



Photo/Carol Blackman

Curtis Park Village continues to attract attention for its housing stock. Black Pine Communities reports it has sold nine of the 14 Brownstones, 10 of the 12 Cottages and one of the six Estate Homes.

Hearing delayed on SCNA appeal of fuel center permit in Curtis Park Village

By Rosanna Herber
Viewpoint staff

A hearing on SCNA's appeal of the Planning Commission's decision to grant a conditional use permit for a proposed 16-pump fuel center in Curtis Park Village has been pulled from the Nov. 3 City Council agenda, and no new date has been set.

"The developer has submitted an alternative plan for staff to review, so that's what is causing the delay," said Lindsey Alagozian, a senior planner with the city. "The second plan would locate the

fuel center adjacent to the Sutterville overpass, along the side of the planned grocery store. Either proposal could be considered at the Council hearing. We will notify the neighborhood when there is a date, but it's highly likely it will be Nov. 17."

For more on the fuel center, please see City Councilmember Jay Schenirer's column on page 5.

Alagozian said the new plan seeks approval for a 16-pump fuel center that would be further from the homes on Crocker Road and not as visible. A separate mini-store of about 750 square feet would sell snacks and specialty beers. The application requests the gas station and mini-store operate

Please see Makeover, page 3

Visionary gets second chance to address Second Avenue underpass beautification

By Rosanna Herber
Viewpoint staff

Caliph Assagai is a man who likes to get things done. As president of Public Interest Advocacy, Assagai has worked on numerous public development projects. But one dream project he didn't get to complete was the beautification and landscaping of the Second Avenue underpass. Now, several years later, new circumstances have created an opportunity for Assagai to revisit the project.

"I live at the corner of 26th and Second Avenue, and I've always thought that the triangle and underpass were important pieces in connecting the people and businesses in Oak Park and Curtis Park," said Assagai. "We can change the energy of this shared space, and celebrate our collective history. Right now, people seem to just go through the underpass and disappear."

Assagai said the project includes improved lighting, bicycle lanes, landscaping, gardens, a mural and maybe a statue.

Residents of both neighborhoods are invited to attend a mural planning party at the Second Avenue underpass from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Nov. 21. Neighbors will get to share ideas for the mural and give feedback on what makes each neighborhood unique.

"So much could happen here," said Assagai. "Right now it's a negative space, but it's going to be mind-blowing the new energy it will have, once we are finished with it. This is the gateway into both neighborhoods, and we want to find a way to create a sense of community and honor each side for its uniqueness."

The budget for the project is \$10,000, excluding mural costs that have yet to be determined. The beautification will include both sides of the underpass and the triangle on the Curtis Park side. To date, \$3,500 has been raised by Curtis Park businesses,

Please see Underpass, page 3

The Plant Foundry takes urban approach to selling gardening supplies in Oak Park

By Ariel Calvert
Viewpoint staff

The Plant Foundry is no ordinary nursery. Open since early September in the Broadway Triangle area of Oak Park, it emphasizes an artisanal philosophy and partners with growers and vendors who focus on sustainability.

Angela Pratt, owner-operator of The Plant Foundry, has an extensive background in horticulture. She attended the ornamental and agricultural horticulture programs at American River College and UC Davis, obtaining a degree in urban forestry. She also has more than seven years' experience in retail nurseries.

Pratt says all of the vegetables, herbs and other



Photo/Judy Harper

Owner Angela Pratt offers new varieties of edibles and ornamentals.

edibles sold at The Plant Foundry are certified organic, as are almost all of the plants, seeds and soils. She feels it is important that people are able to garden successfully without the use of toxics.

Pratt works with Scott Thompson of Oak Park Soil to help reduce the green and cardboard waste created by nursery operations. Oak Park Soil transports the waste to another location for composting.

Pratt says the surrounding community has had a big uptick in sustainable urban agriculture as grants have filtered in and city

Choose your pasta at First Friday dinner

First Friday Neighborhood Dinner will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Nov. 6 in Curtis Hall at Sierra 2 Center.

Encore Catering will offer meal choices of either penne pasta and meatballs, or cheese tortellini in Milano sauce with mixed green salad and specialty beer bread. Price is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children.

— Faith Johnstone

Annual membership meeting set for Nov. 18

The annual membership meeting to elect board members will be from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 18.

Board members on the ballot are John Mathews, Angela Mia, Bruce Pierini, Nicole Quinonez, Andrea Rosen, Patrick Soluri and Jonathan La Turner.

An overview of Sierra 2's financial report is on page 8.

Tickets go on sale Dec. 1 for the 2nd annual Crab Feed



Angel Tree program's goal to double last year

Sierra 2 Center is participating in the Salvation Army's annual Angel Tree program in conjunction with ABC-10 television station. Curtis Park neighbors adopted more than 100 children last year. This year's goal is to double that number.

Interested donors may visit the Sierra 2 Center beginning Nov. 13 to select one tag or more, each representing a child in need of assistance this holiday season.

Tags will have the name, gender and age of a specific child. Gifts should be returned to the Sierra 2 Center no later than Dec. 14 so they can be picked up and taken to the distribution center at Cal Expo.

— Faith Johnstone

ordinances have changed, resulting in urban residents growing their own food and even raising

Please see Nursery, page 8

Notes from Oct. 7th meeting

Committee not ready to pursue neighborhood private security

Discussion items

1. Annual membership meeting:
The board reviewed the date and time and the list of board members who are up for election.
2. CPV community meeting:
The Curtis Park Village developer has pulled the request for change on the fuel center, so he will proceed to City Council with the original application.
3. Tree ordinance update:
Dan Pskowski reported the city’s attorneys are reviewing tree ordinance revisions. Once they release their findings, there will be a 30-day review opportunity, probably within two to three weeks.

Letter of support sought

Marti Brown of North Franklin Business Association contacted President **Eric Johnson**. She is pursuing another \$400,000 grant from Cal Trans and seeks support from SCNA. The president will write a letter in support of this grant.

Treasurer’s report

Treasurer **Joseph Eschleman** noted a solid start to the fiscal year, except for the investment portfolio, which reflects the market’s current general volatility. Eschleman also mentioned the supplemental possessory interest bills received for 2013 and 2014 and asked that the board begin pursuing legal guidance. The supplemental bills and the 2015 bill total more than \$35,000, all due by the end of the calendar year.

Facilities report

The facilities committee discussed space utilization plans for the next year and updated the board on capital projects. Questions have been raised about the condition of the sidewalk north of the theater. This project is on hold due to turnover and budget issues at the city, but the work will likely fall on SCNA if we want to ensure it happens soon. Also discussed were adjustments

Next meeting

The next meeting of the SCNA Board will begin at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4 in the Garden Room at Sierra 2. For more information, call the Sierra 2 office, 452-3005.

made at the Fourth Avenue parking entrance to remove safety issues and visibility obstructions.

Neighborhood Concerns Committee

A neighbor presented information about hiring a security service in the neighborhood in hopes SCNA would take it on as a part of the services it offers. The committee agreed there are many challenges, but is not willing to pursue a security service at this time. The committee reviewed the CPV plans. Neighbors are concerned about the Portola Alley and water runoff with the new CPV design. The committee approved \$500

for the Second Avenue underpass project. This will be completed in phases and will incorporate catch phrases and historical references. An artist will create a mural. To date, \$3,500 has been raised for the project out of the \$10,000 budget. (See story on page one.)

The recycling center at the Broadway 76 gas station at 24th Street and Broadway is the only recycling center serving this area, so it’s not likely to be moved. The Broadway Partnership tried in the past and was unsuccessful.

Senior Committee

The Senior Center is working on the Dec. 4 Holiday Craft Faire and will initiate the Annual Appeal letter and mailings. The new Senior Center Garden Club will have a general information meeting soon. (For more information, see page 5.)
— Submitted by Terri Shettle
SCNA Executive Director

President’s message

Excellent adventures in Oak Park for the whole family

I’ve spent a fair amount of time in Oak Park recently. After looking online for a week or so, we ended up buying a Santa Cruz skateboard for Chance’s birthday from Subversions, the skate shop on 33rd Street. He promptly covered over the bottom with every single sticker they threw in. Of course, we then had to road test the board and decided to pop over Highway 99 to McClatchy Park to scope out the skate park. Verdict: Excellent. Chance was all decked out in his helmet and pads, puttering along, and a Big Kid addressed him: “Dude, you gotta get some real skate shoes. You need something flat for better grip.” We’ve been back there every weekend since then, and despite the

ERIC JOHNSON
SCNA Board President



stereotype of skate punk appearance being inarguably real (tattered jeans, abs and biceps to make me rethink my exercise regimen, fragrant smoke, PBR tallboys while they rest between runs), the atmosphere is incredibly accepting and friendly: “Buddy, bend your knees on the downhill!” “See you later, family; make sure he keeps shredding!”

In the middle of the month, the weather was beautiful, so after a couple hours of tearing it up on the half pipe and the flats (“Today I made a friend!”), we decided to expand our Sunday reach and bike a little further to the Oak Park Brewery. The outdoor patio conversation was pleasantly bubbly. Chance and I satisfied our appetites with a Citra IPA, a lemonade with free refills and a plate of delicious fries. We managed to restrain ourselves from killing more time with their giant Jenga set, and we made our way home past houses fully ghoulished for Halloween. It would be easy to set up dichotomies about Oak Park and Curtis Park. It would also be cheap and reductive. Both neighborhoods

are full of kids and parents who are busting their behinds to do what’s right and make their respective slices of Sacramento a little better. Both neighborhoods have issues that occasionally spill into surrounding communities. And both neighborhoods can profit from more interaction, more cooperation and more cross-pollination. I encourage you to mosey east along Second and Fifth avenues to see what our Oak Park neighbors have to offer. Even if you can’t pull a fakie backside heelflip, I’m pretty sure you’ll find something that makes your ride more pleasant. (Editor’s note: To learn about new businesses in Oak Park, see stories on The Plant Foundry on page 1 and Broadway Coffee on page 7.)

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Revenue expected to top \$52,000 from this year’s Wine Tasting

By Terri Shettle
Sierra 2 executive director

More than 500 people attended the 25th Anniversary Wine Tasting, Silent Auction and Beer Garden at Sierra 2. SCNA expects revenue to exceed \$52,000 from ticket sales, sponsorships, neighborhood dinners and silent auction receipts.

Attendees enjoyed lots of great food, wine and beer while bidding on more than 120 silent auction items. Food was gobbled up, water was in

high demand, and the beer and wine samples kept everyone moving about.

The raffle prize — a wine cooler filled with 24 bottles of wine — brought in \$1,500 and created an air of excitement as folks gathered around the stage to hear the winning number.

Seats remained available for The Donner Party (Nov. 14), Curtis Park Gentlemen’s Conclave (April 16) and Hot August Nights (Aug. 20) neighborhood dinners. To purchase tickets, call 452-3005.

The Wine Tasting Committee will discuss

funding allocations for the additional beneficiaries and will send its recommendation to the board after reconciliation of all receipts and expenses.

Special thanks to the hard-working committee members who brought it all together: Cari Anderson, chair and volunteer coordinator; Carrie Sage and Sherry Sherry, restaurant co-chairs; Tony Linch, beer and wine liaison; Melissa McKenzie, auction chair; Dennis Gunvalson, dinners coordinator; Cheri Davis, dinners assistant; Paul Miller and Joe Larrea, systems co-chairs.

Tower Cafe created an exotic display with attendees standing in line to taste their food.



Vallejo’s Restaurant offered their authentic Mexican food that was popular at the event.



Photos/
Carol Blackman



Ready to sample a full plate of hearty food.



Silent auction was bustling with interest.

What’s new at Sierra 2

Sacramento’s ghost whisperer

Author and psychic medium Michelle Paisley Reed will deliver messages from the “other side” to people in the audience of her Spirit Connection event from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 14, in Curtis Hall. She will discuss how her intuitive abilities strengthened her spiritual path after a near-death experience.

Musical group Orenda Blu will perform 5:30–6 p.m. and 9–9:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$30 advance; \$40 at door.
For information and tickets, visit www.MediumMichelle.com/events.



Michelle Paisley Reed

Makeover: A vital connection between Oak Park and Curtis Park

(Continued from page one)

including Cafe Dantorels, Curtis Park Market, Fitsom, Pangaea Bier Cafe and Roo Landscaping & Garden Care. SCNA’s Neighborhood Concerns Committee has contributed \$500.

Businesses in Oak Park recently met to discuss fund-raising plans. Assagai anticipates the entire project can be funded through private

donations. Both the Oak Park Business Association and the North Franklin District Business Association are involved. Councilmember Jay Schenirer has agreed to help the group navigate city requirements.

“I touched this project once before, and it wouldn’t let me go,” Assagai said. “I’m grateful to have the chance to finish it now.”

Hearing: Developer asserts CPV plan meets 2010 Council resolution

(Continued from page one)

24 hours a day. Alagozian said the alternative plan would build 12 fuel pumps at first, and later ramp up to 16 pumps when needed.

SCNA is on record opposing the conditional use permit for the gas station. SCNA’s position is that the proposed gas station doesn’t belong in an urban, transit-oriented development, where more than \$17 million in public dollars have already been invested to encourage the public to walk, bicycle and use light rail to get downtown to their jobs.

In 2011, the city received a \$9.1 million grant from the state’s Transit-Oriented Development program that funds infrastructure projects to promote urban infill housing. The city turned over those dollars to Petrovich Development, and also provided a low-cost economic development loan of \$2.3 million that has yet to be paid back.

Another \$6 million in Measure A and federal transit funds were

provided by the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) to pay for the pedestrian overcrossing to Sacramento City College. Both Regional Transit and SACOG submitted letters opposing the fuel center, stating it would be a bad policy decision to grant a permit for the fuel center in this urban location.

Petrovich Development responded to these objections in a letter to the Planning Department that said Curtis Park Village didn’t have a Transit Overlay Zone placed on it when the Planned Unit Development was approved at the City Council, and therefore it is not officially designated a “transit-oriented development.”

Planning staff agreed, and said a Transit Overlay Zone wasn’t needed for the project, even though the city’s 2011 winning grant application to the state’s Transit Oriented Development program reads, “The entire Curtis Park Village Development is within a half mile of two transit stops, and therefore

is designated as a transit-oriented development.” Planning staff said this was an error by the City Utilities Department, and a Transit Overlay Zone isn’t applicable to this site.

SCNA alleges the fuel center proposal breaks the compromise agreement that was forged between the parties to establish an urban design for the development. The agreement was memorialized in a Council resolution facilitated by former Council member Lauren Hammond. SCNA thought it had reached a win-win agreement with the developer by agreeing not to sue over the project in exchange for several concessions.

According to the Council resolution, Petrovich agreed to limit the size of commercial buildings to 55,000 square feet, to include low-income housing on site, to build a pedestrian walkway that connects the residential housing with the commercial area, to orient storefront

entrances to the sidewalk, and to build a grid in the commercial area. SCNA asserts the fuel center would disturb a commercial grid, and the retail area is still configured as a sea of parking. Petrovich Development is on record saying the development as configured meets the conditions of the 2010 Council resolution.


To build support for the fuel center, Petrovich Development plans to hold a meeting in Oak Park, hosted by Pastor Kevin Brown of the Mount Sinai Missionary Baptist Church, to talk about the union jobs that Safeway will bring to the neighborhood. The flyer indicates that Safeway will give preferences to hiring Oak Park residents for the grocery store. Safeway has told The Sacramento Bee that it will not locate a grocery store in Curtis Park Village without a 16-pump fuel center.


SCNA will notify neighbors when a hearing date is scheduled for the fuel center appeal.

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Friday, Nov. 20
Doors open 6 p.m.; Film 6:30 p.m.
Cost: General \$15; Students \$10;
Discount ECOS Membership & Film \$35
Tickets: sacwildandscenic.brownpapertickets.com
Info: (916) 203-1220 or
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The festival includes short films exploring themes of water conservation, sustainable development and energy, food and local agriculture, wildlife protection, environmental activism, and outdoor recreation. All proceeds benefit the California Heartland Project — the regional conservation vision of Habitat 2020, the Environmental Council of Sacramento's conservation committee.



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Tickets: \$12 Adult; \$10; Children
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Info: YoungActorsStage.com

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Maestro Eric Myers: 276-2247

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New Destiny Ministries
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kristyoshiro@gmail.com

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3rd Saturday, Room 12, 1-5 p.m.
CenterForSoulHealing.com

Know Thyself as Soul – Meditation
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knowthyselfassoul.org

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Patrice Norris: 736-1730

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www.rivercitytaps.com

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Studio 2 • alohatyra@aol.com

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Sierra 2 Senior Center

New garden club forms to beautify Sierra 2

The new Senior Center Garden Club is looking for dedicated seniors to maintain the beauty and legacy of the Sierra 2 Center.

One of the first projects will be to enhance and maintain the Garden Room courtyard. Other future projects will include planting and maintaining container plants along the hallways and other areas of Sierra 2.

Garden Club activities will include guest speakers, workshops, gardening projects/activities and scheduled meetings.

The Garden Club is open to anyone interested in gardening and plants. No experience is required. For more information, call 455-6339. — Vinang Hanna

Holiday Craft Faire set for Dec. 4

Kick off the holidays and start your gift shopping at the Sierra 2 Senior Center's Annual Jewelry & Holiday Craft Faire from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Rooms 9, 10 and 11. There will be unique gifts created by local artisans and crafters.

Schenirer's message

A tale of two controversies — local and citywide

As I write this column, I am squarely in the middle of two extremely controversial issues: one local — Curtis Park Village, and one city-wide — minimum wage. In each case, there was a clear path forward, led by community and city leaders, who came together to forge a compromise that considered what was best for the neighborhood and city, and not what was best for any singular interest group. Unfortunately, in both cases, commitments have been broken and we are all potentially the worse off for it.

With respect to raising the minimum wage, I chaired a diverse task force that was able to frame an agreement that targeted those Sacramentans most in need, while dually mitigating the potential ramifications to businesses which could have halted the recovery of our local economy. The task force specifically recognized the importance of our regional farm-to-fork brand and the sensitive nature of the restaurant industry. Unfortunately, a number of the groups at the table have now backed away from their

previous agreements. My hope is that, by using the principles adopted by the task force, we can rebuild an agreement that will be supported by the Council. Optimistically, this will have been successful by the time you are reading this.

As to Curtis Park Village — Oy! The developer submitted an alternative proposal for the location of the fuel center, then pulled the alternative proposal, then pulled the resubmitted tentative map, then resubmitted the alternative fuel center location.

I am currently working with the president of SCNA and Sierra 2 to schedule a community meeting on the alternative proposal, and the map if it is resubmitted. Any community meeting will occur prior to the Council hearing for the fuel center appeal, which is tentatively scheduled for Nov. 17. As I have stated before, because the conditional use permit coming to the Council is an appeal of the Planning and Design Commission decision, I am not able to



Jay Schenirer
City Councilmember

take a position prior to the Council meeting.

Additionally, Safeway and the developer have also approached leaders in Oak Park, promising union jobs in return for support of the fuel center. The jobs are important, but it will be difficult for many who have just come to this discussion to understand the context of

the dispute over the fuel center. I have great fears that this action is intended to pit one neighborhood against another for political purposes — something that we should never do.

With respect to CPV, I have always done my best in representing the neighborhood. My goal is to ensure that the agreement made five years ago between the developer and the community with respect to the type of development will be upheld, both in spirit and word. My commitment is to evaluate the fuel center as a land-use decision for what is best for the neighborhood without consideration for any one individual's political or personal gain.

Dogxilliary seeks donations for pets, kids of homeless people at Loaves and Fishes

By Craig McCulloch
Viewpoint staff

The Curtis Park dog owners group, Dogxilliary, will conduct a pet supply/food drive in November and December for pets at Loaves and Fishes, serving the homeless in Sacramento.

Donations are sought of canned and dry dog and cat food, new or used (but fully functional) leashes, collars, harnesses or doggie jackets for the pets of the people served at Loaves and Fishes. Clothing donations will be collected for the homeless children attending the Mustard Seed School. To make a donation, email dogxilliary@gmail.com.

Dogxilliary in the past has organized neighborhood



Photo/Joan Cusick

donations to deliver dozens of leashes and collars and hundreds of pounds of dog food to Loaves and Fishes, in addition to coats and toys for the kids. The last donation drive in 2013 filled two large containers of donated items.

Loaves and Fishes does not accept any federal or state funding, and relies upon donations to keep its programs operating. More than seven million meals have been served. For more information, go to sacloaves.org.

Dogxilliary has obtained permission from the city to allow off-leash training of dogs at the soccer field behind Sierra 2 during the hours of 6–9 a.m. and 5–8 p.m., except when the field is being used for soccer practice or special events. The dogs and owners must strictly follow specified rules, and register in advance with Jennifer Garrison, Dogxilliary manager. For more information, contact her at dogxilliary@gmail.com.

NOVEMBER 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

Tai Chi

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

Walking & Polewalking Clinic

9 a.m., Thursdays
One-time instruction fee \$5

LIESURE

Book Club

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., 2nd Monday
Nov. 9: "The Signature of All Things"
by Elizabeth Gilbert

Popcorn & Movie

1:30–3:30 p.m., Nov. 17
"Strangers in Good Company"
\$1–3 donation

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 a.m.–noon, Nov. 16, Rm. 9

Beginning Drawing

9–10:15 a.m., Thursdays
4 classes: \$48
Patris: 397-8958

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

Pinochle

1–3 p.m., Fridays

EVENTS

Pension Assistance

Legal Service of Northern California
9:30–11 a.m., Nov. 10, Free

Free Chair Massage

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Nov. 11 & 18
Sam Soun, CMT

Fall Prevention Care

Indecare Corp.
9:30–11 a.m., Nov. 24, Free

Senior Committee Meeting

3 p.m., Dec. 1

At HOME in Curtis Park.



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Heritage Matters

Curtis Park had prominent role in World War II victory garden effort

By Erik Fay
Viewpoint staff

Sacramento is promoted as “the Farm to Fork Capital.” Small urban farms are regularly portrayed in the media as something new and beneficial. But what we think of as “urban farming” or a “personal farm” has its roots in World War II. Sacramento was considered “the Victory Garden Capital” during the war, with 30,000 victory gardens within the county. First lady Eleanor Roosevelt recognized Sacramento in 1945 as an outstanding city for establishing victory gardens.

Curtis Park residents took an active role not only in cultivating many victory gardens but also in promoting gardens as a way to combat a foreign enemy, conserve resources and build wartime morale.

America was unprepared for its entry into World War II in 1941. The federal government quickly grew concerned that shipping canned and frozen foods across the globe to servicemen and allied or liberated countries would create domestic food shortages. Food rationing and plans for encouraging urban and suburban residents to grow their own food began in 1942.

Individual Sacramentans, churches, professional organizations, civic groups and schools embraced the wartime ethos of “We’re all in this together!” Gardens began appearing across the city and county.

Governor Earl Warren coined the victory garden slogan “Let’s get digging!” The governor had a garden installed on the state Capitol grounds and established a goal of increasing the number of

California gardens by 10 percent each year of the war. It was estimated in July 1943 there were more than a million gardens in California.

There were numerous victory gardens in Curtis Park. Many households participated in collective gardens where everyone chipped in for seeds, fertilizers and watering equipment. Larger collective gardens in Curtis Park were located on Montgomery Way, Marshall Way, Fourth Avenue and Ninth Avenue.

The Sacramento Victory Garden Committee offered free services to those wishing to establish a garden on residential yards, unused lots and public spaces. “Garden Clinics” for homeowners were held at a home located at Second Avenue and Land Park Drive.

The Bret Harte School had a large garden. Sacramento schools were recognized in 1944 for growing most of the vegetables used in their cafeteria lunches.

County Agriculture Commissioner A.E. Morrison, who lived at 2524 Marshall Way, was a big booster of victory gardens. Wartime newspaper photographs show Morrison, County Sheriff Don Cox and 26th Street neighbors working in a large garden on Marshall Way, previously a vacant lot between 26th and 27th Streets (see photo above).

The Sacramento Bee ran a Saturday column during the war, “The Victory Gardener,” that showcased several Curtis Park gardeners and their crops.

The Bee and KFBK produced a film in 1944, “Garden for Victory,” documenting local victory



Historical photo provided by Dan Murphy
Sacramento County Agriculture Commissioner A.E. Morrison examined a World War II victory garden tilled by neighbors in what had been a vacant lot on Marshall Way, between 26th and 27th streets, in this photograph published in The Sacramento Bee on Jan. 16, 1943.

gardens and the Victory Garden Harvest Festival, held at Memorial Auditorium. Curtis Park gardeners won awards in numerous categories. Victory gardens at Fourth Avenue and 27th Street, 2541 Portola Way, 3019-½ Portola Way and 3324 Cutter Way received special notice at the festival. The “Garden for Victory” film can be viewed at the Center for Sacramento History website in their online film collection.

By the war’s end in 1945, victory gardens produced approximately 40 percent of all vegetables grown in the country. Food shortages were prevented, transportation costs were reduced and most Americans ate fresh locally produced foods.

Trees in Curtis Park

Blame problems on cracked sewer lines — not tree roots

By Dan Pskowski
Viewpoint staff

Trees can and do cause problems. Often, the first response is the tree’s removal. However, tree removal is not always the best solution and may not eliminate the problem.

For example, roots are plugging your sewer line or damaging the water service. The tree may not be the cause and, most likely, it’s the sewer or water line that is cracked and leaking. Roots grow where there is available water and oxygen. They do not seek out water or sewer lines and break them in search of water. Even though you’ll find roots wrapped around the water pipe or growing in the sewer line, the pipe was already leaking. This creates a desirable environment for roots to grow and thrive.

The solution is replacement of the broken line—not tree removal. Why? Because roots from another tree in your yard or the neighbor’s may already be present in the leaking pipe area. A tree’s root network can extend two or three times the spread of the tree limbs. The exception is when the tree was planted on top or within a few feet of the water/sewer line. As the tree matures, its large anchoring

roots can cause the line to collapse. This is why underground utilities should always be located before planting a tree.

What about roots that damage your home’s foundation? When roots were found in contact with the foundation, I assumed they caused the damage. But experience taught me that only a structural engineer can correctly make that determination, not an arborist. I have found with the use of a structural engineer that most foundation problems are not caused by tree roots.

All trees drop leaves, fruit, seed pods and small twigs that may cause problems, especially if the canopy overhangs a swimming pool. The tree’s litter can clog the pool’s filtering system. A solution to tree removal or severely cutting back the branches is the installation of an automatic pool cover.

Liquidambar trees are notorious for their hard spiked balls. When these balls collect on your patio or other hard surface, they can cause a slip-and-fall



Photo/Dan Pskowski
Problems with the hard spiked balls from Liquidambar trees can be avoided with netting or spraying a safe chemical product to cause the balls to drop when they’re small and harmless.

situation. A professional tree company can spray a chemical product on your liquidambar in the spring, which causes the abscission of the balls while very small and harmless. Another solution is installing netting that captures the balls as they fall. Some gardeners place these hard spiked balls in their flower and shrub beds to prevent cats from using them as a litter box.

Investigate alternative solutions to tree removal the next time you’re faced with a tree problem.

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COMMUNITY CORNER

Sue Hayden's beautiful legacy



Sue Hayden

By Alice Levine
Special to Viewpoint

Sue Hayden, interior designer and great friend of the Ella K. McClatchy Library, died suddenly and unexpectedly on Oct. 5.

Sue spent many hours at the library selecting books as a regular and frequent patron. She also expressed her love of the library by offering her professional skill as an interior designer in selecting colors, fabrics and furniture for the upstairs. She worked closely with Barbara Monroe to design the quiet reading room to be a beautiful and welcoming place. Sue's legacy of talent and generosity live on in the beauty of McClatchy Library's upstairs.

In Sue Hayden's name, donations may be made to the Friends of McClatchy Library or to the Crocker Art Museum for its docent training program.

New coffee house links interests of community-spirited owner

By Ariel Calvert
Viewpoint staff

Broadway Coffee, an inviting new coffee house, recently opened to serve Oak Park and surrounding neighborhoods.

Located at 32nd Street and Broadway, Broadway Coffee serves coffee purchased wholesale from Sacramento-based Temple Coffee Roasters, as well as a variety of pastries and other quick breakfast items.

Broadway Coffee is owned by Charles Bergson. He has extensive public service experience as a civil engineer and as former city administrator of Williams, in Colusa County.

Bergson decided to open Broadway Coffee when he retired to combine his interests in coffee and community. (Bergson is an Oak Park homeowner.)

General manager Jimmy Gayaldo runs the day-to-day operations. Gayaldo has more than 20 years' experience in the restaurant business, including a stint as food and beverage director at Del Paso Country Club and most recently as

general manager of McCormick & Schmick's restaurant in Sacramento.

Gayaldo says Broadway Coffee has experienced an extremely positive reception since the grand opening in July: "The community around us has really welcomed us with open arms."



Photo/Judy Harper

Broadway Coffee is managed by Jimmy Gayaldo, left, and owned by Charles Bergson.

Bergson and Gayaldo have plans to host a monthly event to strengthen the connection between Broadway Coffee and other businesses in the area to the Oak Park community, with an emphasis on arts and culture. The Fourth Fridays Music and Art Walk, beginning Nov. 27, will showcase local artists and bands, providing a lively community event along Broadway in Oak Park.

Late next year, Bergson and Gayaldo plan to open another location where they'll roast their own beans for coffee they'll serve at Broadway Coffee.

Broadway Coffee is open 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays, and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sundays.

For more information, www.broadwaycoffeecompany.com, or call 594-9048.



Photo/Rosanna Herber

In honor of Rex Babin

About 60 people gathered to dedicate the bicycle art rack created to honor Rex Babin, Portola Way neighbor and nationally known editorial cartoonist, who died of cancer three years ago.

Jason Silva of Fourth Avenue designed and built the bicycle sculpture, which is named "Anamorphosis." Made out of galvanized and power-coated steel, Silva has bicycle sculptures with the same design sprinkled throughout Sacramento. At a certain angle, the three separate pieces of the sculpture line up to create the illusion of one bicyclist.

The sculpture in Curtis Park (located next to the gardens and playground) was designed to be unique. Silva made this one look more cartoon-like, with the bicyclist in motion, leaning into a curve. The inscription reads, "Beloved husband, father, friend, and Curtis Park neighbor. Editorial Cartoonist for The Sacramento Bee (1999-2012). Thank you for making us laugh and think. We miss you, Rex." The artwork was commissioned and paid for through the efforts of Councilmember Jay Schenirer and the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission."

— Rosanna Herber

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RSVP Choir in harmony with youth literacy group 916 INK to raise funds

By Ariel Calvert
Viewpoint staff

Curtis Park residents Lara Pucik Johnson (26th Street) of RSVP Choir and Michael Spurgeon (Marshall Way) of 916 Ink are partnering to support and raise awareness of 916 Ink, a nonprofit organization focused on promoting youth literacy in Sacramento.

In the last five years, 916 Ink has published more than 50 books and served more than 1,700 young authors in the Sacramento region.

916 Ink hosts several free workshops to provide K-12 youth with an opportunity to find their unique voices and take pride in their accomplishments. Workshops culminate with publication of the students' literary works.

Johnson says RSVP Choir enjoys collaborating with other choirs, as well as storytellers, authors and musicians to present concerts with fresh ideas and imaginative programs. Choir members donate their time and RSVP Choir donates all concert proceeds to local charitable organizations. RSVP

Choir is also available for private events. "RSVP is about singers using our voices to support local charities through the power of music," Johnson said. "We bring our community together to enjoy concerts that benefit other non-profits serving the people of our region." RSVP Choir will support 916 Ink with its Fall 2015 concert series. When RSVP Choir partners with an organization, the choir tailors its program to meet that organization's objectives.

The upcoming program will include both a capella and accompanied choral arrangements on themes of creativity, imagination and expression, with readings from 916 Ink graduates sharing their original work.

Admission is free for all RSVP Choir performances, but donations are accepted at the door to support the missions of both 916 Ink and RSVP Choir.

The concerts will be at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 13 at Granite Springs Church in Lincoln, 7:30 p.m. Nov. 14 at Journey Church in Folsom, and 7:30 p.m. Nov. 20 and 21 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Sacramento.



Photo/Mindy Giles
Rugby the Cat is all tuckered out from reading the *Viewpoint*. He is still looking for news on the Cat Park.

Where is the cat park?

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in Viewpoint,
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Financial Results for Fiscal Year 2015			
SCNA FY 2015	YTD Actual	Annual Budget	Prior Year Actual
Total Income.....	\$751,704.00	\$777,050.00	\$711,744.00
Total Expense.....	(\$756,961.00)	(\$807,154.00)	(\$719,819.00)
Other Income (Expense).....	(\$2,823.00)	\$120.00	\$24,887.00
Net Income (Loss).....	(\$8,080.00)	(\$29,984.00)	\$16,812.00

To learn more about the year-end financial results for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, and the state of SCNA, attend the annual membership meeting at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 17, in Curtis Hall at Sierra 2 Center.

— Terri Shettle, Sierra 2 executive director

**Join SCNA
today!**
For information, visit
www.sierra2.org.

Nursery: Grand opening event set for Dec. 5

(Continued from page one)
chickens in their back yards. Pratt's choice of location for The Plant Foundry was largely based on accessibility – by car, bicycle and public transportation – to the Oak Park neighborhood and surrounding areas. Pratt rides her bicycle to the nursery every day. The location also accommodated a vibrant outdoor nursery and a bright indoor store featuring quirky items such as "tentacle pots" from Tentacle Arts, beer garden

tables and interesting planters, vases and gardening accessories. The Plant Foundry plans an official grand opening in December, which is intended to be a lively community event with booths staffed by vendors and growers, food and beverage stands, and freshly cut Christmas trees. The Plant Foundry is at 3500 Broadway. For more information, call 917-5787 or visit the website, www.plantfoundry.com.

Find out all about olive oil on Nov. 11

Don't forget to register for the olive oil lecture and tasting Wednesday, Nov. 11 at Sierra 2's Curtis Hall from 6 to 8 p.m. with certified olive oil taster Orietta Gianjorio. A food truck with choice of special Italian appetizer, pasta, salad and a chicken main dish will be present from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Also, there will be a pastry-filled "Sweet Bike." Cost: \$5.00 donation to the Accademia Italiana della Cucina. Sign up at orietta@orietta.net by Nov. 6. Call Bruce Pierini with questions: 600-0781.



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