



Photo/City of Sacramento

Work continues on bridge and senior housing

Senior affordable housing springs up behind the frame for the pedestrian overcrossing to Sacramento City College. Seniors, who meet low-income HUD guidelines, are eligible to rent one of the 76 one-bedroom units or the 14 two-bedroom units, when Curtis Courts open in spring 2016. Applications will be taken and screened 120 days before the project is completed. Those who qualify will be chosen on a first come, first served basis. To be put on the interest list, call the Domus Management Office at 866 666-0350.

Planning Commission to decide on gas station permit for Curtis Park Village in May

By Rosanna Herber
Viewpoint staff

Senior Planner Lindsey Alagozian confirmed that May 14 is probably the date the Planning and Design Commission will decide on the Conditional Use Permit for the proposed gas station in Curtis Park Village. She acknowledged that other projects in the pipeline could push the hearing date up to May 28 or early June, but said that was unlikely.

SCNA, who is on record opposing the gas station, will receive a 10-day notice before the hearing and will alert neighbors to the meeting. Any decision the Planning Commission makes about the gas station permit can be appealed to the City Council. The cost to appeal a Planning

Gas station

**Gas station permit hearing may be this month.
Sign up for email notice:
www.sierra2.org .**

Commission decision by a third party (SCNA) is \$295 and \$4,000 for the developer. Alagozian said she expected an appeal to the City Council no matter what decision the Planning Commission makes.

Consultant's Health Assessment Risk finds increased cancer risk in "acceptable range"

Environ, an international consultant hired by Petrovich Development Company to conduct

a health risk assessment for the proposed gas station, issued a report in early April that concluded, "... All health impacts (from the proposed fuel center) are within an acceptable range and would not warrant a denial of the permit and are below California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) thresholds of significance."

The Neighborhood Concerns Committee plans to hire an expert to review the assumptions in the health risk assessment.

SCNA sent a letter to the City in March urging it to conduct a supplemental Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to study the possible increased cancer risk and traffic generated by the proposed gas station. SCNA's position is that a loyalty gas station with 16

(Please see Gas station, page 6)

City forces CVS to turn its back to Sutterville and Franklin

By Andrea Rosen
Viewpoint staff

The City-approved site plan for the new CVS to be built at Sutterville and Franklin, will "turn its back on this key intersection," according to Marti Brown, executive director of the North Franklin District Business Association.

In the fall of 2013, SCNA contacted the CVS developer to discuss making the new CVS more bike and pedestrian friendly and to ask for architectural features that would tie in with design features in the adjacent neighborhood.

Negotiations were successful and by November 2013, SCNA had secured the requested improvements. They included reduction of parking spaces, elimination of one drive-thru lane, "rock star" bike parking at the front door (at that time the entrance was at the corner of the building facing Sutterville and Franklin), an improved and raised pedestrian connection with an arched trellis at the corner of Sutterville and Franklin to encourage pedestrian access and improved landscaping.

The entrance on that site plan was facing the corner of Sutterville and Franklin. The path across the parking spaces was raised brick to highlight the best path to take. (Costco has the same kind of safe pedestrian routes through its parking lot.)

(Please see CVS, page 8)

Tacos for First Friday May 1

First Friday gets an early start on Cinco de Mayo with tacos for dinner from 6-8 p.m. May 1 in Curtis Hall at Sierra 2. Sacramento's Best

Taco Catering will set up a taco bar buffet. Cost to adults is \$8; children \$4. Beverages will be available for purchase.

Cap & Trade forum May 7 in Oak Park

Breathe California is presenting the Cap & Trade Community Forum May 7 in Oak Park at the Guild Theater, 2828 35th Street. The forum is from 6-8:00 p.m. Councilmember Jay Schenirer is among the sponsors.

The forum will explain the workings of the Cap & Trade program, the Greenhouse Gas

Reduction Fund, and the millions of dollars that are available for community programs. Attendees will be asked to suggest ways to use the money in the community.

People planning to attend are asked to register online at capandtradeforum.eventbrite.com or 444-5900, ext. 215.

Neighborhood yard sale May 16

This annual garage and yard sale is a great way to recycle treasures and pick up new ones. All homes are welcome to participate. No registration is necessary. Times are

subject to individual homeowners choosing. SCNA will advertise in *The Sacramento Bee*, Craigslist and Nextdoor.com. Homeowners are encouraged to advertise as well.

Smelling sweet in beauty bar sales

By Andrea Rosen
Viewpoint staff

It turns out that Curtis Park is a great place to start a small business. Viewpoint recently interviewed two upstart entrepreneurs who are working long hours in their garage to build an artisan soap business using high quality natural ingredients.

Preston Tillotson and Tyler Robinson formed Sudz by Studz in Curtis Park a few years back, and they continue to manufacture a wide array of soap bars, lip balms, lotions and



Photo/Joan Cusick

Tyler Robinson (right) cuts soap into bars as Preston Tillotson stamps the Sudz Studz logo on each one. The couple make artisan soaps in the garage behind their Second Avenue home.

body butter. Most sales are through their website, and they offer shipping options. As part of their dedication to being green, customers can come to their garage and pick up their

(Please see Sudz, page 3)

Notes from April 1st meeting

Board appoints an ad hoc committee to help develop strategies to support the senior center operation and activities

SCNA to request MOU with City

The Neighborhood Concerns Committee brought a motion to the Board this month that aims to structure our conversations with the City in the most productive manner possible. The Board voted to allow the committee to draft such a Memorandum of Understanding to present to the City as a way to establish communications ground rules that would give all parties clear expectations as to how our organizations will interact. The ultimate goal is to establish a bilateral agreement between SCNA and the City that expresses a mutual understanding of how we will communicate. SCNA and the City have been close partners on many different fronts, and both expect to continue working together on many issues facing our neighborhood. The MOU is designed to ensure

Next meeting

The SCNA Board's regular meeting is the first Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. May 6 in the Garden Room at Sierra 2. For more information, call the Sierra 2 office, 452-3005.

optimal communication continues. Basically, the Board wanted to ensure effective communication with city staff and that expectations on both sides were clear on how documents related to the Curtis Park Village project would be conveyed. Spring brings events to the Neighborhood It's that time of year again when calendars start to fill up and the Neighborhood begins to gather. The Board is focused on a full calendar of events this year, focusing first and

foremost on the Home Tour and the Big Day of Giving. Both events help support the work of SCNA and the activities that we organize for the neighborhood. Final preparations for the Curtis Park Home Tour are in the works with articles advertising the event to be placed in several different local publications, including *The Sacramento Bee*. Details for the Big Day of Giving on May 5, 2015 are also being finalized. An Open House at Sierra 2 is planned to showcase the many interesting tenants and activities happening at the Center. On the same day, a neighborhood gathering will happen at Pangaea Bier Cafe from 5-9 p.m. to promote local giving. A most important fundraiser The Big Day of Giving is one of our newest but important fundraisers as it provides non-

profits like ours an opportunity to gain exposure and build new relationships with donors and the community. Senior Center Focus The Board is focusing on ways to bolster and provide additional support to the Senior Center at Sierra 2. As the Senior Center Committee develops its budget for the year and continues with its annual appeal, the SCNA Board appointed an Ad Hoc Committee to look at Senior Center operations and help develop strategies to support the Center's on-going activities. Next Meeting The next meeting of the SCNA Board will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 6 in the Garden Room at Sierra 2. — Submitted by Cara Martinson SCNA Board Secretary

SIERRA 2 CENTER
FOR THE ARTS & COMMUNITY
& SIERRA CURTIS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION'S

CINCO
DE MAYO
DOS FIESTAS

BIG
DAY OF
GIVING

MAY 5

From midnight to midnight on May 5th, go to
bigdayofgiving.org
and give to the nonprofits that lift up lives
and make this the place we call home.

OPEN
HOUSE
11am - 2pm

Sierra 2 Center
2791 24th St.
916-452-3005 • sierra2.org

NEIGHBORHOOD
PARTY
5pm - 9pm

Pangaea Bier Cafe
2743 Franklin Blvd.
454-4942 • pangaeabiercafe.com

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BIG Day of Giving
SCNA asks you to give where you live on May 5

On 5-5-15, from midnight to midnight, neighbors, businesses, and Sierra 2 Center tenants, renters and students are asked to contribute online to SCNA's BIG Day of Giving campaign to help us meet our donation goal of \$20,000. As a cultural hub in the community, SCNA exists to keep the community engaged, inspired, and active. On this day, donors can boost the funds we need to preserve, maintain and operate the historic Sierra 2 Center, enhance programs and activities of the Senior Center, and continue our neighborhood enrichment activities in Curtis Park. Additional funding is the seed from which new programs, projects, and activities grow.

Every donation, from \$25 up to \$10,000, provides us the resources to fuel the inspiration and engagement of today while expanding the horizons of tomorrow. Donations expand our opportunity to do more for you, the community we serve, the community we love.

To find out more about Sierra 2 Center, the Senior Center, and SCNA, or to help us celebrate our community on the BIG Day of Giving, join us Tuesday, May 5 for the Open House at Sierra 2 Center, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. , or at Pangaea Bier Café, 5 to 9 p.m. There will be lots of information, activities, tasty bites, and the opportunity to donate online at both events. Visit sierra2.org or call 452-3005 for information.

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SIERRA 2 CENTER
FOR THE ARTS & COMMUNITY

Café Dantorels adds new patio with water and fire features

By Craig McCulloch
Viewpoint staff writer

Café Dantorels recently opened a large outdoor patio that can seat up to 40 people. It features a beautiful, large granite counter in the middle of the new space, a four-foot long fire display, and a large water feature near the outside wall. Construction began last fall, and the patio opened in early April.

Other recently completed renovations at the restaurant include small booth seating areas near the large street side windows and re-working of the coffee and tea dispenser area. The work of local artists is featured on the walls with a monthly rotating exhibit.

Rafi Rozbahani, owner of the restaurant for the last three years, said the new outdoor space can now

handle large group reservations for private meetings, birthday celebrations and other group functions. He plans to use the space year round with added plastic curtains and heaters to be installed with the return of cooler weather.

Formerly called Crepeville, Café Dantorels’ menu continues to feature crepes in many styles for serving from breakfast to dinner, and dessert. The large blackboard above the counter area lists all available crepes, pasta, salads and other foods. A smaller board on either side also lists the burgers, sandwiches and a monthly rotating dinner special. Orders are taken at the counter.

Twelve draft beers were added in the last year. These will always include locally brewed varieties such as Track 7, Ruhstaller, Knee Deep, New Gloria and other local breweries.



Photo/Carol Blackman
Waterfall feature at right and fire display on the center marble table make patio dining a unique experience during the day or evening.

Rozbahani emphasized that the quality beer is to accompany their food selections, and no bar seating area is available.

An outside sidewalk dining area is popular with neighbors who bring their pets. Raised umbrellas and added plantings provide shade and shelter from the street noises.

Located on Second Avenue and 24th Street, Café Dantorels’ hours are 7 a.m.-10 p.m. daily. Phone: 451-2200.

What’s new at Sierra 2

By Valerie Burrows
Facility administrator

Spread your wings from author to speaker

Savvy authors know that speaking to targeted groups is key to building an audience. Jack L. Parker writes travel adventure novels including Tibetan Adventure and Patagonian Adventure. He’ll discuss why it’s important for authors to speak about their work, and how interviews on TV, local and national talk radio impact book sales.

Mary Jane Popp, author of Marilyn, Joe & Me, and host of the nationally syndicated radio show “PoppOff” is a master of on-air delivery and making her guests feel important. Mary Jane will guide you through contacting the media to promote your book and preparing for an interview.

This Book-in-Hand Roadshow seminar, Tackling the Talk Circuit: Preparing Authors for Speaking and Working with the Media, will be held from 9 a.m.-noon May 9 in Room 11.

The cost is \$30, general or \$25, seniors (55+).

For more information, contact Ingrid Lundquist at 719-1776. To register visit www.thebookinhandroadshow.com.

Bootcamp fitness program

If you are ready to participate in six motivating weeks of fat loss, muscle gain, weight loss and health improvement, then the Spotlight Fitness Transformation Program may be for you. Classes are held from 8:30-9:30 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays in Studio 3 or from 7:15-8:15 p.m. on Fridays in Studio 2.

The fee is \$17 per session and includes a Cardio Plan, At-Home Workout Plan and Intense Meal Plan.

For information, contact Tj Spragg at 549-4368, tj@spotlitefitness.com or visit www.spotlitefitness.com.

Learn Spanish fast

This is not your typical Spanish class. It uses the Teaching Language Proficiency through Reading & Storytelling, which emphasizes oral communication: speaking and listening. Class meets over three days from 4:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 4; 4:30 - 8:30 p.m. Friday, June 5, and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, June 6. Light dinner is included Thursday and Friday. This will be a high-intermediate level class.

Class size is limited; advanced registration necessary. Cost: \$225 (discounts for early sign-ups.). Info: www.learnspanishfastthoy.com.

Sudz: These guys know the value of using local ingredients

(Continued from page one)

online purchases. Many customers arrive by bike. Their website is www.sudzbystudz.com.

These studs make their products by hand. They do not use pthalates (a salt or ester of phthalic acid) and parabens (a preservative) and offer dramatically different choices from the usual mass produced soap products that are often made from detergent. As a result, commercial “soap” products cannot be labelled as soap, which explains why they use terms like “beauty bar.”

In contrast, Sudz uses natural essential oils, fragrance oils, butters, jojoba oil, sustainable palm oil, kukui nut oil and herbal ingredients along with cosmetic grade colorants. They do not use food and dye colorants. In their pursuit of new soap creations, they like to use local products such local honey, Ginger Elizabeth chocolate and cocoa powder, ground coffee and goat’s milk.

The soap-making process is called saponification, and the chemistry involves mixing base butters and oils, water and alkali salts (lye) in the right amounts followed by patience while the soap bars cure for 4-8 weeks. Not everyone in the soap business makes

soap; many are soap pourers. They buy pre-fabricated soap, which is re-batched with new colors, designs and scents. Sudz by Studz does both.

Tyler says that their business has been well received, and they are grateful. “Sac really shows up for its artisans.”

They have received a lot of publicity including articles in *The Bee* and *Sacramento magazine*, air time on Good Day Sacramento, and exposure through the Tourism Board and some seasonal appearances at the Oak Park Farmer’s market. Most of their referrals are by word of mouth. They are bucking the trend since about 95 percent of folks in the soapery business are women.

Sudz belongs to the Rainbow Chamber and is nationally certified as a LGBT business. On top of their efforts to build their own business, they operate a crowdfunded, non-profit called Gratitude Soapery. It provides soap on 1:1 basis to LGBT Center, Loaves and Fishes, My Sister’s House and Communities Against Sexual Harm (CASH).

Their business is growing fast and they are looking for a larger garage which may not be in Curtis Park. Enjoy their presence here while you can.

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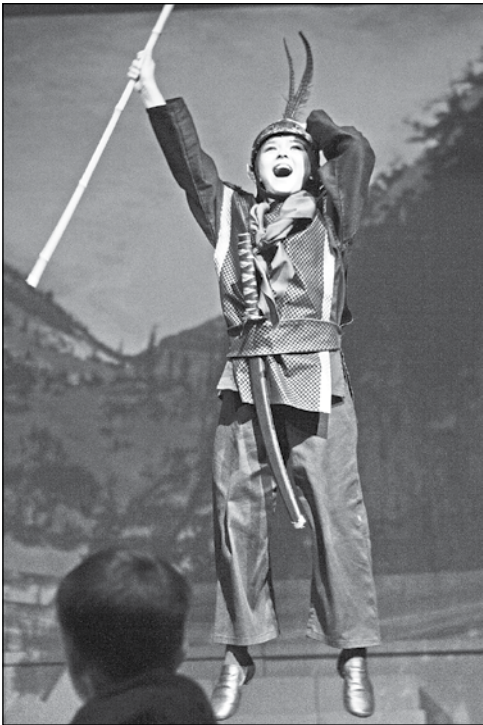
On the corner of Franklin Blvd and 3RD Ave

MAY 2015 AT SIERRA 2

AT THE 24TH STREET THEATRE

Disney’s Mulan Jr.
Young Actors Stage
May 8 and 9
Showtimes:
7 p.m. Friday, May 8
1 p.m. Saturday, May 9
Tickets: General: \$10;
Children: \$7 (12 & under)
Info: www.youngactorsstage.com

Travel back to ancient China with this action-packed stage adaptation of Disney’s animated film. Defying the village matchmaker, Mulan takes up arms and disguises herself as a boy to spare her father from having to serve in the army. The Huns have invaded, and it is up to the misfit Mulan and her mischievous sidekick, Mushu, to save the Emperor. Disney’s Mulan Jr. is a heartwarming celebration of culture, honor and the fighting spirit. The score includes favorites like “Reflection,” “Honor to Us All” and “I’ll Make a Man Out of You,” and new songs that will get you up on your feet.



The Sound of Music
Young Actors Stage
May 15–23
Showtimes:
May 15–23
7 p.m. Fridays
1 p.m., 4 p.m. & 7 p.m. Saturdays
1 p.m. & 4 p.m. Sunday
Tickets: General: \$10;
Children: \$7 (12 & under)
Info: www.youngactorsstage.com

The final collaboration between Rodgers & Hammerstein was destined to become the world’s most beloved musical. When a postulant proves too high-spirited for the religious life, she is dispatched to serve as governess for the seven children of a widowed naval Captain. Her growing rapport with the youngsters, coupled with her generosity of spirit, gradually captures the heart of the stern Captain, and they marry. Upon returning from their honeymoon they discover that Austria has been invaded by the Nazis, who demand the Captain’s immediate service in their navy. The family’s narrow escape over the mountains to Switzerland on the eve of World War II provides a most inspirational finale. You will be enchanted by the timeless story and the music: “Do Re Mi,” “My Favorite Things,” “Sixteen Going on Seventeen,” and “Climb Every Mountain.”



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

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

ART
Awaken My Art Collective
Glass mosaic classes
Tuesdays, Noon-3 p.m., Rm. 11
karensarp51@gmail.com

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

FITNESS
Pilates
Saturdays, 2-3 p.m.
Thursdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Studio 1
Mark Klein, 346-9788

Fitness Bootcamp
For schedule: Tj Spragg, 549-4368
www.spotlitefitness.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CHILDREN
Capital City Music Together
Children 5 and under
Call for class schedules.
Jennie Ribadeneira: 990-3222
www.capitalcitymusictogether.com
Rio Valley Charter School
Arts Guild: K-12
Monday/Wednesday, 9 a.m.–noon
Room 10 and Studio 3
www.riovalley.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

West African Dance
Fridays, 6–7 p.m., Studio 1
Jessa Cruz: jessakaycruz@gmail.com

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



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Learn how My Story DVD project can narrate history

By Viewpoint staff

What better present for family members than a DVD of one’s life story? The Senior Center at Sierra 2 enables neighbors and friends to make such a DVD for a reasonable price. The volunteer crew at the center recently made a narrated history of St. Patrick’s Academy on Stockton Boulevard. Copies of the DVD set are available at the academy.

The process to make a personal DVD is easy and friendly. It’s called the My Story project. People with a story to tell may contact the Senior Center at 455-6339 to set up a pre-interview.

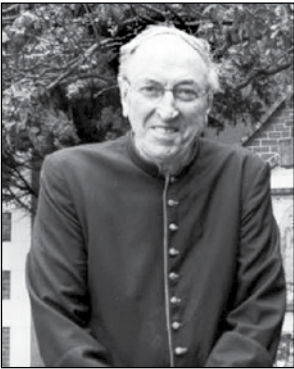
This is where the questions for the filming are determined and the focus of the project is set. An interviewer works with the interviewee at every step, through the filming, editing and final product.

The personal DVD project can include family photos and

film clips, newspaper clips and documents, such as a marriage license or birth certificate. All these can be scanned in to enhance the final film.

In addition to making a personal DVD, seniors who are interested in learning the process are welcome. Senior Center director Phoebe Celestin said the project needs more volunteers, especially cameramen and women, film editors and coaches to work with clients.

The My Story project helps raise money for the Senior Center. A minimum donation of \$100 is suggested for the creation of a personal DVD. Extra copies are \$10.



Father Kavanaugh completed a My Story project on the history of St. Patrick’s Academy.

Phoebe Celestin leaves Senior Center

Phoebe Celestin is no longer the Senior Center Program Coordinator. Announcement of her departure came April 17 from Angela Mia, SCNA board member and member of the personnel committee. Angela said Phoebe will be missed. In just over a year she brought the Senior Center through some challenging times and her contribution has been much appreciated, Angela added. Phoebe now moves on to balance time with her family.

Schenirer’s message

Regional Transit to get a boost to expand ridership

Last month in this column I provided a rundown of many of the Boards and Commissions on which I serve as a member of the City Council. One of those is Regional Transit (RT), where I am currently the Board Chair. I know many Curtis Park residents believe public transportation is a vital service, and I want to share with you the steps I, as Board Chair, and Supervisor Phil Serna, immediate past Board Chair, have undertaken to improve the quality and service of the system.

Understanding the connection between public transportation, economic development and the financial health of the region, a group of business leaders began expressing a strong need to improve RT. In 2014 then Chair Serna convened a working group to develop recommendations intended to improve the quality of RT. Upon assuming the chairmanship, I appointed an ad hoc committee to dig deep into these issues and develop specific recommendations that RT can adopt. The committee includes Supervisor Serna, myself and a number of the business leaders who worked on the original report and who have generously donated time to this effort.

The goal is system wide improvement for all riders. The committee divided its work among four groups: (1) Stations and Shelters, (2) Safety and Security, (3) Rolling Stock and (4) Communications.



Jay Schenirer
City Councilmember

RT has also contracted with a national expert to provide advice and recommendations to our working groups and the Board on a range of issues, including those listed here.

RT and the business leaders are planning for public input, both in person and through technology. Finally, RT has also signed a memorandum with SACOG Executive Director (and Curtis Park resident) Mike McKeever to take advantage of SACOG’s expertise in modeling and land use planning.

There is little doubt that RT needs to do a better job on each of these fronts. With the development of the Entertainment and Sports Complex and an improving economy, we have an opportunity to expand ridership and improve the quality of service.

A successful public transit system is critical to Sacramento’s long term success. It is vital to meeting our environmental targets included in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan; it is central to our economic prosperity; and it can greatly facilitate housing and community building.

For these reasons and more, I will be dedicating significant time and effort over the next 9-12 months to ensuring this initiative’s success. If you have thoughts or ideas about how we can improve the system, please send me a note at jschenirer@cityofsacramento.org or go to our public input website at Twitter @fixmyride916 .

On another note, May is Bike Month. I look forward to seeing you out on the trails.

MAY 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

Community Acupuncture Clinic
9:30–10:45 a.m. , May 5 & 19
Zoë Griffin: 212-2170

Gentle Yoga
10–11 a.m., Wednesdays
No classes: May 20 & 27
Pat Shaw: 856-0136

Active & Mindful Yoga
9:45–11a.m, Fridays
\$12 per session
Heera Kulkarn: 686-5785

Fall Prevention
11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m., Tues/Thurs
No classes: May 22, 26 and 28
4 classes \$20; 8 classes \$40
Pat Shaw: 856-0136

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

Walking & Polewalking Clinic
9 a.m., Thursdays
One-time instruction fee \$5

LEISURE

Mandala Art
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Wednesdays
4 classes \$30; (\$24, 55 and over)
Marie Taylor: 692–5952

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

Book Club
11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., 2nd Monday
May: “Olive Kitteridge” by Elizabeth Strout
(Book club participants read the book of the month prior to meetings)

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

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

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

Open Art
Noon-3, Fridays. Room 11

EDUCATION

Retirement for Beginners
2-3 p.m., May 5

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

Popcorn and a Movie
1:30–3 p.m., 3rd Tuesday
\$2 Donation FREE popcorn

AARP Safe Driver Refresher Course
9-11 a.m., May 18 & 19
Room 10. Register: 804-9777

CARDS & GAMES

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

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

Fun Bridge
1-4 p.m., Thursdays

Pinochle
1-3:00 p.m., Fridays

EVENTS

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

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Trees of Curtis Park

When a tree is removed, there are impacts to nearby plant material

By Dan Pskowski
Special to the Viewpoint

The loss of shade from a tree’s removal not only increases your energy consumption during hot summer days, that loss also adversely affects the plants in your yard. Plants that prospered in a tree’s shade are now exposed to the hot sun. Shade loving plants like the camellia, azalea, flowering dogwood, and Japanese maple will be adversely affected when suddenly exposed to full sun.

Akin to the real estate adage

“location, location, location,” location is the key to how these shade loving plants will be affected. Loss of afternoon shade is the most critical. Adjustments are necessary in the irrigation of turf, trees and shrubs.

Shade loving gardens may have to be re-landscaped with sun tolerant plants. Special precautions are required for that prized camellia, azalea, or flowering dogwood you want to preserve. Relocation may be an option, but consult with a professional arborist to see if this is feasible. The time of year

will play a key role on whether or not transplanting is an option. Preservation requires a slow, deep watering of the root system, the installation of three to four inches of organic mulch around the root zone area, and installation of a shade screen or lattice.

A change in wind dynamics is another impact of a tree’s removal. Adjacent trees may experience limb loss during high winds or winter storms because of the prior protection provided by the removed tree’s canopy. If the tree hasn’t been pruned

or inspected by an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) certified arborist within the past five to seven years, then an inspection would be appropriate. But keep in mind no arborist can predict with absolute certainty the probability of limb failure or the tree falling over.

Finally, when selecting a replacement tree, consider drought tolerant species. Current water restrictions and the uncertainty of how long this drought will last make planting drought tolerant trees the right thing to do.

Fun for all at the pajama parade and spring egg hunt



Photos/Joan Cusick

The 2015 SCNA Spring Egg Hunt was another huge success. Grand Marshall Dan Murphy led the pajama parade from Curtis Park to Sierra 2 Center where over 200 children and family members participated in crafts and photos with the Easter

Bunny. This year 3,000 eggs were distributed for eager little “hunters” in four age groups and two special prize baskets were handed out to Golden Egg finders.

Gas station: Any decision can be appealed to the City Council

(Continued from page one)

individual pumping stations is not a standard gas station and belongs along a main corridor, not in an urban infill development that received state funds for its proposed transit-oriented design. The letter also stated the neighborhood association was concerned about the possible increased risk of cancer from the benzene that may be generated at the

gas station. Petrovich Development Company is on record with the City that the gas station is allowed under the Planned Unit Development (PUD) Guidelines with a Conditional Use Permit, and that any possible increased risk of cancer from the gas station is within acceptable ranges according to the guidelines of the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (AQMD).

Help water blooming islands

Several years ago, the city installed concrete islands at several intersections to “calm traffic.” Neighbors put in plants and have been weeding, pruning and watering them.

With the drought, we want to save water. Neighbor John Matthews is researching drip watering systems, and SCNA will pay to install them.

In the meantime, we encourage

neighbors to contribute some household “gray water.” If each household brought one bucket once a week to the island closest to them and watered the plants, this will help to keep them blooming.

Thank you so much! See you at the islands at:

- 26th Street & 5th Avenue
- 26th Street & Donner Way (2)
- 5th Avnue & Franklin Blvd
- 24th Street & 5th Avenue



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COMMUNITY CORNER

Home tour raises \$26,000 this year



Photo/Rudy Calpo

Home tour goer talks with Sacramento A's Model A Club member about his car.

A middle of the night downpour did not put a damper on this year's Home and Garden Tour. Just over 1,100 people enjoyed a stroll on a cool and sunny day, enjoying seven homes, great food and music, vintage cars, informational displays and even a Mariachi band in one of the gardens!

The event grossed \$26,000 which

is 30% more than last year. Proceeds from the tour help fund SCNA programs and the Sierra 2 Center.

In true Curtis Park spirit, homeowners on this year's tour had positive comments about their experience including: "As for future recommendations, I would only say keep doing the tour. It's great."

Jenny Hitchings earns first place in age group in Boston Marathon

By Craig McCulloch
Viewpoint staff writer

Jenny Hitchings, a long-time Curtis Park neighbor on 10th Avenue, achieved first place in her age bracket (50-54) for women in the Boston Marathon on Monday, April 20. Her time of 2 hours, 52 minutes and 51 seconds also placed her in the 10th spot for the women Masters category (over 40 years). Overall she finished in 57th place among 12,022 women.

Hitchings is a devoted long distance runner with experience in many marathon runs of 26 miles, 385 yards. She maintains a rigorous training schedule of 50-60 miles per week, increasing to 75 miles per week

closer to a race. She usually trains along the American River Parkway and also around Curtis Park.

Her daughter Molly Hitchings, now living in Austin, traveled to Boston to watch her mother. She and her friends held up a large "GO JENNY" sign at the 25-mile mark of the race to cheer her on. "My mom is a great motivator with a passion for running," said Molly.

"Because the weather was cold with some light rain, Mom was planning to just have fun at the race, and to support the community after the bombing two years ago," noted Molly. "But then she ran fast enough for her best time ever for Boston and came in first in her age group. She is a super star!"

Neighbors' adventure to Spain

Each year Susan and George Blondin of 26th Street visit their daughter, Becca, at her home in Spain. This March their neighbor Susan MacCulloch joined them. They stayed a week in El Calabacino, the village where Becca is completing construction of her home. Her village is in the Huelva province in Andalucía. During that week, Becca took her visitors to the village's weekly gathering at the Tea House, a small version of Curtis Park's First Fridays. Tea and desserts are served in a small house with room upstairs for the children to play.



Photo/Barbara Leone

Susan and Becca Blondin, Susan MacCulloch and George Blondin read *The Viewpoint* outside Becca's house in El Calabacino, Spain.

Becca, who grew up in Curtis Park, has lived in Spain for more than 20 years. She plays the Celtic bagpipes at festivals and holidays in Bilbao and other venues.



With her best time ever at the Boston Marathon of two hours, 52 minutes and 51 seconds, Jenny Hitchings of 10th Avenue finished first in her age bracket on April 20.

Photo/MarathonFoto

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Bret Harte News

Bret Harte students take home trophies at annual MESA competition

By Char Klassen
Viewpoint staff writer

MESA is an after school club that welcomes fourth, fifth and sixth graders to experience a wide variety of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) activities. Students experiment with projects such as robotics, tool ingenuity, building tetrahedral kites, bridges, catapults, rockets, macaroni mechanics and more.

Bret Harte MESA is a popular after-school activity. There are two yearly competitions: one for math and one for projects students build throughout the year. The project-based



competition was held on Saturday, April 18.

Bret Harte fared well in the competition taking home a third place win for Macaroni Mechanics Speed and first place in Tetrahedral Kites. MESA also has a project green component for those interested in improving the school environment. Bret Harte's Project Green Team won second place this year. Aldina Kelecija, of Second Avenue won the MESA/resource monetary scholarship awarded to graduating sixth graders.

Ena Tiric and Daiana Ibarra Jimenez won third place for Macaroni



Photo/Lorena Carillo

Mechanics Speed Competition. Aldina Kelecija won first place in Tetrahedral Kites. The Project Green Team won second place with presenters Tye Williams, Aldina Kelecija, and Cesar Sanchez Mata. Aldina Kelecija won the RESOURCE Scholarship.

Bret Harte's MESA team, led by 5th/6th grade teacher Renee Smith, stands proudly with their trophies and medals. Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) provides educationally and economically disadvantaged students with the skills and resources to be successful in school and career in science, technology, engineering and math.

Mark Your Calendar

MEMORIAL DAY
SCHOOL HOLIDAY
Monday, May 25

SIXTH GRADE
SIX FLAGS FIELD TRIP
Tuesday, May 26

Open House TBA

CVS: Site plan changes seem opposite intended new code

(Continued from page one)

About a year later, most of SCNA's requests from CVS were undone by the City with no request from the City's planner for SCNA to weigh in on the City's changes in the CVS site plan. The City adopted new zoning rules that favored putting buildings right on the street with no parking spaces between the sidewalk and the building. CVS had no choice but to make the requested changes.

SCNA was unaware that the City was pursuing locating the entrance to the CVS from the parking lot, now on the west side of the building off Sutterville, far from the intersection with Franklin (see illustration). The result is two long solid building façades along the sidewalks of both Sutterville and Franklin and a store entrance from the parking lot on the west side of the building.

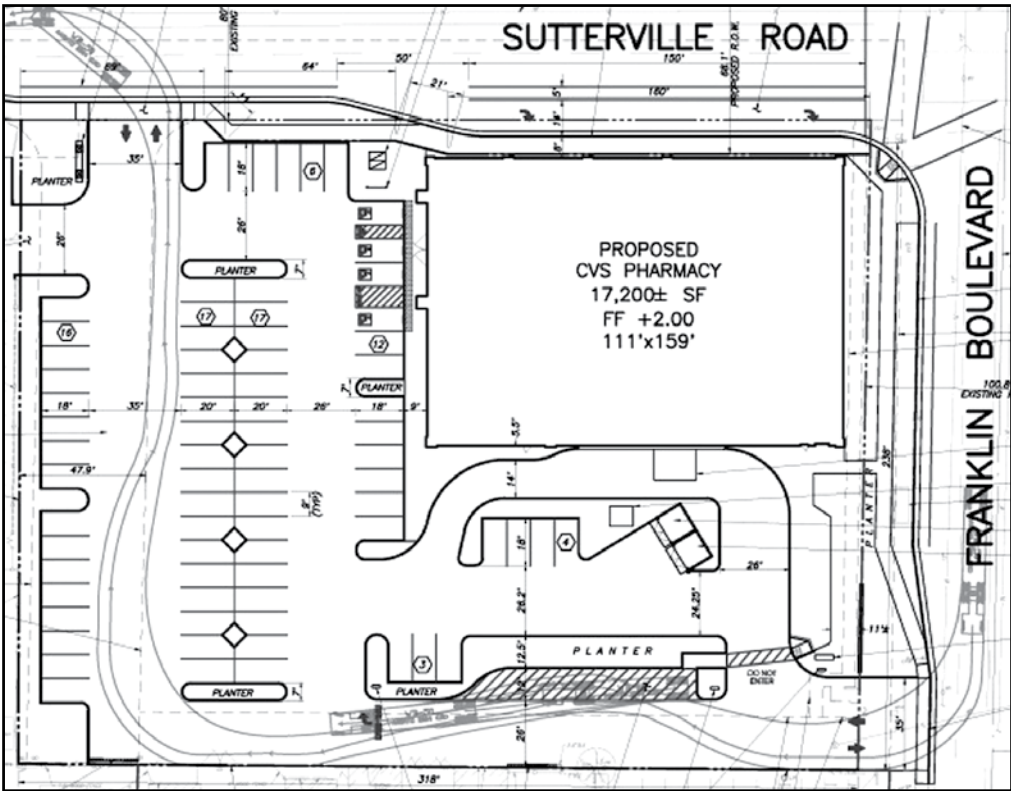
The north and east elevations of this building will be giant walls

creating dead zones for pedestrians; possibly the opposite of what the City's new zoning code intended.

The City's lead architect opined, "We also had CVS ensure that the Sutterville/Franklin corner would not just be a blank wall by providing a glazing element with a graphic design display that will be lit at night, but also transparent during the day to lessen the negative effect of the walls."

He also stressed that while the entrance will be accessed from the parking lot, it will be as close as possible to Sutterville Road so that it is clearly visible. Apparently, additional glazing required by the City is expected to make up for the solid building walls facing Sutterville and Franklin.

Incredulously, the design director's hearing officer made a



City planning commission changed entrance to face west away from streets.

finding of fact, "the proposed structure engages the surrounding street while the parking lot is situated to the rear." In addition, the City found "the building façade and front door directly addresses the public street for added safety and to contribute to a pleasing streetscape for pedestrians."

In fact, the front of the store, where the only entrance is, now faces the parking lot on the west side of the lot.

The "rear" elevation faces Franklin Boulevard. And the north elevation, which is a solid wall with a few windows, faces Sutterville Road. The drive-thru is on the south side of the building adjacent to the only nearby residences. Drive-through hours are 7 a.m. -10 p.m. The City approved more than twice as many parking spaces as required (75 instead of the 34 required) presumably to encourage auto access.

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