

VIEWPOINT

A Publication of the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association

Vol. 37, No. 3

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

October 2015

The Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association's

WINE TASTING SILENT AUCTION & BEER GARDEN

DELICIOUS FOOD & DRINKS FROM LOCAL RESTAURANTS, BREWERIES & WINERIES
SILENT AUCTION & EXCITING RAFFLES
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2015 · 4-7 PM

EVENT: Curtis Park Wine Tasting, Silent Auction & Beer Garden

PRESENTED BY: Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association

DATE: Saturday, Oct. 10

TIME: 4 to 7 p.m.

LOCATION: Sierra 2 Center, 2791 24th St., Sacramento

COST: Advance tickets through Oct. 7 are \$40 for SCNA members & \$45 non-members. Starting Oct. 8, tickets are \$50 for everyone at the Sierra 2 office or at the door.

TICKETS: www.sierra2.org or Sierra 2 Center office, 452-3005

Wine Tasting sponsors get standing ovation

As preparations continue for the 25th annual Wine Tasting, Silent Auction and Beer Garden event, it is a good time to recognize the major sponsors who help make it possible.

Presenting Sponsor:

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Larry Easterling (Cook Realty),
Bean Chiropractic,
Paloma Begin (Coldwell Banker)



Photo/Joan Cusick

Co-hosts Judy Brush, standing left, and Judy Scheible toast with their neighbor dinner guests at their Italian-themed progressive dinner.

Curtis Park neighbor dinners expected to sell out quickly

By Terri Shettle

Executive director of SCNA

The popular Neighborhood Dinners—a feature of the Curtis Park Wine Tasting, Silent Auction & Beer Garden—return this year. These dinners, or themed neighborhood parties, are hosted by a neighbor or a neighbor group and are again expected to be among the best bargains. They will surely sell out quickly.

Instead of normal silent auction bidding, the dinners are sold at fixed prices depending on the event. They typically range from \$50 to \$75 per seat. Last year, the 150 seats at 10 dinners sold out within the event's first hour. At least one dinner party had to be expanded by two seats because the bidders who were counting on it arrived two minutes after the 4 o'clock start time.

New additions to the Neighborhood Dinner line-up are "French Dinner at the French

Hospital" and "Dine Around the World."

Among the returning favorite dinners are "Six on Sixth," "Tinis and Tapas," "The Donner Party" and "Hot August Nights." Also returning after a year off is the Kentucky Derby brunch event, "Bourbon, Biscuits and Bonnets." Several other popular dinners are in the works, including "A Night in Oaxaca" progressive dinner.

We are working on reviving the popular Curtis Park Pub Crawl, rebranding it as the Curtis Park Craft Crawl with several homes that will pair Sacramento area breweries with scrumptious food.

The Curtis Park Wine Tasting, Silent Auction & Beer Garden takes place from 4-7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 10 at Sierra 2 Center. Guests are encouraged to arrive early if they want to purchase seats at these dinners, which will be displayed and sold in Room 11 near the entrance to the event.

Fuel Center hearing was postponed; NCC asks for neighborhood meeting

By Rosanna Herber

Viewpoint staff writer

Once again, a City Council hearing to decide the fate of the proposed 16-pump fuel center for Curtis Park Village was postponed at the last minute. The explanation given to SCNA was that the developer submitted a new site plan for the gas station, making the scheduled Council hearing informational, where no action could be taken.

"I spoke with SCNA's President Eric Johnson, and we both agreed it would be a waste of time to have the hearing without any analysis from staff on the new proposal," said Councilmember Jay Schenirer. "It will take about 3-4 weeks for staff to do the analysis."

The new map submitted by Petrovich Development moves the fuel center away from Crocker Road and tucks it behind the proposed Safeway grocery store, almost flush with the Sutterville bridge. The gas station would still have 16 pumps, but would be located further away from neighborhood homes. The revised plan makes the gas station less visible from Sutterville and Crocker Roads. A kiosk selling specialty beers and snacks is still planned next to the fuel center, and both could potentially be open 24 hours.

Just weeks ago, Petrovich Development released a modified park design and Phase 1 housing plan for the north end of the development. SCNA reviewed that plan and is on record expressing concerns about the design of the park, the pedestrian

Please see Fuel Center, page 3

Second annual Curtis Park Dog Parade and Costume Contest

Oct. 31 • 8:30 a.m.

Judging begins at 8:50 a.m.

Don't be late!

Special to the Viewpoint

By Janel Silva

The 2nd annual Curtis Park Dog Parade and Costume Contest will be held at 8:30 a.m.

Oct. 31. Judging will be at 8:50 a.m. sharp.

There will be prizes for 1st through 3rd place.

Last year, instead of going to the East Bay to enter my dog in a Halloween dog costume contest there, I decided it was about time we had one right

in our own backyard. I decided to host the first annual Curtis Park Halloween Dog Parade and Costume Contest.

Fifteen dogs with their owners showed up to participate. Everyone had fun and loved seeing all of the dogs in a variety of funny costumes.

Quite a few park goers asked about the event again this year. So, I decided to make it an annual event and bring a little more organization to it this year. There will be the traditional 1st, 2nd and 3rd-place winners. And, in addition, we will offer a special prize to the best handmade costume; so get creatively silly with your dog's costume.

Janel Silva lives on Fourth Avenue and has frequented the dog park with her dog(s) on a regular basis on and off for over 13 years.



Notes from Sept. 9th meeting

Twenty restaurants committed for Wine Tasting event

Wine Tasting 25th Silver Anniversary

The Board heard from event chair **Cari Anderson**. She asked for more high ticket silent auction items such as a weekend cabin, airline vouchers, hosting a 10-person dinner, etc. Last year the event netted \$40,000 and this year’s goal is the same. It was noted that children of any age are not allowed at this adult-only event. Twenty restaurants are already confirmed.

Sacramento Integrity Project

The Board voted to support the good governance ethics reform that the Sacramento Integrity Project and other area groups have been

working on. The City Council voted to unanimously approve the ethics package on Sept.15.

President’s report

Eric Johnson reassured board members that 2016 would see full street reconstruction after completion of the water meter installations. The spotty asphalt fixes will be smoothed out.

Executive director’s report

Terri Shettle listed the changes and repairs around Sierra 2, including the safety issue regarding visibility at the driveway. Curtis Fest was successful but there will no

Next meeting

The next meeting of the SCNA Board will begin at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 7 in the Garden Room at Sierra 2.

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

Viewpoint

The new use of color brings the neighborhood paper into the 21st century. The discussion turned to new advertising and price policy, changes that will be led by board member **Larry Easterling**.

CPV Fuel Center Appeal

The Board discussed the upcoming City Council meeting regarding the fuel center permit and encouraged everyone at the meeting to attend on Sept. 24.

— Submitted by **Kate Woolley**
SCNA Board Secretary

longer be a beer and wine garden at events, as it continually operates at a net loss for SCNA. A security person will be monitoring future events for open containers.

The new programs coordinator at Sierra 2 will be creating classes, finding instructors and managing the Senior Center, Tech Lab and children’s programs.

Executive Director’s report

Sierra 2 capital projects and repairs kept staff busy this summer

The Serra 2 Center staff was busy this summer working on capital projects and repairs following the start of the new fiscal year as of July 1. Your membership, donation dollars and income generated from operations and fundraising events help fund the necessary repairs and maintenance projects that preserve this historic building.

Following budget approval, one of the first things we embarked on this year was installing UV reflective blinds in several east facing rooms. This project helps save energy by keeping the rooms cooler and reducing stress on the HVAC systems with temperatures being better managed during the hottest days.

Painting the exterior of the Sierra 2 buildings—which total 40,000 square

TERRI SHETTLE
Sierra 2 Executive Director



feet—is on a seven-year rotation with this year’s phase comprising the back of the theater and walls facing the Great Beginnings playground. The painting projects always take weeks to complete due to scheduling around various activities and the heat.

We replaced the old tile floors in the Garden Room kitchen with epoxy flooring, which is more durable and better for kitchen operations. This

required abatement of the existing tiles containing lead.

A task that creates an immediate visible change for most visitors is the addition of a storage shed in the Curtis Hall courtyard to house extra furniture typically kept in the hallways. Moving furniture out of the hallways has been on my to-do list since I started here six years ago. Visitors will soon walk through empty hallways with carpet runners that soften the space and reduce noise instead of piles of tables, chairs and ladders. Plants will be added eventually.

Also planned for this fall are window repairs to the Castro Cottage (historic elements that must be handled differently than simply replacing them), landscaping and

sidewalk upgrades in the area north of the theater, and upgrades to the theater lobby flooring, marquis, dressing room floors, and general lighting.

There are many other upgrades and general maintenance activities on our to-do list as we work to make Sierra 2 Center the most efficient, beautiful and historically represented community center in the city. We are also budgeted to make technology upgrades and continue improvements of the mechanical equipment throughout the property as well as make purchases of equipment and supplies for new operational activities and programs. More details will be available at the annual membership meeting on Nov. 17. I hope to see you there.

For more about how to join SCNA, visit www.sierra2.org

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VIEWPOINT

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What's new at Sierra 2

Learn to paint the colors of autumn

Autumn's rich colors will inspire you as you learn to paint a fall still life in expressive watercolor. Autumn Hues, Fall Favorites: a 2-Day Watercolor Workshop for all levels will be held from 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Oct. 31-Nov. 1 in Room 11.

Day one will focus on fundamentals while painting from direct observation. Day two students will create "one-off" watercolor monotypes. Participants must bring their own art supplies. The workshop fee includes an acrylic printing plate.

The instructor, Kathrine Lemke Waste, is a nationally known painter who has had works displayed by galleries in Sacramento, CA and Scottsdale, AZ. She is a Master Signature Member of American Women Artists and also serves as their board president. Her work has been featured in American Art Collector magazine, Southwest Art magazine, and frequently on the covers of the local monthly newspaper Inside The City.

The workshop fee is \$180. More information about materials and class sign-up is available on the instructor's website: www.lemkewaste.com.



Kathrine Lemke Waste will present a 2-Day Watercolor Workshop for all levels Oct. 31-Nov. 1.

A fun and easy way to learn Spanish

If you've always wanted to learn Spanish, your time is now. This three-day intensive class at the high-intermediate level is not a typical Spanish course. The class will be held from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Nov. 5 and 6 and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 7 in Room 12.

Using the TPRS method (Teaching Language Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling), this class emphasizes oral communication: speaking and listening. You can learn Spanish the same way you learned your primary language—through meaningful, comprehensible, and repetitive whole language. Through storytelling and interactive content you can rapidly learn to speak, read and write Spanish.

A light dinner is included in the Thursday and Friday sessions. The fee is \$225 with a discount for early sign-up. Class size is limited and advanced registration is necessary at www.learnspanishfasthoy.com.

— Submitted by Valerie Burrows
Facility Administrator

Olive oil seminar set for Nov. 11 at Sierra 2

By Judy Scheible
Viewpoint editor

Anyone interested in finding out whether the virgin olive oil he or she buys is really virgin can find out by taking a short class Nov. 11 at Sierra 2. That evening from 6 to 8 p.m., olive oil expert Orietta Gianjorio will explain the qualities of virgin olive oil and give out tastes to train the tongue.

The class will meet in Curtis Hall. It's sponsored by the Sacramento Chapter of the Academia Italiana della Cucina, a non-profit group dedicated to sharing information about Italian food.

Cost of the class is a \$5 donation to cover expenses.

Registration is required by Nov. 1. The class

size is limited. To register, go to www.orietta.orietta.net or email the instructor at orietta@orietta.net. Participants may pay at the door or online.

Instructor Orietta has deep credentials in olive oil. A native of Rome, she moved to Carmichael after she married an American seven years ago. "The rules for labels virgin olive oil are tricky," she said. "It's important to know how to recognize non-virgin olive oil because it has no health benefits."

For tasty Italian dinner options at this event, there will a food truck, featuring Italian specialties from 5:30-7 p.m. right outside Curtis Hall. The menu will include bruschetta, Arancini (risotto croquettes), Toscana Salad, Orchietta Pasta, and Pollo Senz'Osso.

For more details on the food truck, call Bruce Pierini at 600-0781.




Olive oil expert Orietta Gianjorio offers tastes and explains the qualities of virgin olive oil.

Join SCNA today!
Information at
www.sierra2.org

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Fuel Center: Developer proposes new site plan

(Continued from page one)

walkway, and other issues.

"These changes to Curtis Park Village are being proposed in a piecemeal manner," said John Matthews, Co-Chair of the Neighborhood Concerns Committee (NCC). "It's hard to keep track of it all. The NCC has asked for a meeting so neighbors can see how these two new proposals would impact the whole development."

Schenirer also reported that the modified Phase 1 housing plan and proposed park redesign will be decided by the acting Planning Director,


without a public hearing. A hearing is not required under new rules adopted two years ago by the City Council to help expedite developments. The developer is grading the site as if the modifications have already been approved. Planning staff said the developer would have to regrade the site if approval isn't granted. SCNA could also appeal the redesign of the park and housing plan to the City Council.

Neighbors can view both proposals on the SCNA website. Questions or comments can be directed to ncc@sierra2.org.

Yoga for the rest of us

Tina teaches Hatha Yoga.

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AT THE 24TH STREET THEATRE

EXPERIENCE NURUISM

Saturday Oct. 3

Showtime: 6 p.m.

Tickets: \$22 general; \$10 child

Tickets and Info: Eventbrite.com

A Fashion Extravaganza to benefit the Mother Baby programs at the Sacramento Food Bank, and Associated Prison Ministries of CA. This dynamic event will showcase fashion designer Zenzele Nuru's new line of Crochet Wear, along with vendors and guest performers. Guests will see dancers and hear performers in the band Eclectasy, featuring Johnneen, and headliner the New Prince of Soul, Rashaad Carlton. Come enjoy a night to remember and give back to the community.



WHITE CHRISTMAS

Runaway Stage Productions

Oct. 23–Nov. 15

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

Tickets and Info: (916) 207-1226 or www.runawaystage.com

Irving Berlin's White Christmas tells the story of two showbiz buddies putting on a show in a picturesque Vermont inn and finding their perfect mates in the bargain. It's full of dancing, romance, laughter and some of the greatest songs ever written. Among them are "Count Your Blessings Instead of Sheep," "Happy Holiday," "Sisters," "Blue Skies," and the unforgettable title song, "White Christmas." The show promises to be a merry and bright experience for the entire family.



A YEAR WITH FROG AND TOAD

**Runaway Stage Productions
Storybook Theatre**

Oct. 31, Nov. 7 and 14

Showtimes: Saturdays at 12 p.m. and 2 p.m.

Tickets: : \$8 general, \$6 child (12 and under)

Tickets and Info:

(916) 207-1226 or
www.runawaystage.com

A simple, often humorous, sometimes poignant series of short skits chronicling the exploits of a frog and his friend, a toad. Frog is taller, with a green shade, and is more friendly and relaxed than Toad; Toad is shorter and stout, with a brown shade and also the more serious and uptight of the duo.



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

Dancehall PowerUp

Thursdays, 8:30-9:30 p.m., Studio 3

LaToya Bufford, toybufford15@yahoo.com

Essentrics

Sunday 10-11 a.m., Studio 1

Tuesday 12-1 p.m., Studio 3

Tuesday & Thursday 6-7 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

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.

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SPIRITUAL SERVICES

Midtown Community Church

Sundays, 4 p.m., Room 10

www.midtowncc.net

New Destiny Ministries

Sundays, 12:45-2:15 p.m., Room 9

Pastor Singleton, 532-5581

Sacramento Native American

Believers Fellowship

Sundays, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Room 10

Lee Aviles, 203-6461

Baha'is

Call for schedule

491-5871, sacamentobahais.org



CHILDREN

Capital City Music Together

Children 5 and under

Call for class schedules.

Jennie Ribadeneira: 990-3222

www.capitalcitymusictogether.com

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

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

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

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

7-8 p.m. (4 to 11 yrs); 8-9 p.m. (12 to Adults)

764-9059, www.aztlandesac.org

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Awakening Bellydance

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Fourth Saturday, 11 a.m., Studio 1

Sawako Ama • lovebreath@infocircle.net

Irish American Ceili Dancers

1st and 3rd Monday, 7-9 p.m., Studio 1

Helen Healy: 444-8051

Manasa Tribal Dance

Sundays, 2-3:30 p.m., Studio 1

Patrice Norris: 736-1730

River City Taps – Tap Dance

Monday–Thursday 5–8:30 p.m.

Thursday, 10 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

Saturdays, 9 a.m.–1:30 p.m., Studio 3

www.rivercitytaps.com

Polynesian Dance

Tuesdays, 6-7:30 p.m.

Studio 2 • alohatyra@aol.com

West African Dance

2nd & 4th Fridays, 5:30-7 p.m., Studio 1

Jessa Cruz: 365-3721

Auntie Amy's Hula

Thursdays, 3-4 p.m., Studio 1

Amy Cornellier, 792-5561



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Sierra 2 Senior Center

Free presentation to help with estate planning

By Valerie Burrows
Facility administrator

A free seminar at Sierra 2 in October will help seniors sort out the complexities of estate planning and wills. The Sacramento Legal Services of Northern California’s Senior Legal Hotline staff will present a program about wills and estate planning from 9:30-11 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 6 in Room 12.

The Senior Legal Hotline provides legal advice, counsel and mediation services for seniors age 60 or older in Sacramento County.

During this presentation, the hotline advocates will outline the estate planning process and discuss myths and traps that seniors can encounter in their estate planning. These topics will be covered:

- Requirements for executing different types of wills;
- Pros and cons of living trusts
- Probate procedure
- Powers of attorney
- Advance Health Care Directives
- Protecting against financial abuse and exploitation when engaging estate planning professionals.

Future Tuesday programs this month include a session about the Vial of Life program. The free presentation will

be done by Indecare Corporation, a leading companion care service provider, from 9:30-11 a.m. Oct. 20 in Room 12.

The Vial of Life program is nationally recognized for saving lives by providing emergency responders with lifesaving medical information during an emergency. Participants in the program complete forms that are stored in their refrigerator, along with an identifying sticker on the front door. When emergency responders come to a home, they will see the Vial of Life sticker on the front door and know to obtain the patient’s important medical information from the refrigerator. The program will include hand-outs of the necessary supplies to participate in the program.

Both Tuesday programs are free and open to the public. Sign-up sheets are provided in the Senior Center. For more information or to reserve a seat, call 455-6339.



Sierra 2 Senior Center

The Senior Center is open to all seniors (age 55 and up). The center provides opportunities to keep learning, exercise, meet new people and be actively involved with neighbors.

Schenirer’s message

Council approved an ethics commission and an independent redistricting committee

On September 15 the City Council unanimously adopted a set of good governance reforms. These include creating an ethics committee, adopting a Sunshine Ordinance, establishing a Neighborhood Advisory Committee and an Independent Redistricting Committee.

I was proudly part of several months of work by the Council’s Good Governance Ad Hoc Committee, several community meetings and a collaboration with representatives of the League of Women Voters, Common Cause and other good government advocates. I am happy with, and supportive of, both the outcome and collaborative approach taken by the Council. The newly adopted changes will improve transparency, remove some of the politics from the politically charged redistricting issue, and hopefully reassure residents their Council is seriously committed to creating open and transparent government.

Changes to the City’s ethics code are the core of the reforms. As part of the adopted changes, the City will establish an Ethics Commission, hire an ethics compliance officer in the City Clerk’s Office, consolidate all of the City’s ethics regulations, and adopt a sunshine ordinance. The five member Ethics Commission

will be appointed to four year terms and must meet one of the following qualifications: administrative law judge, retired judge with a background in election law or ethics, law school ethics professor or a professional arbitrator/mediator.

The Ethics Commission will meet no less than once a year to review any findings or recommendations from an independent third-party evaluator/ investigator contracted by the City Clerk to conduct preliminary investigations. Based on the independent third-party investigator’s recommendations, the Ethics Commission would determine the appropriate action, administrative penalty or fine.

The City will also establish a Sunshine ordinance to centralize all city records retention, open meeting and transparency laws. Additionally, the City will establish a Public Records Manager/Ombudsman within the Clerk’s office to assist with records requests and mediate any records disputes.

At my request, the ad-hoc committee considered and ultimately adopted the creation of a



Jay Schenirer
City Councilmember

Neighborhood Advisory Committee. The Council will begin holding multiple public forums on the City’s budget to better educate members of the public and also solicit their feedback. This budget is a reflection of our priorities, and greater public input into that process can only be a good thing for the current and future Councils.

While the next census isn’t until 2020 and redistricting won’t happen until 2021, the Council --and the public -- felt it was essential that redistricting be included with any reforms put forward. The new commission will be modeled after the State’s process and will have the ability to independently redraw council district boundaries. The formal establishment of the commission will require voter approval. The Council will submit a ballot measure for the public’s consideration in 2018.

Though some work remains to be done before these changes are fully implemented, the framework adopted by the Council represents significant progress toward making Sacramento a more open and transparent government.

OCTOBER 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

Popcorn & Movie
1:30-3:30 p.m., Oct. 13. “Big Night”
\$1-3 donation

Book Club
11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., 2nd Monday
October 12: “The Invention of Wings”
by Sue Monk Kidd

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

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-Noon, Mondays (not 2nd Monday)

Fun Bridge
1-4 p.m., Thursdays

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

EVENTS

Wills & Estates
Legal Service of Northern California
9:30-11 a.m., Oct. 6, Free

Vial of Life Program
Indecare Corporation
9:30-11 a.m., Oct. 20, Free

AARP Driver Safety Course
9 a.m.-1 p.m., Oct. 19 & 20, Room 10
Fee: \$15 (AARP members);
\$20 (non-AARP members)
Jim Finnegan, 804-9777

Intro. to Garden Club
10–11 a.m. • Oct. 27

Senior Committee Meeting
3 p.m. Oct. 27

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Heritage Matters

City’s repairs aim to maintain authentic appearance of neighborhood streetlights

By Erik Fay
Viewpoint staff writer

Most of Curtis Park’s streetlights were installed in the mid to late 1920s. These historic beacons have endured 90 years of lead paint, extreme weather, territorial markings by dogs and bad drivers.

Now Sacramento is commencing a streetlight maintenance and infrastructure improvement project that will keep our lights operating, we hope, for another 80 to 100 years.

Work recently began on East Curtis Drive from Curtis Way to Seventh Avenue. Plans call for addressing each streetlight in the South Curtis Oaks subdivision, bounded by Donner Way, Franklin Boulevard, Sutterville Road and East Curtis Drive. Work should be completed in early spring of 2016.

Sompol Chatusripitak, senior engineer with the Department of Public Works, is excited about the project as it is a first for the city. The project area contains about 90 lights. Each one will be evaluated for stability, corrosion and stability. The bases of each light—designed in two distinct patterns—usually have the most structural wear and damage.

The underground infrastructure for each light will be evaluated and replaced as needed. The original conductors were often broken, and the lead conduits inspected, thus far, have been extensively corroded due to water and acids in the soil. Most



light poles are covered in lead paint, so the poles will be removed, stripped of old paint, repainted, and then reinstalled. Light poles badly damaged or dented by vehicles, or replaced in the past with an incorrect design, will be replaced by poles modeled in the late 1920s design.

One of the project’s challenges has been disassembling the poles without damaging the existing parts. As well, the original plans for the streetlights and their infrastructure do not always match what is currently found in place. This is due to post-1920s repairs and updates that were not documented or documents no longer exist, and this created a need to develop a new set of plans.

Fortunately, the company that made the original lights, Union Metal, still exists in Ohio. You can find the company’s plate, usually covered in paint, on the bases of some streetlights in the neighborhood. Union Metal supplied streetlights and their parts to cities across the country. Sacramento will be purchasing light poles and other parts, made from the original casting pieces, from Union Metal on an as-needed basis.

The city is trying to reduce the number of “collisions” between the streetlights and modern larger vehicles by moving some streetlights a foot or so away from corners and driveways. There are currently two streetlights side by side in some locations on East Curtis Drive which provide light



Photo/Erik Fay

Side by side are original and new light pole and pad.

from the new concrete pad while the refurbishment work is being completed on the original light. The city will reinstall the new or refurbished original light on the new concrete pad when the work is finished.

Neighborhoods and their hidden infrastructure change over the years. Our streetlights are a good example of what a city can do to build needed changes while remaining historically sensitive. Hopefully, this project will be a great success and serve as an example for other neighborhoods.

Trees in Curtis Park

Neighbor’s tree causing problems? What is the best approach?

By Dan Pskowski
Viewpoint staff writer

Our mature tree canopy is what makes Curtis Park one of the most livable neighborhoods in Sacramento. Trees reaching heights of 65 feet or greater with equivalent spread provide an abundance of shade, oxygen, and habitat for birds and other wildlife. Often, these large trees’ branches and roots extend into a neighbor’s yard. Concerns can range from a fallen limb damaging the roof to roots buckling the patio, garage floor, or concrete walkway. Also, there could be insect pests that cause sticky drip on your car or leaf litter clogging a swimming pool filter.

Prior to 1994, if a neighbor’s tree limbs or roots caused damage on your property, it was your right to cut them off at the property line without ever consulting your neighbor. Fortunately, a California Appellate Court ruling (Booska vs. Patel) changed California law. A neighbor is now required to act reasonably when pruning encroaching branches

or roots. Imagine having to remove a tree on your property because a neighbor compromised the tree’s stability or structural integrity by severing roots and/or branches?

Nowadays, the best approach is to speak with your neighbor, describe the problem you’re having with the tree and ask for written permission to take some remedial action. With large trees, however, permission should be contingent upon a qualified, professional arborist completing the work. This protects both parties because if a person cuts off the offending branches and/or roots and it damages the health or structure of the tree, they may be liable for three times the amount of damage done to the tree per Code of Civil Procedure Section 733.

Suppose the neighbor is intractable and doesn’t want to take care of the tree issue or give you permission to address the problem. There are some options: If branches/roots are damaging your home, possibly your homeowner’s insurance company would offer assistance to avoid paying on

a claim or the use of professional arbitration and mediation services to settle disputes. They charge a fee, but it’s less than the cost of going to court.

What about trees located on the property line?

This is addressed by CA Civil Code Section 834, Line Trees: “Trees whose trunks stand partly on the land of two or more coterminous owners, belong to them in common.” Therefore, both owners must be in agreement on the care or removal of the line trees. This is why arborists don’t recommend planting trees along the property line because they could eventually grow large enough to become line trees.

“California Arboriculture Law” is a publication that helps arborists and individuals understand California law and lawsuits that concern trees. The author is attorney Randall S. Stamen, who is also an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) certified arborist. It is a good reference to have on hand when there are concerns with a neighbor’s tree.

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COMMUNITY CORNER

Sierra 2 Elementary School class of 1952



Sierra Elementary School class of 1952, left to right, front row: Diana Bing, Linda Kaiser, Linda Lucot, Mary (Buddy) Stafford, Sandra Barr. Left to right, back row: John Richards, Frank Baumgartle, David Parent, Charles Jones.

Nine students from 1952’s Sierra School class visited Sierra 2 Center for a special reunion. They met in the Garden Room—originally the old teacher’s lounge—and then toured the former school sharing memories, changes and things that remained the same.

Diana Bing (Daves) eagerly took to the 24th

Theatre—the former auditorium—to recall where her acting career began. David Parent shared his student dog tags with the group. These were issued to the student body due to the Cold War and threat of nuclear attack. All in all, it was a great afternoon as the halls of the Sierra 2 Center were once again filled with student laughter.



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Pickleball comes to Curtis Park

Nearly 50 people showed up at the Curtis Park tennis courts Sept. 5 to find out about Pickleball. Played with a solid paddle and a Wiffle ball, the sport is catching hold in Sacramento, especially among older players. New, blue lines on the courts set the boundaries, and new tennis nets were installed with straps to lower the net to 34 inches. Several ambassadors of the game came to explain the rules and demonstrate the moves. For more information about the game and where to play, see www.usapa.org. Neighbor Vince Angell put a lot of effort into getting the game to Curtis Park.

Photo/Kathryn Beltrami



From Bret Harte Elementary School

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What’s going on with the patchwork repairs of our streets?

By Judy Scheible
Viewpoint editor

Curtis Park neighbors have asked many questions about the bumpy streets and the City’s paving schedule. Here are some answers from Gabriel Morales, operations general supervisor of public works, maintenance service division, for Sacramento City.

What can you tell us about the paving going on in our neighborhood?

Portions of Curtis Park are scheduled to receive a Cape Seal pavement treatment next summer. Ideally, this maintenance and preservation application is placed on streets about every 10 years. The street work going on now is part of the preparation needed before resurfacing can be done. This prep work includes repairing alligator type pavement cracking, smoothing the pavement for a better ride, and repairing the pavement upheaved by tree roots.

Why is the paving only in the middle of the streets or in small patches?

The pavement repairs and smoothing are taking place only where needed. When the work is only in the middle of the roadway, the street colors are mismatched between the new and the old pavement. The Cape Seal treatment next summer will provide complete cover and a uniform black appearance.

What is a Cape Seal? And how do we know that we’re getting the best type of treatment for our neighborhood?

A Cape Seal is a blend of asphalt cement, reclaimed tire rubber, certain additives and a one-size aggregate. The Cape Seal is a two-step application process. First, the asphalt-rubber membrane spray is applied over the road surface and covered with one-size aggregate rock, chip seal. It’s then left to cure for a few days. The final step is to apply a slurry seal to cover up the chip seal “aggregate material.”



The Cape Seal treatment next summer will provide complete cover and a uniform black appearance.

Photo/City of Sacramento

This is a cost-effective preventative maintenance procedure that extends the life of the street. City staff has developed material specifications to ensure that the contractors are placing a high-quality Cape Seal product.

How does the City make sure all of the problems in the streets have been patched?

After prep work is complete, City staff revisits each street to verify the repairs are complete and ready

for the final stage of the slurry seal application.

The new pavement is scheduled for next summer. Why the delay?

The Cape Seal treatments typically require warmer weather to adhere properly to the roadway. Preparation work is usually scheduled on streets during the fall and the Cape Seal is applied the following summer. For more information or clarification, contact Gabriel Morales, (916) 808-2289 or gmorales@cityofsacramento.org.

City gives homeowners options in water meter location

By Craig McCulloch
Viewpoint staff writer

Water meter installation and water main line replacement work is under way in the northern section of the Curtis Park neighborhood. This is roughly the area north of Donner Way to Second Avenue and between 21st Street and Franklin Boulevard.

In the southern portion of the neighborhood, installation of water meters and water lines is complete. In February 2015, the City Council approved a plan to speed up the installation of water meters. The goal is to complete water meter installation city-wide by 2020. Part of the cost savings and quicker installation result from changing the meter installation to front yards instead of in sidewalks. Some meters may be installed in the park strip between the sidewalk and the street.

The new installation policy allows a water meter placement “exception”



Photo/City of Sacramento

The new installation policy allows a water meter placement “exception” to put the meter in the sidewalk at an additional cost of \$400.

to put the meter in the sidewalk. The policy change came about as result of homeowner outcry against installing the meter into the lawn area and City approval of this alternative. If the meter is placed into the sidewalk, the homeowner must pay the additional \$400 cost.

This \$400 cost may be waived by

the City if there is a lack of easement, or the water service is located in the driveway (or fenced area), or in the case of certain encroachments in place that do not allow meters to be located within the landscape. These encroachments may be somewhat unusual.

Prior to making a payment,

the homeowner must contact the Department of Utilities at 808-5870 to inform the Project Manager of the intent to request meter installation in the sidewalk. The City will provide the forms and payment procedures. A homeowner who desires the sidewalk placement of the water meter must submit and complete the required city form by the deadline specified in the City’s letter. No action need be taken if the homeowner accepts locating the meter in the lawn next to the sidewalk.

A door hanger will be left at the house a week before construction begins. A second notice will be left 24 hours prior to water shut off. The water will be shut off a maximum of four hours for the installation of the meter and connection to the house.

For more information, go to www.cityofsacramento.org and search “water meters.” There is a recorded message about the project available at 808-5870.

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