for locally owned businesses and over 40 percent said the impacts were negative on the character of the neighborhood.

About 78 percent supported establishing design controls on architectural features of business buildings, and 61 percent supported placing restrictions on formula businesses in Curtis Park.

Over 63 percent of respondents

make an effort to shop in Curtis Park, but often can't find the products and services they want here.

Over half the respondents didn't know the number of small businesses in Curtis Park.

After the presentation, the Character Advocates led a discussion and asked for comment on the survey's results.

Marti Brown, executive director of the North Franklin District Business Association, said it would be good to dig deeper into the data to see details about businesses Curtis Park neighbors want.

Bill Harrell of 5th Avenue and president of the Greater Broadway Partnership, said architectural design controls do impact the character of the neighborhood. He said the Broadway Partnership is waiting to see if the Department of Motor Vehicles plans to develop additional buildings along Broadway.

Katie Thomas of Portola Way said she would like a map showing where small businesses are in Curtis Park.

The sociology majors at Sac State who presented the report are Karlee Hare, Caitlyn Wardell, Mellanie Chavarin and Jonathan Eggert. This was their first official presentation to a client. The students were delighted the report was well received and the discussion it generated.

The survey was delivered to 1,800 homes in the Curtis Park last September. Two hundred and one surveys were returned.



Photo/Erik Fay

The Azurin family moved into a Cottage home on 24th Street in December. From left are Maria, William, Chloe, Patricia and Hector Azurin with Disney.

First family moves into the Village

By Erik Fay  
Viewpoint staff writer

We don't know the first family who moved into the original Curtis Park subdivisions many moons ago, but we do know the first family to move into Curtis Park Village. The Azurin family moved into one of the new Cottage homes just before Santa Claus came.

Hector, Maria, Chloe (age 16), Patricia (11), William (8), and Disney (their 5-month-old Bichon Frise) wanted to be in the house before Christmas. The Azurins moved in Dec. 23. The family credits the Black Pines Homes staff who worked closely with them and completed construction so the family could celebrate the holiday in their new home.

Hector is a nurse at Methodist Hospital in Elk Grove, and Maria is a full time mom and family manager. Chloe attends St. Francis High School, and Patricia and William attend Sacred Heart School.

Originally from the Philippines, Hector and Maria lived in Peoria, Ill. before moving to Sacramento in 2004. The family owned a home in another neighborhood and looked at many parts of Sacramento before deciding to live in Curtis Park. Hector and Maria said they were drawn to the pedestrian-friendly streets, similar to those in some European cities. The family enjoys the neighborhood's quiet, the trees, vintage homes, their proximity to the park, easy access to many parts of the city, and nearby friends.

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