

Developer asks court to overturn gas station rejection

By Dennis Cusick
Viewpoint staff writer

Developer Paul Petrovich isn't taking "No" for an answer.

Despite City Council's rejection in November of his application to build a 16-nozzle gas station in his Curtis Park Village development, Petrovich is going to court — and the court of public opinion — in an attempt to reverse the Council's decision.

On Feb. 9, Petrovich Development Co. asked Sacramento County Superior Court to order the city to rescind the City Council decision and restore the

planning commission's approval of a conditional use permit for the gas station.

Petrovich's 26-page lawsuit alleges the City Council decision to reject the gas station was "tainted by personal animus and bias," was an abuse of discretion and "was not supported by any substantial evidence in the record."

Petrovich has long refused to speak to *Viewpoint* or *The Sacramento Bee*, claiming both publications are biased against him. However, the same day that his attorneys filed the lawsuit, Petrovich told the *Sacramento Business Journal* he was filing the complaint to preserve his development options and establish the

right to include a gas station with the shopping center. "I've never been here before," Petrovich was quoted as saying. "I didn't understand all these details because I've never been rejected before."

A few days later, Petrovich found a sympathetic ear in KOVR-13 reporter Tony Lopez, whose broadcast story asked, provocatively: "What's really going on with the Curtis Park Village project?"

Lopez said on the air that residents of Curtis Park "are known for being active members of the political process, but just how large was the opposition?" For an answer to that question,

Please see Lawsuit, page 3

30th annual Home and Garden Tour April 30

By Lori Harder
Special to the Viewpoint

Since 1986, dozens of generous community-minded Curtis Park residents have opened their homes and gardens to the public, sharing the historic charm and fabric of our unique neighborhood. Throughout the home tour day, people from the region enjoy strolling under our leafy canopy, viewing lovely homes, pretty gardens and enjoying outdoor entertainment, refreshments and music in the park. The Capitol A's Model A Ford Club will return to tour the neighborhood throughout the event.

The home tour is a key fundraising event for programs sponsored by the Sierra Curtis

Volunteer docents, sponsors needed for home tour

Home tour organizers are seeking volunteers to work two-hour shifts as docents and as helpers in the park with the set up or take down. These volunteers may buy their tickets for \$10.

If you can help, contact Lori Harder at 451-4661 or lorikoi@sbcglobal.net.

Consider supporting SCNA and this event by placing an ad in the tour program, starting at \$250. Contact Terri Shettle at 452-3005 or terri@sierra2.org.

Neighborhood Association and the Sierra 2 Center. Stately Tudor and other revival styles are showcased this year. Within the setting of historic homes with original architectural features, a variety of decorating styles and color palettes

bring individuality to each of them. Features include recently renovated kitchens, baths, outdoor buildings, gardens and/or outdoor entertainment spaces.

Please see Tour, page 5



Photo/Rudy Calpo

This Tudor home on Montgomery Way features a renovated kitchen and bathroom designed with materials that reflect the home's 1926 style.

'Better Homes' national event featured local homes in 1920s

By Erik Fay
Viewpoint staff writer

Ever since Curtis Park's home tour started in 1986, it's been a much anticipated event in our neighborhood. Homes are opened to the public and viewed as examples of historic architecture, with sensitive improvements and remodeling, creative furnishings, state-of-the-art kitchen appliances, and pride in ownership. However, our modern-day home tours are neither the first nor biggest in our neighborhood's history. In the 1920s Curtis Park residents and builders actively embraced the national campaign called Better Homes in America.

That movement began in 1921 and lasted into 1934. It started as a reaction to World War I housing shortages and with unrestricted home building commencing in the early 1920s. Presidents Warren Harding and Herbert Hoover were active supporters of Better Homes in America. They gave speeches and published articles on the benefits of home ownership, its place in the economy, and its defining characteristic of an American way of life.

Please see Better Homes, page 6

It was a crab fest!



Photo/Joan Cusick

Andrew Yeung, a member of the Gay Men's Choir, takes joy in serving crab. Story on page 7.

Annual Egg Hunt set for March 26

The 11th annual SCNA Spring Egg Hunt will begin at 9:30 a.m. March 26 with a pajama parade. SCNA board member Rosanna Herber will lead the children and their grown-ups from the north end of Curtis Park to Curtis Hall at Sierra 2. Rosanna is stepping in for Dan Murphy, parade marshal extraordinaire, who's nursing a broken foot.

Egg hunters and their families will enjoy some free refreshments and craft activities before it's time to hop out to the green for the hunt. Children will be divided into age groups, with a separate area for toddlers 2 and under.

Mr. Bunny will be on hand to pose for photos with the children, courtesy of Eleakis and Elder Photography. For a \$5 donation, families will be able to download a 5x7 photograph after the event. More information: 452-3005.

Executive director snags \$693,000 in grants for Franklin district

By Rosanna Herber
Viewpoint staff writer

Did you know that Franklin Boulevard was once named The Historic Monterey Trail, and it connected Sutter's Fort to what was then the Capital of Mexican-California?

Marti Brown, the energetic executive director of the Franklin Boulevard Business District, is eager to share such little known facts with the hope that you'll see Franklin Boulevard in a new light.

"I'm working to build a thriving business district in this area," Brown said.

The major problem is making the corridor attractive to customers. Right now, the boulevard is four lanes of fast cars, no bicycle lanes and few trees. Recently, *The Sacramento Bee* said it might be "the ugliest street in Sacramento."

That Franklin Boulevard image is about to change. Last month the business district and the City received a \$443,000 grant from the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) to redesign the street. An additional \$250,000 in Community Development Block Grants will ensure that the project produces preliminary design drawings that can be used to seek federal and state funding to

upgrade the streetscape.

"We want Franklin to be more people friendly," Brown said. "We'll be asking stakeholders what we can do to make it more attractive and safe."

Proposed changes include reducing traffic to two lanes, adding separate bicycle lanes, planting more trees, creating landscaped medians, and adding on street parking and more crosswalks.

"It's a step-by-step process, where

Please see Franklin, page 8

Pizzas on menu for First Friday

First Friday Neighborhood dinner resumes March 4. This month it's pizza from Smokin' Hot Pizza from 6-8 p.m. in Curtis Hall at Sierra 2.

Wood-fired pizza choices will be Pepperoni, The Big Pig (pepperoni, bacon, sausage), Classic Artie (bacon, chicken, artichoke), and Roasted Veggie. All meals will include a salad.

Adult meals are \$8 for three slices; child meals are \$4 for 1 slice. Beer, wine and soft drinks will be available for purchase separately.

Notes from Feb. 3rd meeting

Executive director pursues grants to rehab the theater

Attending: Jonathan La Turner, Larry Easterling, Kara Leong, Bruce Pierini, Angela Mia, Rosanna Herber, John Matthews, Dan Pskowski, Robert Giblin, Eric Johnson, Terri Shettle, Andrea Rosen, Joe Eschleman, Kate Van Buren, Patrick Soluri

Action item

The board will have its annual retreat from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, March 13 at Sierra 2.

Home Tour update

In addition to the homes on tour this year, a walking, guided tour of gardens was suggested highlighting drought tolerant landscaping, pollinators, butterflies and bee friendly plants.

President's report

Eric enjoyed the Martin Luther King Day march with our Oak Park neighbors and reported on its huge success.

Executive director's report

Terri reported that people on the wine tasting committee have

Next meeting

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

retired. New people are needed to help plan SCNA's biggest fundraiser of the year. Volunteers are also needed for the Easter Egg Hunt and the Big Day of Giving.

Terri's suggestion for SCNA's new motto: We keep people thriving.

Joe suggested a flyer to insert in the May Viewpoint to remind folks about the Big Day of Giving.

Treasurer's Report

Joe reports no significant difference from last month's report. Sierra 2 Center is on fire with record rentals. People are coming back to rent space because their clients loved it so much.

Facilities

Robert is the new facilities chair. Lots of repairs are going on in the

cottages. Terri is pursuing grants to rehab the theater, including seating and access for the disabled, which could cost up to \$50,000.

Development Committee

Larry reports that the main focus will be updating the Sierra Curtis website.

Neighborhood Concerns Committee

There are three co-chairs: John, Dan and Rosanna. Meetings will be the third Wednesday of the month. The public will be invited when possible.

Bruce will be leading a forum in late April/early May on working cooperatively with developers and neighborhoods. All Sacramento residents will be invited, and there will be presentations with Q&A. The City of Sacramento officials are also invited.

Andrea reported on a new collaborative venture, "Pop-up Storytelling" with Capitol Public Radio. UC Davis is also involved in the project.

Rosanna is the SCNA ambassador for community

outreach. She has been approached by residents to see if the ballards at 10th Avenue could be adjusted to allow left turns onto Crocker Drive and catch the light at Sutterville.

Personnel

Andrea is chair and reports they have not yet met.

Senior Center

Angela reports that the Wellness program is off to a great start. Fourteen cards have been sold, and there have been big turnouts for classes. Punch cards can be purchased in the office for \$60 and used for 10 participating classes.

The Garden Club has also been a great success. Members maintain plants on the property and provide a social connection with other seniors. They will be adding greenery in large pots inside the center. The roses and lavender need lots of love and attention, so the garden club is much appreciated.

— Kate Van Buren, Board secretary

Sierra 2 rental revenue helps to provide community activities

It was a great honor to be elected to another year-long stint as president of the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association's board of directors. I was not anticipating being welcomed to my fourth term with a lawsuit, but one cannot necessarily choose in these circumstances.

You can read about the details of the lawsuit on page one in the Viewpoint, so I won't waste my precious 400 words rehashing its merits, or lack thereof. There are so many other things that we can and should be anticipating.

One of them is the importance of the Sierra 2 Center in the cultural life of our neighborhood. Although the events that SCNA organizes garner

ERIC JOHNSON
SCNA Board President



the most attention, it's really the center that is responsible for the most traffic through Curtis Park. When I walk over to Sierra 2 on the first Wednesday night of the month for the board meeting, and the parking lot is full, it's a can't-miss reminder that this is the fiscal and social heart of SCNA.

We have, in some ways, reached a critical point in the life of the Sierra 2 Center. Our space is booked almost to the limit; only the demand for weekday afternoons is light. At our annual board retreat in March, we will look at ways to expand what Sierra 2 provides to the community, beyond simply space for renters and the few long-term tenants. Our Senior Center is an example of

how we serve a specific population with focused offerings; perhaps there are other populations we can serve with equal success.

It is also important to note that the revenue from Sierra 2 subsidizes many of the events that we associate with the neighborhood: First Friday, the Easter Egg Hunt and Parade, Movies in the Park, and all the other free events we enjoy. And let's not forget the Viewpoint, which — despite the revenue we glean from our advertisers — operates with a subsidy.

To sum up: Many things that make Curtis Park a truly wonderful place are made possible by the revenue from the less-glamorous work of rental space at the Sierra 2 Center. I look forward to focus this next year to expand the Center's offerings, increase our visibility in Sacramento and beyond, and continue our commitment to making Curtis Park a vibrant destination and excellent place to live.

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What's new at Sierra 2

By Valerie Burrows
Facility Administrator

Natural health classes

The second half of a series of classes covering the body's major systems will cover respiration, skin problems, nerves and bones, circulation, hormonal balance and the immune system. The classes meet from 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays, starting March 3, in Room 11. Each week focuses on one topic. The series started in February, but drop-ins are welcome. Classes will continue each Thursday in March.

Instructor Percy McManus has 35 years of experience as an herbalist and a nutritional consultant and has written several books. The fee is \$30 per class. Cash and checks accepted at the door.

Attendees may also register online at healthexcellence.com. For more information, call 530 672-9898 or email percy@healthexcellence.com.

AARP volunteer recruitment

AARP has the resources to make a difference in our community, but it needs volunteers to make change happen. The association of retired people will hold a free information

event at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 15 in Garden Room. Here's where retired people can find out how they can use their skills and time to influence elected officials or have a bit of fun while making positive social change in the community.

For information, contact Julie Bates at 556-3022 or jbates@aarp.org. Register at aarp.cvent.com/AARPCASACCPRecruit2016.

Children's choral music event

The Sacramento Children's Chorus will hold its 6th annual Harmony of Tastes fundraiser from 6:30-9:30 p.m. March 18 in Curtis Hall. The event features local wines and craft beer, sweet treats and savory bites. A silent auction and musical entertainment will also take place. Tickets are \$35 and available online at www.sacramentochildrenschorus.org.

The choral organization is comprised of four choirs with more than 150 children varying in age from elementary to high school. The choirs sing in many languages and honor diverse cultures and religions. Some of the event's proceeds will provide scholarships to families unable to afford full tuition to the creative, enriching program.



Photo/Joan Cusick

From left, the Sierra 2 staff, Valerie Burrows, Fran Coletti, Terri Shettle and Faith Johnstone (holding the glass award), Katie Byram and Jade Walker, managed the Angel Tree program that tripled in donations in two years.

Sierra 2 and neighbors recognized for generosity

The Salvation Army gave Sierra 2 a Helping Hand award Feb. 18 for the neighborhood's overwhelming participation in the Angel Tree Program. Organized and managed by the Sierra 2 office staff, the generous donations from neighbors in Curtis

Park and beyond have tripled in the last two years. Nearly 200 children were served during Christmas 2015.

A big thank you for everyone's support. This is another neighborhood project that continues its dynamic participation in the community.

Lawsuit: City attorney sees no basis for reversing Council's decision

Continued from page one

Lopez turned to Petrovich, who said: "There is a radical group within that neighborhood that consists of between five and 12 people that can infect more people if a City Council person allows that to happen."

Lopez helpfully explained that the City Council person Petrovich had in mind was Councilmember Jay Schenirer, who made the motion to reject the gas station that Council passed on a 7-2 vote.

Schenirer's response: "Regardless of how I might feel about any individual, I have and will always do what I feel is right for those I represent. From the time I took office, I have kept an open mind about every aspect of the Curtis Park Village project up to and including the most recent map put forward by the developer. I continue to hope that he will bring high-quality tenants to the project and will be supportive wherever possible."

Although Petrovich's lawsuit specifically names as defendants only the city and city officials, it identifies as "real parties in interest" the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association, SCNA President Eric Johnson, and SCNA board member Andrea Rosen.

Johnson told *Viewpoint* he believes Petrovich's lawsuit is without substance.

Rosen said, "Lawsuits like this one against private citizens who are exercising their First Amendment rights to petition their government as part of a public policy process have only one purpose — to chill free speech, intimidate, bully and harass ordinary citizens."

Johnson told City Council at the November public hearing, "A gas station simply does not belong in



Photo/Joan Cusick

Paul Petrovich said, "I've never been rejected before."

what was touted as an urban infill development," adding that a number of newer Safeway stores in Northern California had been built without gas stations.

The Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) and Regional Transit also opposed issuing a permit for a gas station.

SACOG chief operating officer Kirk

Trost told Council that if the gas station proposal had been included in the 2010 development agreement between Petrovich and the city, a pedestrian bridge to Sacramento City College would not have received federal transportation funds. (That pedestrian bridge is expected to open in April.)

The reason the gas station issue was before City Council in November was that SCNA had appealed a June

2015 decision of the city planning commission to approve a conditional use permit to allow Petrovich to build a 16-pump gas station adjacent to a proposed Safeway supermarket at the southwest corner of Curtis Park Village.

Petrovich's lawsuit said the city's planning staff concluded the gas station "could safely operate and pump up to 7.45 million gallons of fuel per year without exceeding (the local air quality district's) stringent public health and environmental thresholds." Such consumption of fuel would involve more than 141 fill-ups per hour — 16 hours a day, 365 days per year — based on an industry estimate of 9 gallons average per fill-up.

After the lawsuit was filed, the City Attorney's Office issued a statement to *The Bee*: "We are satisfied that the Curtis Park Village consideration involved a lengthy council meeting with a clear basis for council action to deny the conditional use permit."

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Info: www.swell-productions.com
Swell Productions: 457-7553

Jack Gallagher will perform his new show twice at Sierra 2 Theatre March 4. Entitled the 6th Sorta annual New, One Night Only Rock & Roll Concert Event, "The Joke's On Me," the show will also feature Gallagher's band and a special guest, comedian Geoff Bolt. Gallagher's previous shows have sold out.



LEGALLY BLONDE
Runaway Stage Productions
March 11–April 3
Showtimes: Fridays & Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 2 p.m.
Tickets: \$28 Adults; \$26 Seniors; \$24 Students; \$21 Children (8 and under)
Info: www.runawaystage.com or 207-1226

Based on Amanda Brown's 2001 novel and the subsequent MGM film of the same name, the show was a popular addition to Broadway theater. The story follows sorority president Elle Woods as she crosses the country on a mission to find love at Harvard Law School. After discovering how the law can be used to help others, she uses her new found skills to defend a workout queen in a murder trial, defying the odds and proving that pink can save the day.



CINDERELLA
Runaway Stage Productions
Storybook Theatre
March 16, 26 and April 2
Showtimes: Saturdays at 12 p.m. and 2 p.m.
Tickets: \$8 general, \$6 Children (12 & under)
Info: www.runawaystage.com or 207-1226

This timeless fairy tale is an audience favorite. The musical is an adaptation of the treasured film geared toward young audiences. Poor Cinderella is endlessly mistreated by her wicked stepmother and stepsisters and denied a chance to go to the royal ball. With a little help from her mice friends, and a lot of help from her Fairy Godmother, Cinderella's dreams come true. She goes to the ball, meets the Prince, and falls in love.



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Folklorica Dance
Saturday, March 5
Showtimes:
Children and beginners recital: 3 p.m. /\$5
Gala with main touring group: 7 p.m. /\$10
Tickets: (916) 710-4510 and at the door
Info: www.rincones.org

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Thursdays, 8:30-9:30 p.m., Studio 3
[LaToya Bufford, toybufford15@yahoo.com](mailto:toybufford15@yahoo.com)

Essentrics
Sunday 10-11 a.m., Studio 1
Wednesday 5:30-6:30 p.m. Rm. 11
Emily Wishman, (510) 299-1066

Motivational Aerobic Dance Exercise
Mondays & Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Room 10
Kia: keynorrisfitness@gmail.com

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Gladys Callander: 743-0246
Art of Living Foundation
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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

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Tuesdays, Room 12, 7-8:30 p.m.
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CenterForSoulHealing.com

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Marta Santos, 833-9724

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Sawako Ama • lovebreath@infocircle.net

Irish American Ceili Dancers
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Helen Healy: 444-8051

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

West African Dance
2nd & 4th Fridays, 5:30-7 p.m., Studio 1
Jessa Cruz: 365-3721

River City Taps – Tap Dance
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www.rivercitytaps.com

Polynesian Dance
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Studio 2 • alohatyra@aol.com

Auntie Amy's Hula
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Michael Mikolon, 730-9347
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SPIRITUAL SERVICES
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Pastor Benson, 230-8069

Wings of Mercy & Grace Church
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New Destiny Ministries
Sundays, 12:45-2:15 p.m., Room 9
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Sierra 2 Senior Center

New nutrition series offers insight into ailments

In honor of National Nutrition Month, the Wellness Program has teamed up with a nutrition consultant who will teach five afternoon classes about nutrition and health. Called Practical Nutrition, the series will be taught by Percy McManus from 2-3 p.m. on Tuesdays, starting March 1, in Room 9.

Each class will focus on a separate aspect of the relationship between health and diet and how our needs change with age. McManus will cover such health links to diet as hypertension, poor circulation, and brain fog. Class attendees will learn what causes these issues and ways to correct or improve them with key foods and healthy habits.

Nutrition is important at every age, but it's especially important as we get older. As our bodies change, so do our health needs and food preferences. For instance, our sense of taste and smell starts to weaken. We tend to prefer saltier and sweeter foods that can affect our blood pressure and waistlines. Nutrition information can be confusing when new and often conflicting recommendations emerge from new research. Practical Nutrition offers a refresher course on nutrition basics.

The series kicks off, Tuesday, March 1 with a class

on hypertension and other blood pressure problems. A healthy, balanced diet plays a major role in controlling blood pressure. Learning how to incorporate essential minerals like calcium and magnesium in your diet can balance blood pressure in a natural way.

Each Tuesday features a different topic:

- Simple Steps to Better Digestion (Mar. 8)
- Foods that Improve Circulation (Mar. 15)
- Brain Fog and Brain Food (Mar. 22)
- Strengthening Your Immune System (Mar. 29)

Instructor McManus has been a nutritional consultant for more than 35 years. She has helped many clients improve their health, using natural nutritional therapies and common sense. She likes to remind people that the guidelines to maintain good health are simple.

Practical Nutrition classes will cost \$10 for drop in or one punch on a Wellness Program card. Come to all the classes or just the ones that pique your interest.

For more information, visit www.sierra2.org, or stop by the Sierra 2 Center. The 10-class punch cards can be purchased for \$60 in the Senior Center or Sierra 2 Center offices. For questions, call 452-3005.

— Katie Byram, Sierra 2 staff

Schenirer's message

Ballot measure would fund key services for children

Recently I sponsored, and the City Council supported, placing a measure on the June ballot that has the potential to change the lives of thousands of children in our city. The Sacramento Children's Fund (Measure Y) will create a dedicated funding source for children and youth in our city by placing a small tax on the cultivation and manufacturing of marijuana. It will provide desperately needed resources to help our young people succeed in their education, career and life.

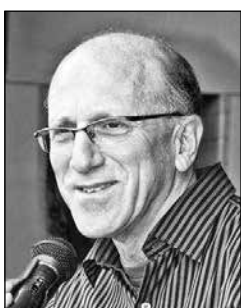
The need for additional children's services is real in Sacramento, where 29 percent of children live in poverty, 73 percent of Sacramento City Unified students qualify for the free or reduced-price lunches and 64 percent of 3rd graders scored below proficiency for English.

We say we are a full-service City, but not for children and young people. Children under 18 are 25 percent of the population. However, in fiscal year 2014/15, the City of Sacramento spent less than 1 percent, \$2.6 million, of its

General Fund dollars on services for youth. This is why I'm hoping voters will support the Sacramento Children's Fund.

The proposed measure will place a 5 percent tax on marijuana cultivation and manufacturing and will generate an estimated \$5 million annually. To maximize impact and stretch every dollar, most of the funds will be directed to community-based organizations through a competitive proposal process. To ensure quality, each program that is funded would be evaluated, and to ensure transparency, the fund will have an oversight committee.

Public safety is incredibly important. This is why the overwhelming majority of our discretionary General Fund dollars are directed toward our Police and Fire departments. However, public safety can include more. Programs that keep children engaged in positive



Jay Schenirer
City Councilmember

learning opportunities also keep these kids out of the back of police cars. We need both a fully-funded Police Department and a robust set of prevention programs.

The measure already has broad support from community-based organizations and not-for-profits that work

with children and youth. They see first-hand the challenges our City's children face every day. The measure is also supported by many of those in the marijuana industry. They embrace regulation and want to contribute to making our City a place where kids thrive.

We all want a full-service, first class city. However, if we are ever going to get there, it will be because of the investments we make in human infrastructure, not just the physical infrastructure. Those investments must start with our City's youngest and most in need.

Tour: Day includes drought tolerant landscapes

Continued from page one

In addition to the usual park festivities, including music and food for sale, the organizing committee and SCNA staff are developing plans for displays and activities focused on drought tolerant landscaping, fruit and vegetable gardening, and even beekeeping.

The tour is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 30. Tickets can be purchased beginning early March online at www.Sierra2.org or by visiting the Sierra 2 Center office. Ticket prices are \$25 in advance (\$20 for SCNA members), and \$30 on tour day (\$25 for SCNA members). Your discount is a great reason to join the neighborhood association. Docents and event volunteers can purchase their ticket for \$10. Proceeds support needed funds for our center and SCNA programs.

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



Photo/Rudy Calpo

This elegant home is rich in thoughtfully placed antiques that complement design features.

MARCH 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., Wednesday & Friday
Rm. 12. \$10/Drop-in; \$40/6 classes
Pat Shaw: 856-0136

Fall Prevention

11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Tues/Thurs
4 classes \$20; 8 classes \$40
Pat Shaw: 856-0136

LEISURE

Book Club

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 2nd Monday
Mar. 14: "The Husband's Secret" by Liane Moriarty
Apr. 11: "The Boys in the Boat" by Daniel James Brown

Popcorn & Movie

1:30-3:30 p.m., Third Tuesday
Donation: \$1-3 (includes popcorn)

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 p.m., Fridays. Room 11

EDUCATION

Garden Club

10-11 a.m., Second Tuesday, Room 9

Beginning Drawing

9-10:15 a.m., Thursdays
4 classes: \$48 March 3, 10 & 31
Patris: 397-8958

Hot Topic Tuesday

Creative Cooking for 1 or 2
10-11 a.m., Mar 29, Free

CARDS & GAMES

Ginasta

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

Mahjong

10 a.m.-noon, Mondays (not 2nd Monday)

Fun Bridge

1-4 p.m., Thursdays

Pinocle

1-3 p.m., Fridays

WELLNESS PROGRAM

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

Healthy Back

4:30-5:30 p.m., Mondays, Garden Room

Practical Nutrition

2-3 p.m., Tuesdays, Room 9

Yoga + You

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

Chair Massage

2:30-4:30 p.m., Wednesdays, appointment only

Fitness Walking & Lessons

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

Tai Chi

10:30-11:15 a.m. Thursdays, Room 12

EVENTS

AARP Driver Safety Program

9 a.m.-1 p.m., Mar. 7 & 8, Room 10
Fee: \$15 (AARP members) or \$20 (non-members)
Register: Jim Finnegan, 804-9777

Potluck

Noon-2, Last Friday, Room 12

Senior Committee Meeting

3 p.m., Call for date

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Continuing to evaluate changes in city ordinance

Revised tree ordinance omits critical section on treating infectious Dutch elm disease

By Dan Pskowski
Viewpoint staff writer

The revised Tree ordinance process calls for combining the three chapters covering trees under Title 12 Streets, Sidewalks, and Public Places into one chapter. Currently, the chapters are titled Chapter 12.56 Trees Generally, Chapter 12.60 Dutch Elm Disease, and Chapter 12.64 Heritage Trees.

With the revised Tree ordinance, no language from the Chapter on Dutch elm diseases was included; Dutch elm disease isn't even mentioned. City staff indicated that Dutch elm disease would be addressed in Title 8 Health & Safety Chapter 8 Nuisances Generally section 8.04.100 "Any condition of trees on private property that constitutes a threat to the health, safety or welfare of the neighbors or public."

Section 8.04.100 will contain additional language addressing infectious diseases according to

the comments provided in the Community Letter — which SCNA supported — that was submitted to the City during the 30 day public review and comment period.

There are concerns the additional language doesn't go far enough in protecting Sacramento's elms. SCNA recommended the language in Chapter 12.60 be revised rather than eliminated. The section on Dutch elm disease deals with infected elms on public and private property. This section of the ordinance is important because the city needs the ability to test and, once confirmed, remove infected elms with the wood properly disposed of before bark beetles start emerging from the diseased elm.

Dutch elm disease is a vascular wilt disease that is fatal. It can cause a mature English, American, or Chinese elm to wilt and die in less than a week. The disease is spread rapidly by elm bark beetles and also by root graft transmission.

The female beetle is attracted to and lays eggs in infected/dying elms. After a brief 30-day life cycle, adults emerge from the infected tree covered with fungal spores and fly off to feed on and infect healthy elms.

Research shows that without a rapid response program, Dutch elm disease spreads quickly. Cities are then unable keep up with removing infected trees, thereby exacerbating the problem. I'm aware of two areas downtown where mature city street elms were removed due to Dutch elm disease after being infected by diseased elms on private property that weren't removed in a timely fashion.

The revised tree ordinance should include a section on Dutch elm disease to prevent this from happening again.

If you have any questions or comments about the revised tree ordinance revision, call me at 451-1033 or e-mail danielpskowski@gmail.com.



Photos/Dan Pskowski

At the 2200 block of Capitol Avenue, these photos show the loss of City English elms because an elm in the back yard of one of the homes which died from Dutch elm disease was not removed. (Top photo is from June 4, 2014 and lower photo is the current view.)

NOTE: In last month's Viewpoint the photo of the oak tree was used to illustrate the type of private protected tree involved in the revised city tree ordinance, and in no way was this oak tree in danger of removal or causing any problem.

'Better Homes': Movement focused on home ownership, quality

Continued from page one

The 1920s new prosperity and consumer culture were also primary drivers. The movement underscored home ownership, quality and responsible building, modern building products and technology, thoughtful decorating, and the importance of city and private residence beautification. The movement highlighted the role, responsibilities and needs of women managing many aspects of home ownership — all of which were to contribute toward better communities and healthier families.

"The Delineator," a popular women's magazine, initiated Better Homes in America by partnering with the U.S. Department of Commerce, the General Federation of Women's Clubs and experts in science, psychology and home economics. They conceived of newly built homes serving as "model homes" with a nationwide, weeklong series of exhibitions, displays and educational presentations named Better Homes Week. By 1924, the campaign became an event that far exceeded its organizers' original plans.

In Curtis Park, homes were built at a rapid pace from 1925–1929. Sacramento politicians and business groups embraced Better Homes Week. The Union and The Sacramento Bee featured Curtis Park model



homes in articles on home building and decorating.

Several thousand people walked through each Curtis Park model home in the most popular years of Better Homes Week.

Decorators and furniture from Breuner's Furniture were often present. Many of the former Curtis Park model homes -- at least 10 from 1927 to 1929--are in the subdivisions south of Donner Way and between 24th Street and Franklin Boulevard. East Sacramento also had model homes, but Curtis Park seems to have had a significant percentage relative to its size. This was due to area builders being especially tenacious at promoting their own homes and subdivisions. While Colonial homes were popular

nationally, Curtis Park's model homes featured a variety of styles.

In late 1924, the editors of "The Delineator" changed the name of another publication they owned, "Fruit, Garden, and Home" to "Better Homes and Gardens." The magazine, which was failing, refocused, redesigned and soon increased its circulation to over 1 million households. Sacramento was mentioned at least twice in "Better Homes and Gardens" in the 1920s for its enthusiastic observations of Better Homes Week.

Curtis Park builders and homeowners played a significant part in growing this national event and creating a new 1920s magazine that had the second largest magazine circulation in the country in 2015. You might live in a Better Homes Week model home.



Better Homes of America model homes, from left, on 6th, 8th and 10th avenues.

Photos/Erik Fay

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Marshall Way singers to perform March 18



Photo/Betheney Urquhart

In their concert wear are, from left, India, 11, James, 15, and Max Urquhart, 13, who perform with the Sacramento Children's Chorus.

By Ariel Calvert
Viewpoint staff writer

Longtime Marshall Way residents Betheney and Mark Urquhart have three children, pictured here, who will perform March 18 at the Harmony of Tastes fundraiser for the Sacramento Children's Chorus. The event will run from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in Curtis Hall at Sierra 2. To celebrate 23 years of choral music, the event will feature fine wines, beer, and small plates of various foods, and a silent auction.

Betheney credits the success of the chorus to its director, Lynn Stevens. Urquhart calls her "a true visionary." All of the Urquhart children have been with the chorus for five years.

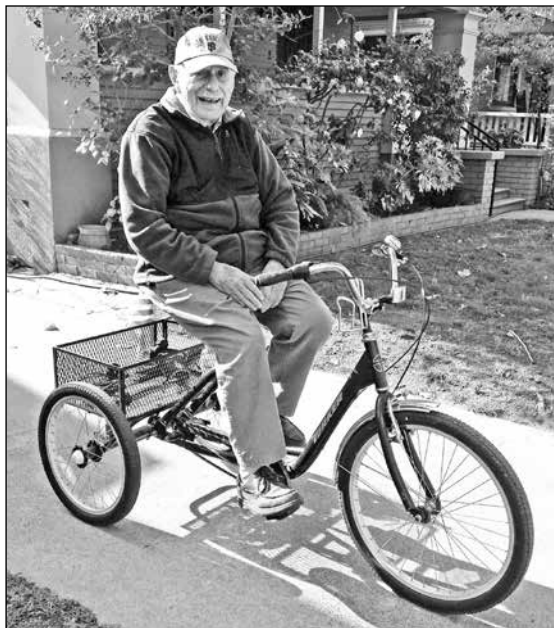
The chorus is a non-profit group that provides choral music education and opportunities to perform for musically inclined children. It has five levels to accommodate the youngsters from age 7 to 19 with varying abilities. Singers are admitted by audition.

Each year the chorus presents three seasonal concerts as well as other civic performances. The chorus also includes a touring component that travels internationally to perform.

The chorus offers a scholarship program to provide opportunities for children who don't typically have access to this kind of music education.

Tickets for Harmony of Tastes are \$35 each at the Chorus' website: www.sacramentochildrengchorus.org.

COMMUNITY CORNER



Photo/Joan Iudice-Jones

Bill Iudice off to pedal the neighborhood.

By Craig McCulloch,
Viewpoint staff writer

Bill Iudice has lived on Portola Way for more than half a century. He's a fixture of that street, but he's adapted to the changes as the neighborhood has matured. Now neighbors often see him pedaling his three-wheeled bike along shady streets, past Sierra 2 where his daughters attended school — when it was Sierra School. He's usually on his way to lunch at Café Dantorels.

Bill raised his two daughters, Joan and Kathleen, with his wife of 65 years, Carrie Claudia, in their

Happy memories keep Portola neighbor pedaling

two-story bungalow on Portola Way. Carrie, a noted artist, passed away about a year ago.

Bill grew up in San Francisco and served in the Coast Guard as a barber aboard the USS General George M. Randall troop transport. He and Carrie came to Sacramento and, after starting off on 32nd Avenue, settled on Portola Way. Over the years he operated a large barber shop on Freeport Boulevard and managed a liquor distribution business.

Looking back, Bill attributes his long life to keeping a good attitude, a sense of humor and living with Carrie, the love of his life.

Crab Feed helps Sierra 2

Curtis Park resident Richard Bay get his "crab" on at this fun event.

Photo/Joan Cusick



Surrounded by friends and fabulous food, more than 120 guests gathered in Curtis Hall Feb. 5 for the second SCNA Crab Feed. They tucked into nearly 200 pounds of crab and enjoyed hearing the Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus perform. Girls Scouts from Troup 1028 served the guests.

Troop leader Pam Carlton said, "All the girls in the troop had a good time, and I think it's such a good experience for them."

When all was said and done, the evening fundraiser brought in \$5,000 to benefit programs at the Sierra 2 Center.

Wanted: Old photos of Sierra 2

By Craig McCulloch,
Viewpoint staff writer

The My Story Video Project in the Senior Center is collecting old photos of the rehabilitation of Sierra 2 from the '70s and '80s. They will be used for a video history along with interviews of the founders the neighborhood association and the rehabilitation of the school buildings.

Particularly needed are photos of the Pickle Family Circus and the early playground construction.

The photos will be scanned and returned. Photographers will be credited.

Anyone with photos is urged to

bring them to the Sierra 2 office. Please include your name, address, and phone number on the back of each photo so it can be returned. Also, if you can, please identify the neighbors in the photos.

If you have any questions, please call the Senior Center at 455-6339.

Correction

The Viewpoint incorrectly identified the owner of Noodles To Thai For in the February edition. Her name is Lek Pitak.

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Bret Harte news

Pancake Breakfast brings community together to support school

By Fayzah Mughal
Viewpoint correspondent

Neighbors and Bret Harte families thoroughly enjoyed the Pancake Breakfast & Yard Sale in early February. Principal Lorena Carrillo personally welcomed guests on the sunny morning.

Although the event netted less



showed support for Bret Harte by

than \$1,000 (behind its ambitious goal of \$30,000 for laptops), the community turnout was heartening. A sincere “thanks” to all the families and neighbors who

attending the event, to those who donated and to hard-working parent and teacher volunteers.

Afterschool club looks for pennies

This month the school’s Kindness Action Team (KAT) will be fundraising for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society with a penny drive. Last year the “Pennies for

Patients” drive raised \$1,200, with the KAT students raising the most. They hope to exceed that amount this year.

Neighbors who would like to contribute may drop off pennies with the label “Pennies for Patients: KAT” at Bret Harte’s front office, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays through the end of March.

Franklin: Redesign plan includes bike lanes and on-street parking

Continued from page one

you have to first get a grant for the preliminary design, then a grant for the blueprint drawings, and finally a grant for (implementing) the improvements,” Brown said.

Brown knows her stuff. She is a planner by profession, with an MBA and 10 years of experience in redevelopment. She spent four years on the Vallejo City Council (2009-2014), and decided not to run for re-election in order to focus on her career. Hired in 2012 by the Franklin Boulevard Business District, Brown immediately began laying the groundwork to transform the corridor. She joined forces with consultant Jesus Hernandez, who is also a Sociology Professor at U.C. Davis, to conduct research, and develop a comprehensive Community and Economic Development Plan for the area.

“What does it take to build a healthy community? How do you meld the public infrastructure with the social needs of the people who live here?” asked Brown. “You look at the data from the area, and start thinking creatively.”

The Franklin district is a low income area, where 39 percent of the families live below the poverty level. The Hispanic population is 55 percent of the neighborhood, which has a rich history of civic pride in the Royal Chicano Air Force. There are a lack of social services and job training programs in the district, and there is no bus service between 21st Street to 47th Street.

“These social service needs must be addressed

at the same time we work to improve the business environment,” Brown said.

It will take about nine months for the street redesign project to be conducted. Traffic and engineering studies will begin this summer, with public outreach expected in the Fall, where stakeholders will get to weigh in on the options for the streetscape.

In the meantime, Brown is busy collaborating with other partners to establish a resource center where people can get help with tax returns, pick up medicine, and get referrals to social service agencies. She’s working to establish a neighborhood shuttle bus between 21st and 47th Streets. Brown is also seeking partners to develop Hispanic murals, build a park and start a job training program.



Photo/Rosanna Herber

Civic leaders aiming to improve Franklin Boulevard include, from left, Councilmember Jay Schenirer, Supervisor Phil Serna, SACOG executive director Mike McKeever, Franklin Business District executive director Marti Brown and Mike Bokan, president of the Franklin business district.

City wants opinions on tax-funded repairs

Many of our city’s transportation infrastructure repairs and improvements are funded by the half-cent sales tax we voted for in 2004 as Measure A. That tax will continue through 2039 to pay for comprehensive transportation improvements. These projects also receive funding from state and federal cofers.

However, there are more repairs and improvements than the tax can cover, so the

Sacramento Transportation Authority wants the public’s opinion on priorities. Voters can speak up through online survey at www.sacramentogo.com/your-opinion.

Among the things needing fixing are congested roadways, potholes, aging bridges, public safety on light rail, bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Other items on the survey to prioritize include education and the arts.

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SHORT-TERM RENTAL: Curtis Park home. 3-BR. Fully furnished. May–Sept. 315 730-0207.

ADS are \$5 for 25 words or less with advance payment. Deadline is the 15th of the month.

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