

1913 bungalow, Tudor homes highlight 32nd annual home tour

By Lori Harder

An original 1913 bungalow with rich interior woodwork and a seemingly endless front porch, and Tudor-style homes with gardens in full bloom, will highlight the 32nd annual Home and Garden Tour from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 28.

The Capitol A's Model A Ford Club will tour vintage cars throughout the neighborhood. For those touring via two wheels, bike racks will be provided.

The organizing committee is working to secure musicians and artists to enhance tour-goer



experiences in and around the homes. Food trucks, live acoustic music, displays, and tables and chairs will be at the north end of Curtis Park.

The home and garden tour is an important fundraiser for programs sponsored by the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association and the Sierra 2 Center.

Tickets are \$25 in advance (\$20 for SCNA members), and \$30 on tour day (\$25 for SCNA members). Your discount is a great reason to join SCNA. Tickets can be purchased at sierra2.org or at the Sierra 2 Center office.

Home Tour organizers are seeking volunteer docents to monitor homes for two-hour shifts, and



Photo/Rudy Calpo

This spacious brick Tudor will be on the home tour. In this picture, the big arched window creates a garden setting view.

volunteers to help setup or take down tables and chairs at the north end of Curtis Park. Volunteers may buy their home tour ticket for just \$10. Contact Lori Harder at 916 801-7189 or lorikoi@sbcglobal.net.

Consider supporting SCNA and this event by placing an ad in the tour program, starting at \$250. Contact SCNA Executive Director Terri Shettle at 916 452-3005 or by email at terri@sierra2.org.

Vigilant neighbors, targeted policing credited for decline in crime

By Erik Fay

Crime in Curtis Park has decreased by as much as 50 percent in some categories over the last six years.

Robbery, burglary, larceny and drug crimes are all down significantly from 2012 levels. Vandalism is the only major category that has not declined.

The Sacramento Police Department attributes the crime reduction to two key

factors: targeted coverage in our area, and vigilant neighbors alling the police

when they see suspicious activity or crime in progress.

Sgt. Vance Chandler, a police spokesman, underscored the benefits of neighbors reporting criminal activity. He said crime prevention and deterrence have been greatly aided by neighbors being in touch with the Police Department.

Neighbors can report crimes in progress or that have just occurred by calling 911. If you call 911 from your cell phone, the call will go to the California Highway Patrol, which will take your information and contact the Sacramento police dispatch desk. A call from a landline goes directly to the Sacramento police dispatch desk.

When you call, tell the person at the dispatch desk that you are in District 4. If you report a crime in progress, remain as calm as possible when providing details as your information will be more accurate for the dispatcher to relay to officers. You can call the

Please see Crime, page 3

Safety Q&A, page 2

Crime chart, page 3

Speaking French in the café? *Oui! Oui!*

By Bruce Pierini

Bonjour, avez-vous déjà visité la France?

The first rule of French conversation: You must say *Bonjour* or the social interaction that follows will be hobbled. The authors of “The Bonjour Effect: The Secret Codes of French Conversation Revealed,” wrote a book stressing this very important social custom, one which we Americans forget at our peril if we want a friendly, cooperative attitude in France.

The answer to “Have you visited France?” lets the several intermediate-level Francophiles around the table at the Cafe Dantorels know whether the newcomer is serious or not about speaking French. The answer often is, “Yes, I’ve visited there a long time ago.” *Oui, je l’ai visitée il y a longtemps.* This brings up another annoying French habit of not pronouncing half the letters in their words. *Longtemps* (long time ago)



Photo/Judy Harper

From left, Linda Sanchez (with Luna) of Rosemont, Bruce Pierini of 25th Street, Jim Anderson of Second Avenue, Mario La Schiazza of Gold River and Julia Connor of Second Avenue meet weekly to converse in French at Cafe Dantorels.

is pronounced “longton” with some kind of nasal mumble at the end, like you’re stifling a sneeze. The “mps” sound at the end is completely mute. It seems a French mystery until you think how thoroughly we hit every letter with English words, right?

We meet most Saturdays from 1 to 3 p.m. at Cafe Dantorels.

There are only a couple of rules. We agree with the values of *liberté, égalité, fraternité*. So, 1) do not dominate conversations—everyone has equal time to speak, and, 2) do not interrupt a speaker unless they’ve made a major error in grammar or vocabulary and only after waiting

Please see French, page 8

Vote by Mail ballots coming for June primary

By Craig McCulloch

For the upcoming June 5 primary election, Sacramento County will be a test county for the use of Vote by Mail ballots for all voters. A postcard was mailed to all registered voters in February describing the changes in voting.

The California Voters Choice Act became law in 2016 to make it more convenient for people to vote, increase voter participation in elections, and provide more voting options. All voters will receive a Vote by Mail ballot at the mailing address where they are registered to vote. The ballots will be mailed 29 days prior to the election. Note that election materials are not forwarded. The new law allows voters to mail in their ballot, vote 11 days early at a vote center, or use a secured ballot drop box to vote.

Recently, 64 percent of Sacramento County voters have voted by mail.

The voter registration deadline is 15 days prior to the election—May 21 for

Please see Vote, page 6

NOTES FROM FEB. 7TH MEETING

SCNA seeks to join in planning for walkable city

SCNA President Eric Johnson reported that Kim Tucker of Impact Foundry would have the strategic plan wrapped up in the spring. Board members were encouraged to meet with her to share thoughts and goals. Andi Liebenbaum volunteered to help finalize the plan. Eric encouraged board members to attend meetings of other organizations, such as the Greater Broadway District and Oak Park Neighborhood Association.

Cal Trans is doing a study to make Sacramento more walkable, with tentative plans for 2020. SCNA would like to be involved in the planning process while it is still being imagined.

Bruce Pierini read a statement he crafted to reach out to neighbors with specific strengths and skill sets to let them know they are needed. A volunteer coordinator who manages a database of people willing to work for specific events is a priority.

Jonathan LaTurner said the board should not become complacent when fundraising is needed, and should not depend on the SCNA reserve fund to cover deficits. An ad-hoc committee featuring a local

celebrity, along with board members and neighbors, was suggested as a way to meet the fundraising goal for theater repairs and upgrades.

Bruce will work with Angela Mia to spearhead priorities tied to goals from the strategic plan for Executive Director Terri Shettle’s yearly salary review and assessment. Bruce will contact committee chairs to ask for feedback regarding Terri’s performance.

Andrew Booth was nominated for chair of the Facilities Committee.

Treasurer’s report

Jonathan met with the Finance Committee. The expenses will show a difference in allocated funds. He is working on initiatives and will make a formal proposal at the next meeting. Andi suggested the financial information could be made more accessible and digestible for board members.

Facilities report

John Mathews gave a theater project update, including a new seat installation date. Advance tickets are available for events and volunteers are needed. An update was requested regarding the solar panels.

Next meeting

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

Neighborhood Concerns

John reported that a flex zone plan by the Crocker Village Senior Housing was submitted and withdrawn, showing commercial buildings in place of housing.

A Cops and Coffee meeting was proposed for Curtis Park. Land Park recently hosted a meeting with four officers and more than 35 neighbors. The officers circulated a crime density map for Land Park, which helped the residents voice their concerns.

The SCNA board will sponsor a Cops and Coffee meeting and will focus on neighborhood outreach before the event, including posts on nextdoor.com and other social media sites.

Volunteers will be needed for upcoming political forums and races.

An informational talk was suggested regarding the loss of the migratory songbirds when heritage

oaks were cut down for Crocker Village. The talk could take place before the home tour April 28, or possibly be a class for the Learnery.

Senior Center

Angela reported the annual appeal brought in more than \$2,500, a little less than last year. New formats for the open house, such as one free Friday a month, were suggested. The Hart Center will need to be consulted because it supplies grant money for the Senior Center. My Story Project needs volunteers with camera and computer skills. Board members were encouraged to ask friends and family to tell their stories.

Viewpoint

Bruce said he sent out requests to board members regarding Q&A’s. The neighborhood newspaper is looking for articles and writers, and the new editor, Dennis Cusick, is open to new ideas SCNA will be inviting him to board meetings to share his vision.

— Submitted by
Kate Van Buren, board secretary

Q&A
WITH THE SCNA BOARD

SCNA takes measures to address neighbors’ public safety concerns

What is SCNA doing about neighborhood safety?
—Bruce Pierini

SCNA Board Member John Mathews answers:

SCNA has conducted a number of public meetings in the past two years to discuss neighborhood safety concerns and explore solutions.

SCNA and Councilmember Jay Schenirer recently held a public discussion at Sierra 2 Center on neighborhood safety with Police Chief Daniel Hahn, Capt. Dave Peletta, Assistant City Manager Arturo Sanchez, and Sacramento Police Department Impact Team representatives.

SCNA held a neighborhood meeting with city traffic engineers to discuss how the neighbors can petition the city for traffic calming on their street.

SCNA held a meeting with neighbors to discuss hiring a private security company to patrol Curtis

Park streets. It was decided that it would be better for individual streets and areas of the neighborhood to hire their own private security.

SCNA and the Land Park Community Association co-sponsored a public meeting to discuss homelessness in Sacramento. Several representatives from the city and private organizations answered questions and discussed solutions.

SCNA will host a Cops and Coffee event in which city police officers will meet with neighbors to answer questions and address public safety concerns. The date is yet to be determined.

SCNA is still advocating for a safe pedestrian/bike path through Crocker Village to avoid future heavy traffic on Crocker Drive.

SCNA will work with the city’s Department of Parks and Recreation to fill in hazardous depressions and holes in William Curtis Park.

VIEWPOINT

Editors	Dennis Cusick Susan MacCulloch Ladi Youssefi
Production	Carol Blackman
Contributors	Valerie Burrows Katie Byram Carol Conti Erik Fay Leslie Goodbody Adrianna Gonzalez Rosanna Herber Eric Johnson Faith Johnstone John Mathews Craig McCulloch Bruce Pierini Dan Pskowski Judy Scheible Terri Shettle
Ad Manager	Fran Coletti
Distribution	Gerre Buehler
Photography	Rudy Calpo Will Carlton Joan Cusick Judy Harper

The *Viewpoint* appreciates neighbors who submit news about their babies, new neighbors, milestones and special events. This includes letters to the editor.

Please send to denniscusick52@gmail.com with *Viewpoint* in the subject field or call the Sierra 2 office at 452-3005.

Deadline for *Viewpoint* copy is the 15th of the month prior to publication.

SAVE THE DATE: MARCH 31

Be the Bunny—You know you want to

PAJAMA PARADE
9:30 a.m. top curve of Curtis Park

CRAFTS & PHOTOS
10 a.m. Curtis Hall at Sierra 2

EGG HUNT
10:30 a.m. at Sierra 2 Green
SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 2018

 SIERRA 2 CENTER
SIERRA CURTIS
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Join your neighbors for the Annual Spring Egg Hunt on March 31.

The SCNA board is looking to fill several key volunteer positions to help make this beloved event run smoothly: organize the group photo, lead the parade, dress as the Easter Bunny, help to hide or protect the eggs. To volunteer, call Faith at 916 452–3005.

To advertise in *Viewpoint*,
call Fran at 916 452–3005.

What's new at Sierra 2

Film shows rise of black businesses

By Valerie Burrows

Business in the Black,” a Strong Productions documentary film chronicling the rise of black businesses in America from the 1800s to 1960s, will be shown at 7 p.m. March 6 in Curtis Hall. Included are interviews with descendants of business owners, local historians and business owners. Highlighted are the names of black millionaires in the 1800s, accounts of slaves who bought their freedom and some who attended college, reports on what bigotry did to destroy black business districts, and

interviews with people whose family owned a business in the early 1900s. A reception starts at 6:30 p.m. with opening remarks about the history of black business in Sacramento and a question-and-answer session with the film’s producer, Anthony Brogdon. The film follows at 7 p.m. Admission is \$10 at the door or in advance at eventbrite.com. Advance tickets are suggested as seating is limited. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit businessintheblack.net.

Mobile phone photo workshop at the Learnery

By Katie Byram

Charr Crail lives and breathes creativity. From her pinky-reddish-orange hair, colorfully patterned eyewear, and her bright ensembles, Charr embodies the creative spirit she draws out in others.

A spontaneous decision to join the Sac City Express newspaper in college gave Charr her start as a photojournalist. She worked for various newspapers as a staff photographer and picture editor for 15 years before striking out to build her own business as a full-time freelance photographer. Charr’s newfound business was an instant success with on-location gigs as well as portrait work in her shared studio upstairs at Sierra 2 Center.

In recent years, Charr’s focus has shifted to teaching. Like her photojournalism career, teaching came into Charr’s life by happy accident, when a professional colleague asked her to teach a class on photojournalism at Cosumnes River College. She now teaches at Sacramento City College, as well as her own classes online and through the Learnery.



Photojournalist Charr Crail

Charr teaches classes that inspire students to create, regardless of experience or talent, like in her exploratory class “The Art of Doodling on Metal,” taught through the Learnery last fall. “Teaching art is my favorite but hardest subject because people don’t see themselves as creative,” Charr says. As an instructor, Charr applies a few simple truths to teaching: Art is everywhere, everyone is creative and just do it anyway. You can get creative with Charr in a number of classes coming up at the

Learnery in the Sierra 2 Center. The first is “Mobile Photography Made Easy,” from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. March 24. The cost is \$42. This three-hour workshop will explore photographic capabilities with a smart phone. It is perfect for anyone wanting to take better photos, edit on the go, or simply step up their Instagram game. The top photo editing apps will also be discussed. This class is for both iPhone and Android users. Learn more about the class at sierra2.org/thelearnery and follow Charr Crail’s creations at instagram.com/charrcrail.

Crime: Neighbors help by being ‘in touch’ with police

(Continued from page one)

non-emergency number of 916 264-5471 for crimes not in progress.

Curtis Park is in the Police Department’s District 4—not to be confused with the City Council District 5, which includes some of the same area. Our neighborhood is part of patrol area 4A, which also includes Land Park, Sacramento City College, Hollywood Park, Little Pocket and part of South Land Park. Police patrol areas 4B and 4C are neighborhoods to the south and southwest of Curtis Park.

The District 4 command office is at 5303 Franklin Blvd., just north of Fruitridge Road. The area commander is Capt. Alisa Buckley. She has two lieutenants who cover day-watch, one for mid-watch and one for late-watch. The phone number for the district office is 916 808-6001.

Curtis Park crime statistics
2012 to 2017—Jan. 1 to Aug. 31

Crimes	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Grand Total
Robbery	17	19	8	9	12	8	73
Assaults	31	35	23	25	30	25	169
Burglary	46	53	30	54	60	33	276
Larceny	97	48	68	74	58	57	402
Vehicle Burglary	59	40	23	50	38	36	246
Stolen Vehicle	36	15	17	10	19	15	112
Vandalism	27	24	22	26	31	28	158
Drugs	21	33	25	16	24	9	128
Grand Total	334	267	216	264	272	211	1564



These statistics provided by the Sacramento Police Department show crime has decreased over six years.

SCNA Board Member Spotlight
BRUCE PIERINI



Photo/Wayne Anderson

New vice president
sees neighborhood
as park-like dream

By Carol Conti

SCNA Vice President Bruce Pierini lives with his husband Wayne Anderson and their beloved cats on a friendly block of 25th Street where neighbors gather for progressive dinners and block parties.

Bruce moved to the neighborhood from Midtown more than 30 years ago. Bruce says Curtis Park is a “beautiful part of Sacramento, a dream, with a park-like atmosphere, varied architecture, and breathtaking streetscapes.”

Bruce was elected to the SCNA board three years ago. His primary interests were the Neighborhood Concerns Committee and the Curtis Park Village development. He also serves on the Executive Committee, the Neighborhood Concerns Committee and the Viewpoint Committee. He was recently elected vice president of the board.

Bruce is a longtime member of the Italian Cultural Society, one of Sierra 2’s original tenants. As a fluent Italian speaker, Bruce has organized a weekly group to meet and enjoy the language and culture of Italy. He authored a book, “Italians in Sacramento,” and has written for the Historical Society and The Sacramento Bee. He also organized a weekly group of French speakers (see Bruce’s story on front page).

Bruce was a professor of physical and cultural anthropology for more than 30 years at the Los Rios Community Colleges.

Bruce and Wayne take advantage of the oak trees and migratory songbird activity close to home while strolling the neighborhood. They travel extensively. Retirement is “good for the soul,” says Bruce.

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Richard@TwoRiversDanceCenter.com
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MARCH 2018 AT SIERRA 2

AT THE 24TH STREET THEATRE



SCHOOL DAZE MOVIE SING-A-LONG SHOW

March 3
Showtime: Doors open: 5:30 p.m./Movie: 6:15 p.m.
Cost: \$25 (includes light refreshments; props)
Tickets: eventbrite.com
Info: 916 206-0055 or sacramentoalumnaedst.org

Like musicals and dressing up, or just want a unique way to have a night of fun? Join Sacramento Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority's fundraising event in partnership with the Sacramento Delta Foundation. Watch the movie, reminiscence, laugh and be entertained as performers act and sing along to popular scenes from this critically acclaimed movie. Dress as your favorite character or in '80s or '90s attire.

Proceeds benefit college scholarships and other programs/activities hosted by Sacramento Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

LOVE & LAUGH HOUR

March 17
Showtime: 6 p.m.
Cost: \$25-\$50
Tickets: eventbrite.com
Info: kevonstage.com

This seminar is a live discussion on love, relationships and happiness. Based on the podcast "The Love Hour," Kevin and Melissa Fredericks, who started dating at age 16 and have been married 13 years, will talk about love in a new way. Couples young or old, married or seriously dating can learn from this seminar. The relationship game has changed with social media, DMs, and the Internet having shifted the playing field. Kevin and Melissa will help you navigate the ups and downs of your relationship in a fresh way.



AN EVENING OF MAGIC

March 24
Showtime: Doors: 6:30 p.m./Show: 7 p.m.
Cost: \$25
Tickets: eventbrite.com
Info: themagicianisin.com

Magician Nick Fedoroff will perform his unique brand of magical entertainment in this highly original and dazzling stage show. Hilarious one-liners, astonishing illusions, audience participation and occasional surprises are designed to amaze and delight. Fedoroff engages the audience from the minute he walks on stage, enhancing his magical expertise with storytelling, mentalism, brilliant improvisation and clever comic dialogue. His dynamic mix of skill and style—heightened by an impeccable sense of timing—deliver a fast-paced, high-energy show suited to audiences of all ages.



CAMINOS FLAMENCOS PRESENTS "BAILAHORA"

March 25
Showtime: Doors: 3:30 p.m./Show: 4 p.m.
Cost: VIP Gold Seating \$45 – Front-row seating with a signed poster by the artists
General Advance \$30/at the Door \$35
Tickets: brownpapertickets.com
Info: 510 910-2514 or caminosflamencos.com

Based in San Francisco, Caminos Flamencos is led by nationally recognized artists Emmy winner Yaelisa and musical director Jason McGuire "El Rubio." "BailaHora" is a special evening focused on the female in flamenco, the bailaora. The show is a journey revealing the nature of the woman in flamenco, her essence and her humanity.



ACTIVITIES AT SIERRA 2

DANCE

Adult Ballet
Two Rivers Dance Center
Mondays & Saturdays
richard@tworiversdancecenter.com

Heels & Sass Dance class
7:30-8:30 p.m., Thursdays, Studio 1
mzballerina@gmail.com

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

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

River City Taps – Adult Tap Dance
See Website for class schedules. Studio 1 & 3
www.rivercitytaps.com
richard@rivercitytaps.com

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

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

Sacramento Academy of Ballet
4:30-5:30 p.m., Tuesdays
5-6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Studio 1
Janelle Sebren, 971-0945

West African Dance
5 p.m., Saturdays, Studio 3. All ages
205-3970 or fenixdrumanddance.com

Adult Dance Fitness with a Twist!
March 16 & 23. Theme: '90s Night (Cardi B)
7:15-8:30 p.m., Studio 3
jdancemovement@gmail.com

Youth Majorette Dance Company
Modern majorette, cheer, hip hop, jazz
4-7 p.m., Sundays, Studio 2
Sactownmajorettes@gmail.com

FITNESS

Hot Hula Fitness
7-8 p.m. Fridays, Studio 2
OhanaFiit, 595-3765

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

Bellyfit®
Tuesdays, 2 p.m., Studio 2;
Randi Robinson-Snaer
randirobinson@mac.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., Studio 2
Sunday, 11-noon, Studio 2
Abraham Contreras, pakko.zumba@yahoo.com

Weight Watchers
Thursdays, 9 a.m., noon, 6 p.m.
Saturdays, 9 a.m. Room 10 . 800 374-9191

All Levels Pilates Mat Class
6:30 p.m., Thursdays, Studio 1
Lauren, 956-0876

Zumba Gold
Tuesday/Thursday, 4:45 p.m. (50-min. class)
richard@tworiversdancecenter.com

NEW: Stilettos with KG
Ages 18+
8:30 p.m., Wednesdays, Studio 3
krystal, kgstilettos@gmail.com

NEW: Performance in Heels
8:30-10 p.m., Tuesdays, Studio 3
Lotsarox Entertainment
Instagram: @lotsarox

SPIRITUAL SERVICES

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

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

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

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

True Life Ministries
Sundays, 2:45-4:15 p.m., Room 9
Pastor Grant Harper: 382-2885

OTHER

The Playground:
An Improv Community
7-9 p.m., Wednesdays, Room 9
betsaidalebron.com, 573-0301

Cochlear Community Meetings
6-8 p.m. 5/17, 8/16, 11/15, Curtis Hall
cochlear.com/US/events

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

NEW: Good Girlfriends Monthly Social
Last Tuesday, 7 p.m., Room 10
Eura, 573-0482

NEW: Floor Stretch & Conditioning
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Saturdays, Studio 1
Two Rivers Dance Center
richard@tworiversdancecenter.com

CHILDREN

Capital City Music Together
Children 5 and under. For schedule:
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

Japanese Taiko drumming
Tuesday, Studio 1 • Youth Ages 7+, 6-7 p.m.
Beginning Ages 9+, 7-8 p.m.
Intermediate, 8-9 p.m.
Kristy Oshiro, kristyoshiro.com

West African Drumming
4 p.m., Saturdays, Studio 3. All ages
205-3970 or fenixdrumanddance.com

MARTIAL ARTS

Eagle Claw Kung Fu Academy of Sacramento
Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m. Studio 2
Saturdays, 12:30-2 p.m., 441-7215

Sacramento Sword School
Martial Sword Arts of Europe
Thursdays, 6:15-8:15 p.m., Studio 2
Maestro Eric Myers: 276-2247

Unified Chinese Martial Arts
For schedule, email Shifu Byron at
Lohan36@sbcglobal.net

YOGA

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

ART

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

ADULT BALLET CLASSES

BALLET BASIC BALLET 1
FLOOR STRETCH & CONDITIONING
instructor: Katie Rogers
for information contact:
Richard@TwoRiversDanceCenter.com
class location: Sierra 2 Center

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Senior Center thrives with dedicated support staff

By Katie Byram

Upon first glance, the Sierra 2 Senior Center is a relatively small operation within the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association. But the Senior Center in Room 12 has a growing number of participants. In 2017, the center hosted 6,712 visits from older adults—up 1,214 from the previous year’s attendance record. In addition to the increased volume of senior participants, the Senior Center also programs high-quality events and activities. All this wouldn’t be possible without the wonderful support staff—a program assistant, a volunteer and an intern.

Charso Elliot is the program assistant overseeing daily operations by answering inquiries, tracking attendance and playing barista by keeping the urns full of freshly brewed coffee. Although Charso is relatively new to the position, she already feels at home in the Senior Center. “The participants here are nice and sociable,” Charso said. “Someone is always inviting me to join their class or potluck. I feel very comfortable and lucky to be working here.”

The program assistant position is part of the federally
Please see Senior Center, page 8



Photo/Katie Byram
Intern Kate Lauter, left, works with Program Assistant Charso Elliott in the Senior Center office.

SIERRA 2 SENIOR CENTER

Room 12 • 455-6339

seniorcenter@sierra2.org

A schedule of regular, ongoing activities can be found at the Sierra 2 Center or online at Sierra2.org. Below are new, special or updated events & activities.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

(Activities are free except where noted. Donations appreciated. All activities take place in Room 12 unless otherwise noted.)

LEISURE

BOOK CLUB

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., 2nd Monday

March 12: “The Little Paris Bookshop” by Nina George

April 9: “Commonwealth” by Ann Patchett

NONFICTION BOOK CLUB

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.,
3rd Thursday

March 15: “Drift: The Unmooring of American Military Power” by Rachel Maddow

April 19: “Thank You for Being Late: An Optimists’ Guide to Thriving in the Age of Accelerations” by Thomas Friedman

FILM CLUB

1:30–4 p.m., 3rd Tuesday

March 20: “Batteries Not Included” (1987)

EDUCATION

COMPUTER CLASSES

3rd Mondays (unless otherwise noted);
2–4 p.m. Room 12. Cost: \$20/class. Please sign up in advance; no laptop necessary.

March 19: Smartphones & Tablets/iPads

POTLUCK

Last Friday of each month, 12–2 p.m.

The Senior Center is open to all seniors (age 55 and up). It is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday in Room 12 of Sierra 2. The center provides opportunities to keep learning, exercise, meet new people and be actively involved with neighbors. Free (donations accepted) and fee-based classes and activities are on the calendar.

the LEARNERY

AT SIERRA 2 CENTER

Advance registration is required for all classes. Register by phone at 452-3005, in person at the Sierra 2 Center office or online at sierra2.org/thelearnery. To see a full list of classes and workshops, visit sierra2.org/thelearnery.

Hypertufa Garden Sculpture Class

Sculpt your own piece of garden art with Joe Triglia from Tufarock Design
Saturday, March 3,
2:30–3:30 p.m., \$25/person

Tango: Ballroom for Beginners

The fiery and sensual dance is also great for beginners
Saturdays, March 4–April 15 (Skipping March 18)
2–3 p.m., \$60/person or \$105/couple

Intro to Watercolors

Learn and perfect painting techniques with local artist Tonja Wilcox
Saturday, March 10, 3–5 p.m., \$35

Mobile Photography Made Easy

Take great photos and edit like a pro—all on your phone!
For story, see page 3.
Saturday, March 24,
10 a.m.–1 p.m., \$42/person

Embroidery 101 With Cate the Funmaker in the Sierra Art Parlor

Saturdays, March 24 & April 7, 11 a.m.–2 p.m., \$50/person
• Master basic embroidery techniques and stitches.
• Create a circular sampler and a tiny hoop project.
• Take home a reference book of stitches.
• Suitable for older children.



Cultivating Curious Minds with Classes and Workshops for All

IN THE DISTRICT

City programs address challenge of homelessness

We’re almost through winter, and things at the city are still moving along. I am pleased to share a quick update on what’s been happening citywide with regard to those experiencing homelessness — and how we are continuing to keep this issue at the forefront.

JAY
SCHENIRER

City
Council
Member
District 5



- Inclusive of the variety of partners needed to make a major impact; and
- Oriented to the needs of those we are trying to serve.

Site-based triage is essential to provide the opportunity to help move the homeless into more permanent housing solutions. The city’s first Winter Triage Center is at capacity. Many clients are ages 35 to 61

and have been homeless for more than one year. As of Feb. 14, the city’s outreach partners had enrolled 275 people into the Winter Triage Center and had found permanent housing for 17 people experiencing homelessness. The shelter is the first of its kind to be funded by the City of Sacramento.

We are moving forward on securing a location for a permanent year-round triage center, as well

as implementing the city’s \$64 million grant for Whole Person Care, now referred to as Pathways for Health+Home. In addition, last year’s partnership with Sacramento County identified \$44 million in mental health and substance abuse funds, which can directly support many of the people on the streets. We are leveraging more than 1,700 vouchers to get housing for the people most in need.

Because there is a need for creative thinking around increasing our housing supply, the mayor is exploring opportunities to invest in at least 1,000 new, efficient, small housing units (sometimes called “tiny homes”), which could relieve some of the housing pressures we’ve seen across the city.

We know this isn’t enough, but it’s movement in the right direction. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please be in touch.

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TREES OF CURTIS PARK

Now is the time to plant trees in your yard

By Dan Pskowski

Spring is almost here. That tree you’ve been thinking about planting needs to go in the ground now. Your tree will need to adjust to its new environment and develop roots into the surrounding soil. This will help the young tree survive summer’s scorching days. Winter is the optimal time for tree planting, although spring and fall are acceptable times to plant. Summer time should be avoided.

Tree selection and placement are crucial considerations. You don’t want to plant a tree only to have an arborist recommend removal 15 years later because of poor health or lack of adequate space for root and crown development.

Not sure what type of tree to plant? Walk around the neighborhood to discover which tree species appeals to you and how a particular tree will fit into your

landscape. You will also have a better idea of which tree species are adaptable to the soils in our neighborhood.

Give strong consideration to drought-tolerant trees such as our native oaks – valley oak, blue oak and interior live oak. Other drought-tolerant species include Chinese pistache, cork oak, western redbud and crape myrtle. Yet be aware that drought-tolerant species and lush green turf don’t go together, which is why the recently planted cork oaks along Crocker Drive are starting to lean and fall over.

Once narrowed down to a few species, you need to determine if there is adequate space in your yard. If you have high-voltage electrical wires overhead, select a small- to medium-stature tree that will mature at 35 feet or less. You must also locate underground utilities (water, sewer and gas services) to your home. If unsure where the underground utility services are buried, 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.

If you already have a large-canopy tree in your yard, consider planting an understory tree like the Japanese maple, dogwood or saucer magnolia. The flowers, fall color and screening effect add a nice accent to the landscape.

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

Sacramento is fortunate to have a climate that offers a palette of trees to fit almost every landscape situation. Let’s get planting.

Nextdoor
Trash accumulation draws neighbor complaints

By Craig McCulloch

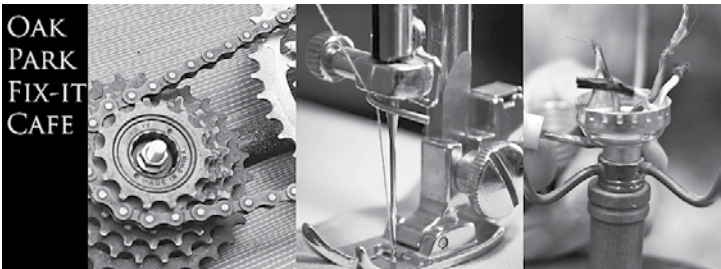
- Homeless encampments have drawn significant criticism recently on Nextdoor.com from neighbors with a focus on the lack of attention from city officials to clean up the large amounts of trash that accumulate nearby. One post protesting the amount of garbage drew about 40 responses and comments from neighbors around the city.
- The Oak Park neighborhood has set up the “Oak Park Fix-it Café,” described on the Facebook page as “a new community collaboration intended to help build and empower our community by connecting neighbors to repair and maintain bicycles, clothing, household items, and more.”
- Volunteers gather on the third Saturday of the month from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Oak Park United Methodist Church, 3600 Broadway. Additional

volunteers are sought to be open more often. More information is available at: <http://oakparkfixitcafe.us>.
• A Hollywood Park neighbor asked about interest in walking around Land Park and received about 40 responses. The group informally meets at the Land Park sign on Freeport Boulevard and Sutterville Road on several days at different times. You can find the times and days on Nextdoor when you read “nearby neighborhoods.”

Nextdoor.com is a free community-based social media site for neighbors to connect with each other and build a community. There are 2,070 members from Curtis Park.

Oak Park, Land Park and Hollywood Park residents also participate. Typical posts are about lost and found pets, crime reports, and neighbor recommendations for electricians, plumbers, roofers and handy-persons.

Fix-it Café in Oak Park connects neighbors to repair and maintain bicycles, clothing and household items.



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SACRAMENTO COUNTY

Vote: Deadline to register is May 21

(Continued from page one)
the June primary. You must re-register if you have moved, changed your name, or want to change your political party registration.

Voter registration can be done online at: sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/. Paper registration forms may be obtained by calling (800) 345-VOTE (8683) or contacting the Sacramento County Elections Department.

California voters may check their statewide registration status online at voterstatus.sos.ca.gov/.

Voting in person will be available at 78 vote centers countywide. Sixteen of these will be open 10 days early,

including two weekends and the Memorial Day holiday. All 78 vote centers will be open three days prior to the election and on Election Day.

The Sierra 2 Center will be a vote center for three days prior to the election and on Election Day.

A replacement ballot may be obtained at the vote center if it is destroyed, lost or an error was made.

Mail-in ballots must be postmarked on or before Election Day and received by the Elections Department no later than three days after the election. A pink envelope sent with the ballot package must be used to mail the ballot, which must be signed by the voter. Proper postage is required.

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Sac State student Tyffanie Wedding appointed to city housing commission

Curtis Park resident **Tyffanie E. Wedding** has been appointed to the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Commission by Mayor Darrell Steinberg.

Tyffanie is a women's studies major at Sacramento State University. She is a graduate of the Sacramento's District Attorney's Citizen's Academy. She has also done volunteer work as a crisis response advocate for WEAVE, where she currently works as an anti-trafficking case manager.

In 2017, she completed a fellowship with Black Women Organized for Political Action. Her research project in the fellowship was "Just One Time, Just One Night," which explored



Tyffanie Wedding

issues of domestic minor sex trafficking. Such community experience exposed her to issues experienced by women in crisis, including homelessness.

"It is my hope that I can bring awareness to the issue of homelessness in Sacramento and contribute to the commission's work by developing comprehensive solutions to this issue," Tyffanie said. "I hope that people come to understand that homelessness presents in many ways, and to solve the issue we must change how we respond to homelessness and the policies and programs we develop to combat it."

She plans to attend law school after she graduates from Sacramento State.

Flavor-of-the-month



Photo/Brad Realmuto

David Gonsalves won the flavor-of-the-month auction item at the Wine Tasting so that his son, Apollo, could create the flavor "S'mores." From left, above, are his family, Julianne, Eileen, David and Apollo, enjoying the new flavor.

Taking their time settling in

Tak and **Ladi Abe** moved to Sacramento from San Francisco in 2013 to be closer to family and friends. Tak "likes the slower paced, relaxed atmosphere here, especially for raising kids." Four years and two kids later, they decided they needed a larger home with a pool and room to grow. Both were drawn to Curtis Park by visiting friends on Third Avenue. So when two adjacent lots across the street hit the market, they pounced.

Ladi, Tak, 4-year-old daughter **Laleh**, and 2-year-old son **Omid** are taking their time settling in. After sprucing up the interior, they are now focused on planting a garden and making plans for the undeveloped lot. They are starting with a fairly clean slate after clearing all the ivy and dead and dying trees. Ladi has always wanted to have chickens, so a chicken coop is in the planning stages. And Omid and Laleh look forward to helping mom and dad create fun and imaginative play areas.



Ladi and Tak Abe

Photo/Nial Maloney

Both Tak and Ladi work out of their home. Ladi is a freelance copy editor; Tak is a personal chef and owner of Tak Cooks dinner party catering. While Tak specializes in a variety of cuisines, Ladi prefers his Japanese food.

—Leslie Goodbody



Ellen, 14 and Monica, 12, are on their Third Avenue porch with parents, DeeAnne and Keith McCallins.

Photo/Emma

A house with 'good bones'

Most visitors to a Third Avenue Open house last summer saw the place as a major fixer-upper. The McCallin family saw it differently. Having experience working on 100-year-old homes, **Keith McCallin** said, "the house has good bones with a bit of osteoporosis."

After moving from Salinas in 2014 and renting in the Pocket, Keith stumbled on Curtis Park during his bike commutes downtown. They were looking to buy a larger house, walking distance to schools and biking distance to downtown, and they found it.

Formerly a physician's assistant

at a family practice in Salinas, Keith is now a full-time single-payer health care activist. His wife, **DeeAnne**, is a program director at nonprofit CalHIPSO, and is in charge of helping health safety net providers get access electronic health records.

While living in the Pocket, the McCallins were also considering high school options for their two daughters, **Ellen**, 14, and **Monica**, 12. Ellen, who is now a freshman at McClatchy, attended California Middle School, making it an easy choice for her sister, who is in seventh grade now.

—Leslie Goodbody



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BRET HARTE NEWS

Neighbors invited for coffee with the principal

By Adrianna Gonzalez

You can join the next “Coffee with the Principal” session from 8:15 to 9:45 a.m. the last Friday of the month in the Parent Room. Attendees must first report to the front office. All parents and the surrounding community are invited to fill up a hot cup of coffee and engage in informal conversations about what’s going on at Bret Harte and the wonderful opportunities available to the students.

During these sessions, parents can expect to hear directly from Principal James Tucker regarding instructional programs, upcoming events and the latest news about the school. It’s a great opportunity for parents to ask questions and/or voice concerns about improving student academic achievement and share resources they can bring to the school. It’s also a great way to meet other parents. Bring your questions and enthusiasm and add your voice to the conversation.



Monthly mindfulness night

At the first Family Mindfulness and Movement Night last month, parents got a glimpse of what students have learned in the new mindfulness program this year.

Parents took part in a lesson similar to what the students have been experiencing in class with mindfulness instructor JoShanna Giannini.

The hour-long class consisted of an introduction to breath and beginner yoga poses. Parents learned about the benefits of being mindful as well as self-regulation tools and skills for children and adults.

The Family Mindfulness and Movement Night will be a regular monthly event. Bret Harte is inviting all families in the surrounding community for the next session, which will be from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. Wednesday, March 7 in the multi-use room. Personal yoga mats are encouraged but not necessary. This is a free event.



Principal James Tucker invites community for coffee from 8:15 to 9:45 a.m. the last Friday of the month.

Senior Center: Intern wants to build relationships by talking and listening

(Continued from page 5)

funded Senior Community Service Employment Program that helps older workers find jobs and update their skills.

On Fridays, the Senior Center is fortunate to have volunteer A.J. McClinton on-site to work with the pinochle players and the talented seniors of the Open Art Studio. A.J. has undertaken the monthly potlucks, infusing the social activity with fun themes, games and even an “upcycled fashion show” with looks from local thrift stores. A.J. first found the Senior Center when

she was exploring her volunteer options. “Society places more focus on helping youth rather than seniors... so I decided to donate time and services to help seniors,” A.J. said. She is a welcome face in the Senior Center, bringing treats to the potlucks and providing rides home to those who need them, all because “the seniors are like family.”

The newest addition is Kate Lauter, a gerontology intern from Sacramento State University. Kate’s close bond and friendship with her grandfather sparked a curiosity and affinity for older adults and her pursuit

of a gerontology degree. Her internship goals are to familiarize herself with the inner workings of the Senior Center and develop an activity for her community project. Kate hopes to “build relationships with adults at the Senior Center through program development but also by simply talking and listening.”

As the Senior Center progresses and evolves, it does so in the hands of people who have a genuine passion for the community it serves. Please stop by the Senior Center to become better acquainted with the staff who support it.



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SIERRA 2 CENTER
FOR THE ARTS & COMMUNITY

French: Neighbors enjoy chatting in the *belle langue*

(Continued from page one)

until the speaker finishes their phrase or idea. Other than that, it’s pretty free-form and flowing depending on who shows up. There are about three to four regulars and it suits us since everyone gets a chance at *la pratique*.

A retired professor joins a psychotherapist, dental hygienist, poet, actor-director and the occasional former French professor for two hours on the 24th Street side of Dantorels. Most of us have been students at Sacramento Alliance Française, now moved to the Clara Center for the Performing Arts (the old, remodeled Fremont School at 24th and N streets). We also welcome advanced and native speakers, *bien sûr!*

Then there’s our friend Mario, a native speaker from Montreal. He is an enthusiastic and competent French speaker—we’re thrilled to have him in the group—but his delivery is in *Québécois*, the dialect that is definitely not what

you’d hear in Paris, or even in the south of France.

Le Cercle participants are mostly in our 50s and 60s. We in Le Cercle are happy to plod on with conversations in the *belle langue* and invite neighbors and friends (who are at least at the intermediate level or higher) to join us. We don’t feel bad because our native French Skype pals tell us they often have difficulty, especially with written French. Nobody in the group, save the occasional *professeur*, deludes themselves they’ll ever speak elegant French.

That would be *trop!* (Too much!)

If you can’t be in Paris for the spring, at least you can feel a little bit of the magic of the language during our conversations. Come and introduce yourself. We will resume on March 31. Please send any questions to me at brucepierini@gmail.com with “French Conversation” in the subject line.

Au revoir!

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