

Design for shops in Crocker Village await review by City, neighbors

By Andrea Rosen
Viewpoint staff writer

In November, Petrovich Development Company submitted updated plans to the City for Site Plan and Design Review (Design) for two commercial components of Curtis Park Village (CPV). The shopping center, which was always planned for the southernmost portion of the railyard (DR 15-374), is already entitled and only requires the City's Design approval.

PDC is requesting approval for three commercial buildings with a total of 33,879 square feet. They would be on Crocker Drive between Sutterville Road and the "main street" and be constructed on the northern side of the shopping center and provide access to the parking lot. One of the buildings is on the parcel that was proposed for the fuel center (its conditional use permit was denied by the City Council in November 2015).

The other application, DR 16-329, is for construction of a 36,500-square-foot

At the polling place



Photo/Joan Cusick

Logan Leonhardt turns in his "ballot" to Eric Johnson. Curtis Park residents Sue Staats and Geoff Neill also worked at Poll A in Sierra 2 on Election Day (see how Curtis Park neighbors voted, page 6).

commercial building on approximately 4.7 acres of the Flex Zone at 2325 10th Ave. Since this latter building is in the Flex Zone, which was originally planned to be built out last, it requires City Council Design approval even though the commercial use proposed is an allowed use in the Flex Zone.

Designs for buildings 1, 2 and 3 of

the shopping center have been submitted to the City and are being reviewed by SCNA's Neighborhood Concerns Committee. Comments are due by Dec. 16; approval is expected in early 2017. Building designs for the larger planned grocery store on the west side of the shopping center have not been submitted

Please see Design plan, page 6

Holiday craft fair is Dec. 10 in Curtis Hall

At least 19 vendors are expected to show their handmade goods at the Holiday Craft Fair from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10 in Curtis Hall. Attendees can anticipate seeing jewelry, soaps, ceramics, fiber arts and décor.

The event will also feature food, drink and raffle prizes. The fair is a benefit for the Senior Center at Sierra 2.

For more information: 452-3005.

No Viewpoint in January

The Viewpoint staff is taking a holiday break. The next edition will be in February. The deadline for that one is Jan. 15.

Next First Friday is in February

There will be no First Friday in December or January. The popular dinner event is expected to return Feb. 7. For information, contact the Sierra 2 office, 452-3005.

Slow progress on resurfacing Curtis Park streets brings concerns

By Erik Fay,
Viewpoint staff writer

The resurfacing of Curtis Park's streets has been in progress since mid-October, and, as residents know, it's not done. But it is over for now. Delays were caused by heavy rain in October, and now temporary measures have been taken until work can resume in March, weather permitting.

In addition to the delays, neighbors have complained to the City about damage to their cars from the loose gravel and the sticky tar. Some people have complained about the quality of the work. Similar delays and complaints have occurred in Land Park.

Generally, the Curtis Park streets being resurfaced are south of Donner Way and on both sides of the park. The work is being done by Valley Slurry Seal

of West Sacramento. When it started in mid-October, the company said the project would take up to four days and would include scraping the existing street surface, applying a new surface, applying a cape seal to smooth the new surface, and then painting dividing lines and other symbols onto the street.

Unfortunately, the work continued into mid-November and then was halted until spring.

Please see Streets, page 5

My experience at the Asha Urban Bathhouse

By Rosanna Herber,
Viewpoint staff writer

Before visiting Asha Urban Baths, it's wise to visit its website to learn about the vibe and etiquette of a bathhouse: www.ashaurbanbaths.com. That's where I found tips on how to prepare for my visit. First, I needed to bring flip-flops, take a towel or rent one, and wear my bathing suit. Nudity or physical displays of affection among clients is prohibited. Electronic devices are also a no-no, so I left my cellphone in the locker. While conversations are encouraged in the pools, clients are asked to keep mum in the steam room and sauna. The website also shares information on how prevalent bathhouses are, especially in Japan, Russia and Korea.

When I arrived at Asha Urban Baths, just off Broadway at 2417 27th Street, I spoke briefly with the owner, Cori Martinez, about her vision for Asha Urban Baths and Yoga. (I didn't check out the yoga.)

"We wanted to create an urban

bathhouse where people can slow down, unplug and completely refresh themselves at a reasonable price," Martinez said. "This is an alternative to the quiet, meditative spa, in that we offer a community space where people can relax in the water and socialize if they want." Cori is married to Josh Martinez, son of Rudy and Becky Martinez of Fifth Avenue.

Preparing for my soaking experience, I changed into my bathing suit in a small locker room with four other women. While the room was adequate, I'd recommend adding more lockers and spreading them out, as it was difficult for all four of us to comfortably change at once.

Ready for the water, I stepped into the main part of the bathhouse that features the largest pool. The room has several windows, covered in white shades that invite natural light, but obscure the outside. The building style is minimalistic and simple. A few beautiful prints hang on interior halls, but the bathhouse spaces are bare and austere. Some

of the walls show the old, exposed brick from the original building, reframed in new wood. Other walls are covered with plain, white tiles or painted in a cool, blue-grey tone. The space exudes a feeling of simplicity and relaxation.

The spa pool takes up half the bathhouse. It is surrounded by four lounge chairs and three showering areas. I stopped at the first large, open shower, where clients are asked to clean off before entering the water. There were two complementary soaps provided—cucumber with mint and lavender-- both of which were surprisingly refreshing.

The temperature of the spa pool reminded me of my hot tub. It was about 103 degrees. I soaked comfortably in it for 15–20 minutes, where I had a nice conversation with



Photo/Will Carlton

Terrah Tillman of Marshall Way relaxes at Asha Urban Baths.

two women about bathhouses in San Francisco. Next I tried the "cold" pool, located in an adjoining room, but still visible from the spa pool.

This small, one person square pool is filled with "ice cold" water. I couldn't

Please see Baths, page 8

Notes from Nov. 2nd meeting

SCNA to treat park trees for Dutch elm disease next spring

Website project update

Executive Director **Terri Shettle** reported on the Website survey’s feedback regarding data priorities. So far, 120 people have responded. **Kate Van Buren** and **Bruce Pierini** may meet with Terri and **Heather Hogan** the week of Thanksgiving to review the data. Ease of navigation will take priority.

New member

The board unanimously voted **Andi Liebenbaum** onto the SCNA board. She lives on 28th Street and is a servant for two cats when she’s not working for the Judicial Council of California.

Membership meeting agenda

The annual membership meeting on Nov. 10 will include an election of board members and comments from the CEO of the Children’s Home and from the new principal at Bret Harte Elementary school. Eight people are on the ballot for SCNA board: **Lori Harder, Steffan Brown, Andrew Booth, Dan Pskowski, Larry Easterling, Joe Eschleman, Kate Van Buren** and **Eric Johnson**. The meeting will conclude with a social and beer, wine and cookies.

Strategic Plan

Andrea Rosen reported that the strategic plan’s main purpose is to focus on how SCNA will make decisions as a board, avoiding shiny objects and other distractions. Budget for the project is \$7,500.

There will be a neutral facilitator to direct the sessions and keep everyone on task. SCNA will focus on its mission, purpose, vision and values. The existing executive committee will head the effort. Terri and Andrea will refine emails to solicit vendors for a request for proposal. Board members can submit ideas to Andrea. The facilitator is expected to be chosen in early January.

President’s Report

Eric Johnson commented on the executive committee’s work regarding the executive director’s salary. He also confirmed new committee assignments.

Executive Director’s Report

Terri provided an update on McClatchy High School’s HISP and the Debate Club. A new executive director for the North Franklin Business Association, **Nathan Ulsh**, is excited to find ways to partner with SCNA.

Treasurer’s report

Jonathan LaTurner updated the board on behalf of **Joe Eschleman** and reviewed the balance sheet. In September SCNA paid for capital projects and insurance costs. A computer and workstation was added for new operations manager, **Terry O’Flaherty**. Next year’s projections look stable regarding the budget. SCNA will treat the Curtis Park trees

Next meeting

The next meeting of the SCNA Board will begin at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 4 in the Garden Room at Sierra 2.

next spring. NCC is to work on a campaign to fund the \$15,000 cost to treat the trees for Dutch elm disease.

Facilities

John Mathews reported that board member **Andrew Booth**, a licensed mechanical engineer, has already made suggestions regarding solar panels and other efficiencies. Raccoons have chewed through the roof near the chimney in Room 10, which caused a leak. Last year the cost to repair the damage was \$5,000. Traps have been set. The roof cannot be repaired until the raccoons are gone.

Development

Larry Easterling and Terri met and decided to move the annual Crab Feed to Thursday, Feb. 2 and to limit the number of guests to 150. Talks are under way with the Youth Academy for music at the event. There will be no First Friday in December or January. Some development ideas include Dog Days of Summer in June: beer and gourmet hot dogs with Front Street Animal Shelter partnering the event. Dogs would be welcome. Grateful Dog is a sponsor.

Home and Garden Tour

Event chairman **Lori Harder** reported that there are already three beautiful and diverse homes committed. The tour’s goal is five to seven homes. The tour is on April 29.

Neighborhood Concerns

Board member **Dan Pskowski** reported that an ad hoc committee was formed for the Portola Alley drainage issue. The Heritage Oaks consultant advised the fill violated the tree ordinance. Crocker Road oaks were not properly planted and will most likely need to be removed in 10 years. Sacramento Tree Advocates filed a CEQA lawsuit against the tree ordinance. An online survey from the City is taking suggestions from the community for projects in city parks. The survey deadline is Dec. 31. The City will see if grants can be obtained for the projects.

Senior Center

Angela Mia reported the annual appeal will go out in December this year. There will be a craft fair of various artisans and vendors from 9 a.m.–2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10. New Senior Center advocate **Deb Fountain** delivered the *Viewpoint* to Crocker Road and Curtis Park Court residents.

— Kate Van Buren, board secretary

How Curtis Park neighbors voted in November 2016

By Mike Scheible
Special to the Viewpoint

As usual Curtis Park neighbors were actively engaged in November’s election. In the Presidential race an overwhelming majority (81 percent) favored Hilary Clinton over Donald Trump (12 percent). In the Senate race Kamala Harris prevailed over Loretta Sanchez by 80 to 20 percent . Congresswoman Doris Matsui received 86 percent of the local vote in her successful bid for reelection.

On local measures Curtis Park strongly supported Measures B, G and L (one-half cent transportation tax, \$75 school parcel tax, and City Council Redistricting Commission). While Measure L was passed easily by City voters, both County funding measures, although favored by more than half of voters, failed to receive the required two-thirds majorities needed for passage.

SCNA area voters backed winning Propositions 51, 52, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 63, 64 and 67, and voted against losing Propositions

53, 60 and 65. (see table at right for votes on selected propositions). However, the local vote on two losing propositions, 61: Drug Price Limits and 62: Death Penalty Repeal, and one winning proposition, 66: Expedite Death Penalty, differed from the statewide votes. Propositions 61 and 62 were favored, respectively, by 53 and 71 percent of SCNA area voters, but were defeated statewide. Proposition 66 passed statewide but was opposed by 71 percent of SCNA area voters.

More details are provided in the table at right, and local vote percentages are compared to the countywide and, for propositions, statewide votes. Note that the final percentages may differ somewhat as ballot counting was not finished when this article was written Nov. 11.

Complete results, including precinct level tallies, are available at the Sacramento County election Website (www.elections.saccounty.net). (The “results by map” feature is most user friendly. The SCNA area has three voting precincts, identified as 44209, 44272 and 44346.)

November 2016 Election Results based on Vote Counting as of Nov. 11			
			County/ Statewide
Measure/Proposition #	In Curtis Park		Yes Vote Percents
	Yes	No	
B - ½ Cent Sales Tax (Failed - needed 2/3 vote)	72%	28%	52%
G - \$75 Parcel Tax (Failed - needed 2/3 vote)	70%	30%	64%
L - Council Redistricting Process (Passed)	68%	32%	63%
51 - School Bonds (Passed)	53%	47%	52%/52%
53 - Public Vote on Revenue Bonds (Failed)	32%	68%	52%/49%
54 - 72 Hour Wait on Before Votes (Passed)	58%	42%	64%/64%
55 - State Income Tax Extension (Passed)	78%	22%	63%/62%
56 - Cigarette Taxes (Passed)	77%	33%	63%/63%
57 - Parole Reform (Passed)	79%	21%	63%/64%
58 - Bilingual Education (Passed)	77%	23%	72%/73%
60 - Condom Requirements (Failed)	32%	68%	44%/46%
61 - Cap Drug Prices (Failed)	53%	47%	45%/46%
62 - Eliminate Death Penalty (Failed)	71%	29%	43%/46%
63 - Gun Ammo Restrictions (Passed)	78%	22%	57%/56%
64 - Recreational Marijuana (Passed)	67%	33%	53%/56%
66 - Expedite Death Penalty (Passed)	29%	71%	52%51%
67 - Affirm Statewide Plastic Bag Ban (Passed)	77%	23%	50%/52%

Officials celebrate bike lane project

Viewpoint staff

It wasn't quick and it wasn't cheap, but the bike lanes project for Freeport Boulevard is complete. City officials and community volunteers joined early on Nov. 18 to celebrate the \$2.3 million job, which included redesign of the street to slow traffic and make it safe for pedestrians to cross. The project stretched from Sutterville Road to Vallejo Way with some adjustments made on the traffic island just south of the train tracks.

The speakers from the City and volunteers, including Councilman Steve Hansen and McClatchy administrator Gino Dobrescu, reviewed the project's eight-year history and helped cut the red ribbon to officially open the lanes. City traffic designer Jennifer Donlon Wyant led a short bicycle parade.



Photo/Judy Scheible

Helping to cut the ribbon on the newly completed bike project are city councilman Steve Hansen, second from right, with city employees and volunteers.

Neighborhood angels

It's that time of year again, and the Sierra 2 lobby is festively decorated with the annual Angel Tree. Last year more than 200 angels were adopted by local residents and Sierra 2 visitors. The Salvation Army issued a Helping Hand Award to our community for outstanding service.

Sierra 2 hopes to beat last year's record by adopting 250 children for the holidays. Interested "Santas" can pick up one or more tags at the Sierra 2 Center. Each tag represents a specific child with the child's name, clothing size and gift wishes. Donors must register their tag on the log next to the tree and bring unwrapped gifts along with the tag to Sierra 2 by Dec. 8. Information: 452-3005.

What's new at Sierra 2

By Valerie Burrows
Facility Administrator

A multicultural celebration Dec. 3

United Nations Association Sacramento Chapter will hold its multicultural holiday potluck from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3 in Curtis Hall. Guests are asked to bring a dish to share from their ethnic heritage. Everyone is welcome. The United Nations Association is a membership organization dedicated to inform, inspire and mobilize the American people to support the ideals and vital work of the United Nations.

For information visit, www.unausasacramento.com.

Help plan the Tule Lake WWII National Monument

The National Park Service is seeking the public's review and comments on the general management plan and environmental assessment for the Tule Lake Unit of WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument. The meeting takes place from 1-3 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 7 in Room 10.

The plan provides long-term guidance for how the National Park Service will develop and manage the unit, and how the stories of the Japanese American incarceration during World War II will be told. This meeting is an opportunity to talk with park service staff and represent the "public review" stage

for the plan. All are welcome. The comment period is open until Feb. 10.

For more information and review the plan, visit: parkplanning.nps.gov/TuleLakeGMP.

Political collectibles pin down Sacramento

Button collectors, political junkies and armchair historians can delve into their passions at a show of political memorabilia and pop culture from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11 in Curtis Hall. The gathering will offer thousands of Americana items. Experts will provide free appraisals.

Admission is \$3; children and students are free. Children receive free buttons from various dealers.

The show is sponsored by the American Political Items Collectors. Information: Adam Gottlieb, 956-2030.

Reaching higher consciousness

Would you like to expand in health, wealth and love? Enjoy an evening with The Power of 10, a collective of 10 powerful souls who have moved beyond the life and death cycle, and Medium Michelle from 6-9 p.m. on Jan. 28 in Room 10.

Michelle Paisley Reed is a rare direct trance channel spirit medium. She recently completed a fourth book, "Rise: By the Power of 10."

Attendees need to bring a pen, journal and questions. Advance tickets are \$30; \$40 at the door.

For tickets and info, visit www.WeAreThePowerOf10.com/events.

Crab Feed on Feb. 2 supports children's music program

By Faith Johnstone
Events Coordinator

Sierra 2's annual Crab Feed will take place from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2 in Curtis Hall.

Tickets go on sale Dec. 1 at \$50 per person for unreserved seats. Tables can be reserved for groups of 8 at \$450. Tickets can be purchased at www.sierra2.org or at the Sierra 2 office.

The Feed includes plenty of green salad, penne pasta, bread, and delicious Dungeness crab, followed by

the popular Dessert Dash. Beer, wine and soft drinks will be available for purchase separately.

A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Sacramento Preparatory Music Academy, which will provide the entertainment. Sac Prep is a nonprofit that promotes lifelong learning in the music arts through group and private lessons, ensemble and public performances.



Little library draws many visitors

The Little Free Library on Fourth Ave near 22nd Street belongs to Diane Rosenblum and her husband, Henry Gordon. Henry built it and painted it to match their home. Their daughter's partner painted a beautiful picture on the back.

The little library has two shelves, one for grownup books and one for children's books. Diane and Henry, both librarians, have found that adults generally borrow one or two books and often bring a book to drop off. The children, however, often take



Photo/Diane Rosenblum

Little Free Library on 4th Ave is actively used.

up to three books and neither return them nor bring one to replace them. Diane suspects they just can't part with them.

"We're always short on children's books," Diane said.

Before he retired, Henry worked as a library teacher in K-12 education. Now he works part time at Cosumnes River College. Diane is a library teacher

at Valley High School. A library teacher has a teaching credential and collaborates with classroom teachers for lessons in literature, technology and research.

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DECEMBER 2016/JANUARY 2017 AT SIERRA 2

AT THE 24TH STREET THEATRE

DISNEY’S ALADDIN JR.
Young Actors Stage

Dec. 2-4
Showtimes: Fri, Dec 2, 7 p.m.; Sat, Dec 3, 11 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sun, Dec 4, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.
Tickets: \$12 adult; \$10 children (12 and under)
Information: www.youngactorsstage.com

Based on the animated film, “Disney’s Aladdin Jr.” production will send you soaring on a carpet ride with songs, romance and adventure. When the street urchin Aladdin vies for the attention of the beautiful princess Jasmine, he uses a genie’s magic power to become a prince to marry her. A musical adventure filled with magic, mayhem and the power of love.



The 7th annual Sacramento Wild and Scenic Film Festival on Tour
Environmental Council of Sacramento (ECOS)
Thursday, Dec. 8
Doors Open: 6 p.m., film: 6:30-9:30 p.m.
Tickets: \$15; limited amount at the door
Information: www.ecosacramento.net

This film festival stands out as one that inspires community members to make a difference locally and beyond. ECOS specially designs the Sacramento program to address issues that are relevant to our community, featuring short films that look at themes of water conservation, sustainable development and energy, food and agriculture, wildlife protection, environmental activism, and outdoor recreation. Event proceeds benefit the California Heartland Project. Also included are raffle prizes and a wonderful selection of photography and artwork up for silent auction.



Christmas in New York
Ovations Dance Studio
Showtimes: Friday, Dec. 9, 7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 10, 10 a.m. & 5 p.m.



Stars of Tomorrow
“A Winter Wonderland”
Showtime: Saturday, Dec. 10 at 2 p.m.
Tickets: (916) 966-8110
Information: www.ovationsdancestudio.com

Chamber Music concert
Camellia Symphony Orchestra
Jan. 22
Doors: 2:30 p.m.; Show: 3 p.m.
General admission: \$25
Tickets: Brownpapertickets.com
Information: (916) 929-6655
Web: camelliasymphony.org

ACTIVITIES AT SIERRA 2

DANCE
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 Folk Dancing
1st and 3rd Monday, 7-9 p.m., Studio 1
Liam Irish, 530-677-5549

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

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

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

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

Brazilian Dance
Friday, 7-8:30 p.m., Studio 2
Marta Santos, 833-9724

West African Dance class
Every other Sunday starting Oct. 9,
Noon-1:30 p.m., Studio 3
jessakaycruz@gmail.com

Kennelly Irish Dance Academy
Monday, 3:30-6:30 p.m., Studio 1
415-665-0554



Kalanjali: Dance of India
Saturday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Rooms 10 & 11
510-526-2183, katherine.kalanjali@gmail.com

Sacramento Academy of Ballet
Tuesday/Wednesday/ Thursday
4:15–6:30 p.m., Studio 1
Janelle Sebre, 971-0945

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 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

ART
Glass Mosaic Classes
Tuesday, Noon-3 p.m., Room 11
karensarp51@gmail.com

Watercolor class
Friday, 9 a.m.-noon, Room 11
Michael Mikolon, 730-9347

YOGA
Iyengar Yoga
Tuesday, 10-11 a.m. • Studio 1
Gladys Callander: 743-0246

CHILDREN
Capital City Music Together
Children 5 and under. For schedule:
Jennie Ribadeneira: 990-3222
www.capitalcitymusictogether.com

SPIRITUAL SERVICES
Bethlehem Baptist Church
2nd & 4th Sunday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Room 12
Pastor Benson, 230-8069

Sacramento Native American Believers Fellowship
Sunday, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Room 10
Lee Aviles, 203-6461

Baha'is
Call for schedule: 491-5871
sacamentobahais.org

Mustard Seed Faith Ministries
Sunday, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Room 9
Pastor Dorothy Hayes, 213-0901

Good Shepherd Parish
9:30-11 a.m., Sunday, Room 12
Mother Elizabeth English
502-6773, GoodShepherdCommunity.org

Empowerment Theological Seminary
Monday, 6-9:55 p.m., Room 9
308-7646
empowermenttheologicalseminary.com

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

Japanese Taiko drumming
Tuesday, 7-9:30 p.m., Studio 1
Kristy Oshiro, kristyoshiro.com

FITNESS
Fierce FUNK Dance Fitness
2nd & 4th Saturday, 10 a.m., Studio 2
\$5 at the door. All levels welcome
Jessica Brown, jnbrown23@gmail.com

Zumba with Toya & Linda
Monday/Wednesday, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Studio 2
LaToya Bufford, toybufford15@yahoo.com

Dancehall PowerUp
Thursday, 8:30-9:30 p.m., Studio 3
LaToya Bufford, toybufford15@yahoo.com

Motivational Aerobic Dance Exercise
Monday/Wednesday, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Studio 1 • Kia: keynorrisfitness@gmail.com

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

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

YouGotThis! Fitness
Easy 8s Dancercise
Thursday, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Studio 1
Shelly@yougotthisfitness.com

OTHER
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

Intro to Hooping & Hoop Meditation
Contact Riva for schedule
itsarivalution@gmail.com



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January workshops focus on creativity

Get Your Photos out of Chaos
Tuesday, Jan. 17 • 9–11:15 a.m.
Room 12

Back by popular demand, Judy Bujold of Captured Moments is offering two workshops that organize photos for projects like memory books. In this first workshop, participants will organize 200 photos and get at least 100 of them scanned and digitized. A box or bag of loose photos and a flash drive is needed; a laptop is optional. The fee is \$35 with advance registration. Attendance is limited to 10.

Memory Book Making
Jan. 24 & 31 • 9–11:15 a.m.
Room 12

After digitizing your favorite photos, create a beautiful photo memory book to share with friends. The Photo Memory Book Making is a two-day digital scrapbooking workshop. Judy will guide you through the steps of creating an album on Mixbooks.com. This class is limited to six and costs \$60 (\$55 if you register before Jan. 1). Advance registration is required.

Support for Grief and Loss
Fridays, Jan. 6 – Feb. 10
9:30–11 a.m.
Room 12

This free Grief and Loss Support Group allows people to explore loss in an open and caring environment while providing tools to manage grief. The support group is led by Susan Willis, the bereavement coordinator at Rx Hospice Care.

A Reason to Give this Season

Senior Center makes a difference in many lives

By Katie Byram, Program Coordinator

As coordinator of the Sierra 2 Senior Center, I schedule classes and events that are relevant to our community of older adults. Beyond these activities and classes, the real magic happens here when people gather and create a community. It’s their fellowship, support systems, and social connections that make the Senior Center special and keep people coming.

It’s been incredible to see the social bonds that have formed between old neighbors, new friends and even strangers at the Senior Center. I’ve witnessed seniors giving each other rides, people coming together to celebrate birthdays, and group emails filled with concern and support for others recovering from illness or medical

procedures. These individuals continually inspire with their advocacy for each other. What’s more, social and support networks found in organizations like ours enhance mental and physical health, provide a sense of belonging, and remind us why life is worth living.

This December, we are asking for financial support to keep the Senior Center buzzing with this positive energy. Contributions help us connect older adults to new instructors and experts, provide supplies for donation-based activities, and support outreach efforts. But, above all, your donations foster an environment of inspiration, motivation, and advocacy for the older adults in Curtis Park and the greater Sacramento community.

Donations can be made online at sierra2.org or in the Sierra 2 Center office. Your contribution is tax deductible.

Neighbors heard news of the Children’s Home, Bret Harte, SCNA’s strategic plan at annual meeting

About 40 neighbors at the annual membership meeting heard about changes at the Children’s Home on Sutterville Road, met the new principal for Bret Harte Elementary School and heard updates on what’s happening at the Sierra 2 Center. The Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association meets annually to elect its board members and keep neighbors current on the association’s finances and upkeep of the former school. Sierra 2’s executive director, Terri Shettle, talked about the center’s finances, its tenants, 14 staff members and plans for the upcoming year. Among them is the redesign of the www.sierra2.com website.

Bret Harte Principal James Tucker talked about the school’s science and technology program, its garden club and after-school sports programs for soccer and basketball.

Tucker also mentioned that neighbors interested in volunteering could consider its Reading Partners program.

SCNA President Eric Johnson detailed the association’s plan to develop a strategic plan for the next five years and reported on his experience at the procedural hearing at county courthouse on the Crocker Village plans. He mentioned that development Paul Petrovich had served more than 20 subpoenas on neighbors in his lawsuit against the city for its decision to revoke the permit for the proposal gas station.

President Johnson said the neighbors negotiated more time for comments on the recently submitted proposals for development of the Crocker Village development. The deadline is now Dec. 16.

All the current board members were re-elected along with two new members. They are Steffan Brown and Andi Liebenbaum.

The meeting concluded with a beer, wine and cookies social.

Streets: Loose gravel, sticky tar have damaged cars

(Continued from page one)

Residents on some streets have been caught in the in-between stage of resurfacing. Streets cannot be wet or full of leaves during the application of the new surface. So some neighbors have had their streets scraped, which results in loose gravel, but now have to wait for the resurfacing.

According to the City’s Public Works website, the only scheduled work for Curtis Park after Nov. 18 was sidewalk work on 24th Street between Coleman Way and Sutterville Road.

Comments from the city media person cleared up some confusion over newly painted street lines and bicycle images on streets that still have rough surfaces. She also told the *Viewpoint* that the seal applied on streets in Curtis Park is only a temporary seal and the paint at stops, speed humps,

etc. is also only temporary. Again, this is due to the weather. The streets have NOT received a final sweeping to pick up the gravel and tar pieces that are all over and rough. If the rain continues, a permanent seal and permanent paint markers would not be applied until March.

Questions regarding street resurfacing work can be addressed by calling the City of Sacramento’s Associate Civil Engineer for the street resurfacing project at 916 808–7035. Claims regarding tar residue on cars may be initiated by calling 916 373–1500.



DECEMBER/JANUARY
ACTIVITIES
**SIERRA 2
SENIOR CENTER**
Room 12 • 455-6339
seniorcenter@sierra2.org
Everyone is welcome.
Activities are free except where noted.
(Donations appreciated.)
**Note: The Senior Center
will be closed Dec. 22 to Jan. 2.**

FITNESS
Gentle Yoga
10–11 a.m., Wednesdays
\$10/drop in; \$30/4 classes
Pat Shaw: 856-0136

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

LEISURE
Book Club
11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., 2nd Monday
Dec. 12: “The Tsar of Love and Techno,”
by Anthony Marra
Jan. 9: “The Long Way Home”
by Louise Penny

Nonfiction Book Club
11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., 3rd Thursday
Dec. 15: “Dimestore: A Writer’s Life”
by Lee Smith
Jan. 19: “The Sea Around Us”
by Rachel Carson

Popcorn & Movie
1:30–3:30 p.m., 3rd Tuesday
Donation: \$1-3 (includes popcorn)

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

Everyone Can Drum
1–2 p.m., Tuesdays, Studio 1. \$5
Starting Jan: \$7/class; \$25/ month

Life History Writing
1–4 p.m., Wednesdays

Open Art Studio
Noon–3 p.m., Friday. Room 11

EDUCATION
Beginning Drawing
(No classes December–March)

CARDS & GAMES
Ginasta & Mahjong
9:30 a.m.–noon, Mondays

Fun Bridge
1–4 p.m., Thursdays

Pinocle
1–3 p.m., Fridays

WELLNESS PROGRAM
10-class punch card \$60; 5-class punch
card \$35; Drop-ins \$10
*Purchase cards in the Senior or
Sierra 2 Center offices*

Exercise with Allison
1–2:15 p.m., 2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesday,
Room 10

Healthy Back
4:30–5:30 p.m., Mondays, Room 9

Yoga + You
11:30–12:30 p.m., Wednesdays

Chair Massage
4–5 p.m., Mondays
Appointment only

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

Tai Chi
10:30–11:15 a.m., Mondays in Studio 3 and
Thursdays, Room 12

EVENTS
Potluck
Dec.: Noon –2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16
Jan.: Noon–2 p.m., Last Friday of the month

WORKSHOPS (details at top left)
Get Your Photos Out of Chaos Workshop
9–11:15 a.m., Jan. 17

Photo Memory Book Making Workshop
9–11:15 a.m., Jan. 24 & 31

Grief & Loss Support Group
9– 10:30 a.m., Jan. 6–Feb. 10. Free.



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Trees in Curtis Park

Tips on tree selection now, which is the ideal time to plant

By Dan Pskowski
Viewpoint staff writer

Winter is the optimal time for tree planting in Sacramento. The soil doesn't freeze and by planting now, the tree can develop new roots into the surrounding soil. These newly formed roots will help the young tree survive summer's scorching days.

Tree selection and placement are crucial considerations. These decisions should take more time than purchasing and planting the tree. Why? As an arborist, I see many young trees up to



Planting a tree now will help it to develop new roots easily.

15 years old requiring removal because of poor health or lack of adequate space for root and crown development. It's unfortunate because the tree is growing large enough to provide shade but will have to start over.

One suggestion in the decision-making process is to walk around your neighborhood to gather ideas about which tree species appeal to you. Look at how a particular tree will fit into your existing landscape. You'll also have a better idea about trees that are more adaptable to the soils in your area. Due to water restrictions, you may consider a drought tolerant tree like our native oaks, Chinese pistache, western redbud, and crape myrtle.

Once you decide on a few species, you need to determine if there is adequate space in your yard for these trees. Check for overhead wires, which are at the top of the utility pole above the yellow high voltage sign. If you have high voltage wires and are considering a large tree (45 feet and

taller), it should be planted at least 30 feet away from the overhead wires. Otherwise, select a small to medium stature tree that will grow less than 35 feet tall.

You must also locate underground utilities, i.e., water, sewer, and gas services to your home. Plant at least six feet away from any underground utility. If unsure where the underground utility services are located, call 811, the local one-call center which will transmit information to affected utility operators. This is a free service and recommended before any digging in your yard.

Finally, if you or your neighbors have solar panels on the roof, you don't want to be in the situation of constantly hiring an arborist to prune back the limbs.

For more information about trees that do well in Sacramento, visit the Sacramento Tree Foundation's SMUD shade tree list at www.sactree.com or the City of Sacramento's street tree planting list at cityofsacramento.org under the Public Works Department/Urban Forestry.

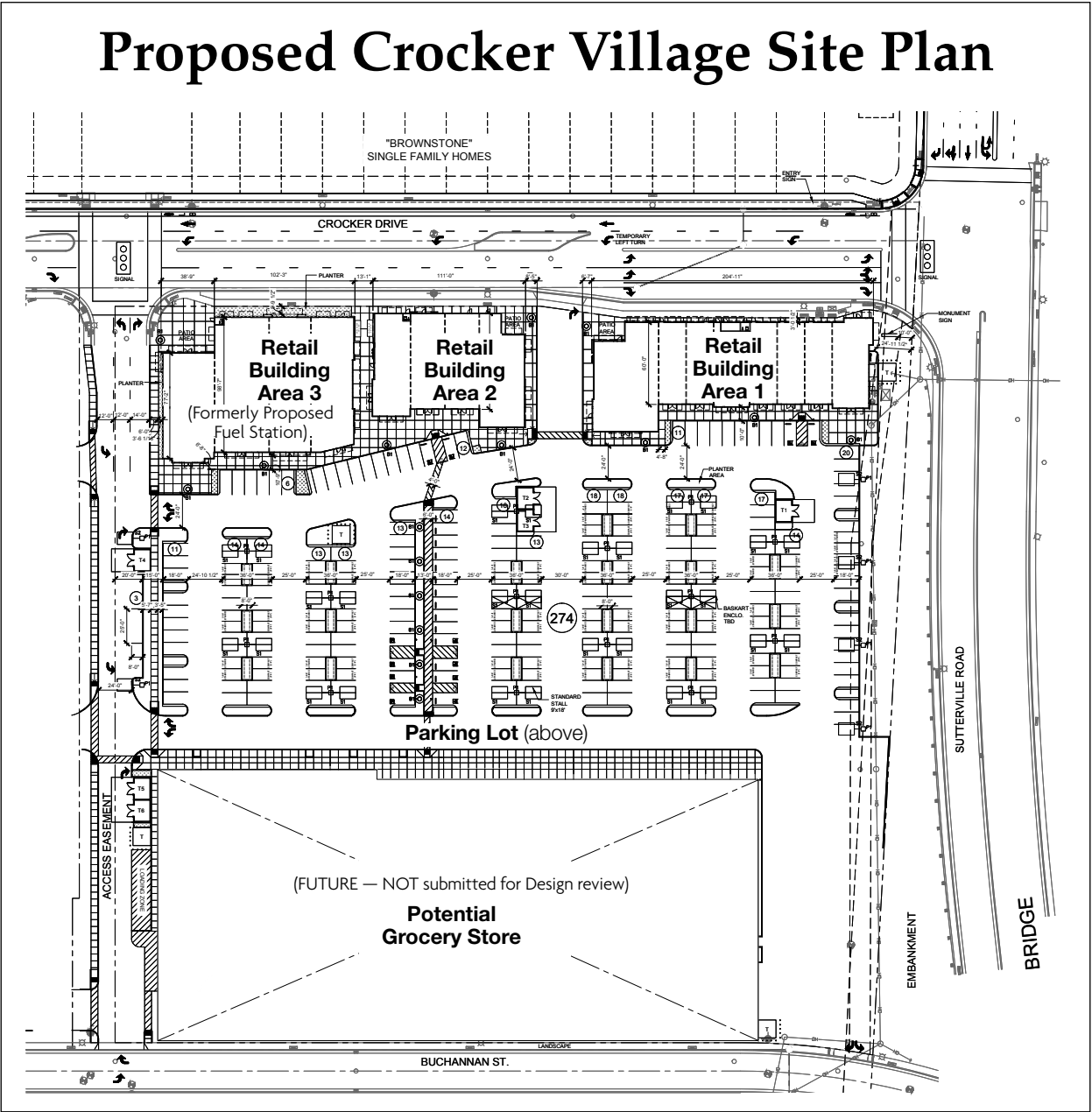
Design plan: Details can create an urban feel

(Continued from page one)
for Design review.

Buildings and adjacent space such as parking, walkways, landscaping and lighting must comply with the City's Curtis Park Village Planned Unit Development Guidelines (Resolution 2010-575 adopted Sept. 28, 2010) (Guidelines). SCNA spent hundreds of hours reviewing, commenting and negotiating these Guidelines before they were adopted. The Guidelines articulate a vision: "Curtis Park Village incorporates the values of new urbanism and smart growth, including walkable neighborhoods with tree-lined streets, pedestrian-scaled architecture and effective connections to surrounding communities."

Design details and the layout of parking and pedestrian walkways are critically important to creating an urban feel. These details can produce either a suburban center with corporate architecture or an urban-oriented, pedestrian-friendly shopping area. SCNA comments will urge application of the Guidelines to ensure that the City limit the number of parking spaces to what it requires and not more. Additional protected pedestrian walkways through the large parking lot are needed to increase pedestrian safety. Buildings should be oriented at the edge of pedestrian walks, and entrances from Crocker Drive should be added to avoid long stretches of flat blank walls. Real windows should be used and placed to make the buildings interesting. The proposed designs appear to have long stretches of plain walls facing Crocker Drive.

SCNA finds that the overall design is too suburban and does not comport with the Guidelines for a town center. SCNA is asking the City to require bike racks to be close to building entrances and that the designs of these racks be approved by the City's new Active Transportation Manager.





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Celebrating Bob Ralston's 90th birthday

Close to a dozen movie makers in the My Story Project celebrated Bob Ralston's 90th birthday on Halloween. The group also celebrated his wife, Carolyn's, Nov. 1 birthday; she is several years younger. The group enjoyed a Freeport Bakery cake without candles, to avoid setting off smoke detectors in Sierra 2.

The My Story Project has produced more than 60 videos of many neighbors' and community members' life stories. To start, clients work with a story coach to prepare their presentation for filming. The video is filmed in Sierra 2's Senior Center with lighting, two video cameras, and backdrops. The video editors weave family photos into the video and produce the DVDs with an

attractive cover photo.

Bob founded the My Story Project about six years ago, and he and Carolyn have been active participants. Carolyn is a story coach. She helps clients focus on the most important points of their story.

The Project started with an anonymous donor's gift to purchase the video cameras, Apple computer system, lights, DVDs, memory chips, and other equipment needed to begin the video productions. Classes were arranged to learn camera techniques, video editing, and coaching people on telling their life stories.

Bob, a proud WWII Navy veteran, continues to wear a vet's cap. After he finished his service, he worked as a nuclear physicist at Lawrence

Livermore Lab. He has educated the My Story team members in many aspects of videography involving physics, such as proper lighting techniques. He was also the "go-to" person for all aspects of using and maintaining the Apple Mac computer system.

Shortly before his 90th birthday, Bob announced his resignation from the My Story Project. The group filmed a tribute to his work. His expertise will be missed.

All the team members are retired and volunteer to provide this service for the community. For



Photo/Craig McCulloch

Bob founded the My Story Project, and has educated the team members in many aspects of videography.

more information about the My Story Project in order to arrange a filming, or volunteer to help in this program, call 455-6339. — Craig McCulloch

Holiday project seeks to help the homeless

For the last few years, Stacia Orr of Fourth Avenue has envisioned raising money to help the homeless here in Sacramento. Last year, she set her plan into action by launching a GoFundMe campaign to create care packages for people who may otherwise go without the basic necessities, which can be especially difficult during winter holiday season.

Last year's fundraising was very successful. Orr put together a total of 83 care packages and gave additional goods as well. Orr is conducting the GoFundMe campaign again this year and hopes to raise \$1,000. So far, Orr has received close to \$750 in donations, as well as the delivery of many items that will be included in the packages.

If you are interested in contributing to Orr's campaign, there

are several ways to help. Orr mentioned that donations made directly to her are preferable, as GoFundMe takes a percentage of each donation made through their site. If you would like to donate money or items directly to Orr, you can send them to her at 2730 Fourth Ave, Sacramento, CA 95818. Additionally, Orr's GoFundMe site is online at www.gofundme.com/homeless-care-packages-2wdr7tks. She distributes them to people at Loaves and Fishes. The wish list includes blankets, warm clothing, personal hygiene items and non-perishable food. — Ariel Calvert



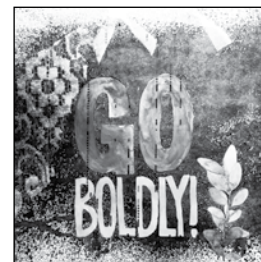
Stacia Orr with a care package.

Holiday pop-up shop Dec. 10 on Montgomery

It's a tongue-twister of an event name, but neighbors seeking art for holiday gifts may want to stop by Tenacious Goods, Heather Hogan's studio, from 4-8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10. The Handcrafted Holiday Gifts Art Pop Up Shop and Open Studio takes place at her Montgomery Way home. Equal part arts event, party and shopping opportunity, light refreshments are also provided.

Offered for sale are relief-printed housewares and wearables, cards and card-making sets, framed paintings, prints and mixed media collage art, cyanotype (sun prints) cards, totes and towels.

Heather's studio was part of the Curtis Park Art Walk last October. Her art reuses and repurposes materials in collage, relief-printed textiles,



Photos/Heather Hogan

Cards, gift bags, relief-printed housewares and wearables.

cyanotype, and assemblage art. Away from her home studio, Heather is an adjunct professor at Sacramento City College. She teaches web design and digital illustration. She also works on freelance design and website projects.

A 10-year Curtis Park resident, Heather shares her home with husband, Justin VanderMei, children Novella and Banyan, and Chongo, their Shepard mix.

Tenacious Goods Studio is at 3027 Montgomery Way. Information at www.tenaciousgoods.com.

— Susan MacCulloch

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Celebrating
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Bret Harte news

Movie Night holds promise of gifts for sick children

By Fayzah Mughal
Viewpoint staff writer

Get ready to “camp in” during the Kindness Action Team’s Movie Night beginning at 5 p.m. Dec. 1 in Bret Harte’s cafeteria. Bring your favorite blanket and pillow, cozy pajamas, a teddy bear, and maybe even a camp chair or two as you settle in for an evening of entertainment. While entry to the movie is free, donations are accepted. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

The student Kindness team, headed by Support Coordinator **Liz Sterba**, will use proceeds to buy gifts for hospitalized children at the UC Davis M.I.N.D. Institute. Individuals wishing to contribute to this effort may contact Elizabeth-Sterba@scusd.edu before Dec. 16.

Harvest Festival a “fruitful” endeavor

Thanks to the efforts of 3rd grade teacher **Karen Lim**, school custodian **Michelle Douglas**, and super-aide **Onethia Riley**, Bret Harte’s annual Harvest Festival was a smash hit. This annual FUNdraiser is designed to bolster classroom funds while providing a safe, entertaining environment for the community.

Localites who supported this event include Area Assistant Superintendent **Olga Simms** in partnership with the Sacramento Chapter of Latino Peace Officers, the Avid Reader bookstore and Sutterville Bicycle Company.

Bears take to the streets at the Capitol

The local non-profit Runnin’ for Rhett, named for **Randy and Beth Seever’s** son who passed away from cerebral palsy complications, offers twice-yearly downtown racing opportunities to participating schools. The Rhett Youth Fitness Program’s ultimate goal is to have



Photo courtesy of James Tucker

Runnin’ for Rhett student participants, volunteer coaches, and Principal James Tucker (far right) gather on Capitol Mall as students prepare to take flight on a 5K race course.

children “move into life” and “run because they CAN.”

Operated by volunteers at the school site, Rhett’s 5-week fall training period culminated Sunday, Nov. 6 with a 5K race on Capitol Mall. All our bear cubs put their best paws forward for the 3.1 mile run through the streets. They look forward to resuming training this spring, to be topped with another race at the Capitol in April.

Thanks go to Special Ed teacher **Karla Packwood**, **Janelle Monzano** of the UC Davis RIVER organization, and McClatchy High Track athlete **Sophia Deboer** for dedicating time and energy toward getting our students stronger and fitter this season.



Photo/Ted Richardson

Parent volunteer Juanita Ochoa, left, instructs children on game rules as Assistant Superintendent Olga Simms, right, observes.

Baths: Hot water offers a relaxing respite

(Continued from page one)

take the cold plunge for long, but when I exited, I felt invigorated like never before.

From there I entered the sauna. The hot, dry air made it hard to breathe, but the heat made my skin feel so soft. I moved on to the steam room, which was my favorite space. The air is hot and unbelievably wet. I enjoyed the warm drops of water that occasionally fell from the ceiling. It reminded me of the humidity I felt in a Costa Rican jungle last summer, only this was so much more pleasingly intense. I exited the steam room and showered before changing clothes to leave.

The visit to Asha Urban Baths left me relaxed and refreshed. The fee of \$25 was well worth the experience. I think the best deal is the \$100 package that includes an hour massage, with a visit to the bathhouse. Check out the website for price options for frequent visitors.

This is a unique and relaxing experience in a neighborhood setting. It’s likely to become very popular. Cori Martinez has certainly achieved her vision.

“The health benefits of water are incredible,” Martinez said. “It can relax muscles, relieve pain, and be very healing for stress.”

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