

Trees of Curtis Park

Tree branches may fall in summer heat

By Dan Pskowski

It's late afternoon on a hot summer day with the temperature hovering above 95 degrees and you're outside on the porch enjoying a cold drink. Suddenly you hear a popping sound like firecrackers in the distance, then a loud crack and a branch from a tree in your yard comes crashing down.

What's so unnerving about this branch failure is there was no wind, it was calm day, and the limb that just fell is green and full of foliage.

If you have lived in Sacramento for any period of time, you are familiar with this phenomenon arborists describe as summer branch drop. This is not just a local problem but occurs throughout California and has been reported from New York to Texas, in addition to Australia, England, and South Africa.

Why does it occur and what are the causes?

Temperatures above 95 degrees are a key factor. Branches that drop are usually more horizontal than vertical and extend to the edge of the tree crown. The break occurs most often out on the limb some distance from its attachment. They can be as small as five inches in diameter and 15 feet long or as large as 30 inches in diameter and 45 feet long.

Branch failure patterns are species specific. For example, summer branch drop for American liquidambars is linked with how many of the spiky seed balls the tree produces. When there are no defects in the wood caused by decay, weak branch attachment or cracks, the main cause for failure is excessive weight due to the spiky balls. This excessive amount of fruit is directly related to the weather.

During spring, liquidambars bud out and produce a small

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Photo/Dan Pskowski

This healthy fallen limb on Donner Way was due to internal cracks that may have been caused by heavy winter storms. Summer heat can dry out the wood along the crack, and the limb falls.



Photo/John Mathews

Hope Harris, at right, photographs a Front Street Shelter cat, "Gigi," with the help of Marsha Menzel.

Hope Harris' photos save lives of shelter cats

By John Mathews

Every Tuesday for the past seven years, Curtis Park neighbor and professional photographer Hope Harris has loaded up her cameras, headed to the Front Street Animal Shelter and photographed cats for adoption.

Her photos are posted to the shelter's Facebook page, where cat lovers interested in a new furry friend can view the portraits. Her charming pictures have helped increase adoption numbers to 80 percent of the shelter's cats.

At a recent session, Hope took photos of 16 cats, including three young kittens that shelter volunteer Marsha Menzel has bottle fed since infancy. Hope uses various backdrops, costume jewelry and accessories to playfully enhance the setting.

"Hope Harris is a lifesaving photographer," says Gina Knepp, Front Street's Animal Care Services manager. "Her passion for animals teems in her work. We credit Hope with saving thousands of cats with her extraordinary photography, bringing life,

Please see Photos, Page 12

Neighborhood voters give strong support to Schenirer

By Mike Scheible

Curtis Park voters were actively engaged in the June primary election. Of most interest was the race for City Council District 5, which incumbent Councilmember Jay Schenirer appears to have won.

With more than two-thirds of the votes counted, Schenirer had 55 percent of the District 5 vote, to 36 percent for Tamika L'Ecluse and 7 percent for Joseph Barry. If Schenirer maintains at least 50 percent of the final vote, plus one vote, he will win the seat.

Schenirer's greatest concentration of support in the district was in Precinct 44274, including part of Curtis Park, in which he won 72 percent of the vote.

L'Ecluse, a former president of the Oak Park Neighborhood Association, received her greatest concentration of support in Precinct 45015, including part of Oak Park, in which she won 65 percent of the vote.

In the governor's race, 40 percent of Curtis

Park residents favored Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom. State Treasurer John Chiang was second with 22 percent, former Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa was third with 14 percent and businessman John Cox was fourth with 11 percent.

In the U.S. Senate race, incumbent Sen. Dianne Feinstein prevailed in Curtis Park with 57 percent, compared with 20 percent for the second-place finisher, state Sen. Kevin de Leon.

Curtis Park voters strongly backed winning Propositions 68, 69, 71 and 72, and voted against losing Proposition 70.

The final percentages may vary somewhat as ballot counting was not finished by mid-June. Countywide, approximately 77,000 ballots (29 percent) remained to be counted. Voter turnout was about 36 percent in the county.

Up-to-date results, including precinct tallies, can be found at the Sacramento County election website, <http://sacresults.totalvote.com>. The "results by map" feature is most user-friendly. Curtis Park has three voting precincts — 44209, 44274 and 44346.

SCNA survey seeks neighbors' interests

A one-page survey seeking to give the SCNA board an updated picture of neighborhood interests and needs has been inserted into this issue of *Viewpoint*.

SCNA is in the final stage of adopting a 10-year strategic plan. Neighbors' feedback will provide invaluable information and perspectives on how the board should adapt to meet evolving community needs.

The SCNA Development Committee is conducting the survey with a \$500 grant from the city.

Completed survey forms should be submitted by July 31. They may be sent to SCNA by U.S. mail or dropped off at the Sierra 2 office. The survey also may be taken online at the web address indicated on the survey form.

SCNA requests that only one survey be submitted per household. — Bruce Pierini

Notes from June 6th meeting

SCNA is considering new format for annual wine tasting

Executive Director Terri Shettle reported the Oct. 6 wine tasting event needs a reboot. A smaller, more intimate event is being imagined, along with elegant culinary samples and a possible sit-down dinner underneath tents.

The fiscal year 2018-19 budget is being finalized but the strategic plan is still evolving, which may affect the second to fourth quarters. We will continue with normal operations at the Sierra 2 Center during the first quarter, discussing issues and updating as needed.

The Sierra 2 Center submitted an application for a SMUD Shine grant with a June 24 deadline. Sacramento County Economic Development Group is also accepting applications for grants addressing community-based projects from \$10,000 to \$100,000. Heather Hogan is leading the grant-writing process.

Terri and her staff are discussing building capacity. The Learnery is growing and needs a dedicated space, which may involve moving some tenants to other spaces.

A new steel sculpture will be

Next meeting

The next regular meeting of the SCNA Board will begin at 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 11 in the Garden Room at Sierra 2.

installed in the courtyard, with native plants to attract butterflies. The sculpture will be finished in August, and the planting will be finished in September. A creative economy grant will finance the project, which is intended to repopulate Curtis Park's butterflies.

In Alliance, a nonprofit working with adults with disabilities, will be cleaning glass and doing janitorial duties at the Sierra 2 Center.

Treasurer

Jonathan LaTurner reported income from the Sierra 2 Center is strong, but donations have been down. There are no major changes to the balance sheet. Money still needs to come in to pay for theater improvements. So far, only \$45,000

has been raised. Theater seats are still available to sponsor. There will be an award sale in July to sell the old theater seats. Heather Hogan will "outdoor proof" a sample seat so the public can imagine the different uses for these historic seats.

Neighborhood Concerns

Dan Pskowski reported that an aerial inspection of the elms in Curtis Park will not be available until the fall. The inspection was requested because the health of the trees should be confirmed before expensive treatments are applied. Five trees will be treated in July. Fourth Avenue residents contacted the committee when commercial trucks started using the street as a pass-through, damaging the tree canopy. A sign restricting commercial trucks has been requested.

Dan reported roadwork triggered the city to swiftly prune trees so contractors' trucks could park on the streets. However, it is not the right time to prune elm trees, because not only could pruning damage the trees, but could attract beetles. Contractors were asked to drive carefully around

lower branches instead. Urban Forestry is updating the tree inventory.

Crocker Village's plan for 83 paseo homes has been approved, but the city did not include the pedestrian pathway from the homes to the commercial area that SCNA, the developer and city planners agreed upon in 2010. The new homes will have their own HOA unless they merge with the one that has already been formed.

Senior Center

Angela Mia reported attendance was up 21 percent from May. Popular teacher Tara Stiles came back for one class. The Women's Friendship group has 27 people. The Free Fridays open house brought in 61 people. Pilates with Lauren is still one of the most popular classes. A group that plays bridge has been meeting at Sierra 2 temporarily. Teachers are still needed for the skills workshops.

— Submitted by
Kate Van Buren, board secretary

President's message

Flying a flag attracts new acquaintances from afar

I love flags. My mother made homemade banners for birthdays, Christmas, Easter, Halloween... you name it. Although I didn't inherit her craftiness, I definitely feel a little thrill when I see something colorful snapping and whipping in front of our house.

The other day, I had our Mexican flag flying proudly. The back-story is each member of our family has a flag: I'm Norway, Lara is Slovakia, Marc is Great Britain and Chance is Ireland. So they get their flag on their birthday, or other special occasions. Katie had just returned from her freshman year at college, so the green, white and red tricolor of Mexico was flying high.

My uncle and I were chatting around the Weber grill – he's visiting from Austin so his son could join Chance at City College baseball camp – and two women I'd never seen before ambled up the driveway.

"We just wanted to say we admired your flag. Is it because of the World Cup victory over Germany?"

I informed them it's just a happy coincidence and they laughed: "But wasn't it a heck of a game?"

We chatted a bit more, and it turns out I was speaking with Mexico's consul general in Sacramento.

ERIC
JOHNSON
SCNA
Board
President



Liliana Ferrer moved to Curtis Park last year, and she was taking a turn around the neighborhood with her mother, who was visiting from Mexico. Ferrer graduated from Del Campo High School when her father was consul general, and she's following in his footsteps.

We chatted a little about fútbol, a little about the weather, and a little about nothing in particular.

They went their merry way, and we returned to our grilling. It was a perfect Curtis Park capstone to a fine Curtis Park day. I'd already walked with the kids over to Crocker Village to see the earth movers, popped into an open house hosted by an SCNA board member, chatted to a woman on Marshall Way about her in-full-swing front yard redesign, and picked up some discount socks from a Portola Way couple who are getting out of the sock business. Apparently, there's not a lot of margin on socks, not even purple, black and pink ones.

I've returned to this theme over and over again during my tenure writing this column, and it seems to be nigh inexhaustible: Curtis Park is an amazing neighborhood that never ceases to surprise me with new experiences, fascinating people and simple pleasures.

Republic of Curtis Park indeed: Maybe we should get our own flag?

No August Viewpoint

There will be no Viewpoint in August. The volunteer staff will take July off. The deadline for copy for the September issue is Aug. 15.

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

VIEWPOINT

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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 916 452-3005.

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

What's new at Sierra 2

By Valerie Burrows

Art show fundraiser

Join My Sister's House and friends for the Art with a Heart fundraiser, an evening of art, good food, wine and cheese, and good company from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. July 11 in Curtis Hall. All proceeds will benefit victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking.

Art with a Heart supports My Sister's House Women to Work program, which provides legal assistance, help with employment and immigration and case management to more than 300 survivors of domestic and sexual violence, and human trafficking annually.

Tickets are \$25 before July 7 and \$35 after. Purchase tickets at My Sister's Café, 455 Capitol Mall, Suite 110, or online at artwithaheart.brownpapertickets.com.

Beautify your yard

Students will learn about exterior-grade tile backer boards suitable to hang in outdoor environments at the Yard Art Mosaics Workshop from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 29 in Room 11.

Participants will cut shapes, rig for hanging, finish edges, and begin mosaics if time allows. The class focus is to learn how to make exterior-worthy mosaic bases of varying shapes (flowers, suns, bees, birds, words, etc.). By the end of the day, students will have an 18-by-18-inch substrate ready to take home to start or finish a mosaic.

The workshop price is \$100 plus \$40 materials fee. To register, send an email to instructor Susan Crocenzi at susan@scmosaics.com. For additional workshop information, visit scmosaics.com.

Yoga for sleep, healing

A 30-hour Yoga Nidra teacher training takes place from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 22 to 25 in Room 9. Students will learn to teach Yoga Nidra to others, as well as how to bring this service to their community and professions. The training is ideal for nurses, yoga teachers, healthcare professionals, therapists, energy healers, trauma specialists or anyone seeking to facilitate healing and reduce stress with mindful practice.

No prerequisite is required. Continuing education credits are available for nurses and yoga teachers from the California College of Ayurveda. The fee for all four days is \$795, payable online or in person. To register, visit yoganidrawellness.com. Contact instructor Alexis Crook with any questions via email at amcrook88@gmail.com or at 916 531-0312.

Q&A

WITH THE SCNA BOARD

Does SCNA still need help from volunteers?

“Because the Sierra 2 Center has a larger staff than in the past, is SCNA’s need for volunteers less? How do people become involved as volunteers? Which activities need volunteers’ help? How much time is involved?”

—Bruce Pierini

SCNA Board member Lori Harder answers:

Increased staff has resulted in a better-kept facility that is buzzing with activity – rehearsals, shows, classes, meetings and special events. Social media keeps us connected, but for staff that requires maintaining the Sierra 2/SCNA website, Facebook page and email management (planning, marketing, writing, photography, responsiveness, maintenance).

In the past, volunteers organized most of SCNA's annual events. Over time volunteers moved on to other interests, leaving staff to support and manage all of the projects and social media. The SCNA board and Sierra 2 staff have been reluctant to scale back

or cancel activities, so staffing needs and costs have increased.

Key activities needing volunteer support are our two big annual fundraisers – the Home and Garden Tour in spring, and the Curtis Park Wine Tasting, Silent Auction & Beer Garden event in the fall. These two events depend on volunteer committee structures to take on a variety of planning and coordination tasks. The annual Easter Egg Hunt, Curtis Fest Artisan Festival and Music in the Park concerts also need volunteer support for set-up and teardown and to direct the activities and provide information.

People can volunteer as little or as much as they want. Some volunteer as little as two hours annually. Committee involvement is usually more specialized and project-based with a variety of skills and expertise required.

One thing is for sure – the SCNA board and Sierra 2 staff very much appreciate the efforts of all of the invaluable volunteers.

Jahari Sai Quartet is set to perform in summer concert series July 29



- Concert Calendar**
- **July 29: Jahari Sai Quartet**
 - **Aug. 26: On Air** (after Curtis Fest) 6-8 p.m. • **William Curtis Park**

face painting. Councilmember Jay Schenirer will dish out free Gunther's ice cream.

These free summer concerts are held the last Saturday of the month in William Curtis Park from 6 to 8 p.m.

Neighborhood favorite On Air will wrap up the Music in the Park season with their classic rock band and sizzling horn section from 6 to 8 p.m. Aug. 26 following Curtis Fest. This premier Sacramento group has been entertaining audiences for nearly four decades. It provides a great way to close the Music in the Park concert series each summer.

Music in the Park is sponsored by SAFE Credit Union, TowerPoint Wealth and SMUD.



On Air, a neighborhood favorite, will close the summer concerts with their upbeat classic rock music and rousing horn section.

Music in the Park will have two more free summer concerts in William Curtis Park, from 6 to 8 p.m. July 29 and Aug. 26. Neighbors can grab a blanket and low-back chairs and enjoy fun-filled evenings suitable for the whole family.

The Jahari Sai Quartet will perform July 29 with a fusion of musical styles from bossa to pop, jazz to rock, funk to blues. Mr. Cooper will open the show with dancing songs for the kids. Cook Realty will provide



Chocolate Fish owners take different approach to coffee

By Erik Fay

Chocolate Fish Coffee Roasters quietly opened its third location June 11 at Freeport Boulevard and Vallejo Way, expanding on the vision of owners Edie and Andy Baker to serve great coffee in a friendly social environment where staff are approachable and highly knowledgeable about the coffee they serve.

The Bakers lived in New Zealand for eight years. Andy is a New Zealand native and Edie was a nurse who previously lived in Sacramento for five years. They loved the New Zealand style of coffee roasting and the culture at local coffee bars. The first Chocolate Fish Coffee Roasters location opened in 2008 at Third and Q streets.

The couple had not actively sought out the newest location, at 2940A Freeport Blvd. A customer who knew it would be available recommended the space to them. The Bakers thought it was a great location as soon as they saw it, but also knew it would take much



Chocolate Fish customers enjoy coffee and conversation beside a mural painted by Glenn Blomfield from New Zealand.

Photos/Joan Cusick

new systems to support a serving area, kitchen and bathrooms. The Bakers also hired and trained new staff.

“Our success is about who we’ve hired,” Edie told the Sacramento Business Journal, which honored her in June in the annual “Women Who Mean Business” issue. “The people talking to customers are the most



Barista Jason Renda replenishes coffee beans at the new Chocolate Fish Coffee location on Freeport.

work turning the former lawn mower shop into what they envisioned.

Ultimately, it took two years to get from that point to the opening. Edie described the overall process as having “lots of little hurdles.” They gutted the building, which required extensive upgrades with all

important part of your business.”

Among the things you instantly notice about the Freeport Boulevard space are the floor-to-ceiling windows on the east and south sides. These windows bring the sidewalk, trees and sunlight in with you.

New Zealand artist Glenn Blomfield, a friend of Andy, painted two beautiful wall murals. One is a New Zealand beach scene, the other a rural farming scene. Blomfield visited Sacramento for a week to complete the murals. Look closely at the rural scene and you will see Molly, the Bakers’ late Springer Spaniel, in the landscape.

Chocolate Fish Coffee Roasters recently placed second overall, out of 940 competitors, in the Golden Bean North America roasters competition.

The Freeport Boulevard location differs from the other two Chocolate Fish sites as it will serve beer and wine and will have menu items such as a charcuterie plate, salads, and bread and olive oils. Starting in July, the cafe will stay open until 8 p.m.

Taylor’s co-owner hopes to host Butchers’ Challenge

By Judy Scheible

For Danny Johnson, co-owner of Taylor’s Market, competing in the World Butchers’ Challenge was just the beginning. Now he’s after a bigger prize—hosting the challenge in Sacramento in 2020. He’s competing against Paris and possibly other cities.

“I’ve already booked the Golden 1 Center,” Johnson told *Viewpoint*.

Working with him on the project is Mike Testa, president and CEO of Visit Sacramento. Testa expects to show several scouts around Sacramento when they come to check out the city’s potential. Testa would not say when or how many other cities are in the running.

Johnson led the U.S. team of six, including Taylor’s butcher Paul Carras, to the competition in March in Belfast, North Ireland. It was the first time the United States competed. Although Team USA did not win in any category, the team placed sixth overall of 12 teams and second of eight first-time competitors. In the latter category, Team USA was behind Ireland, which won the top team prize.

Johnson said his principal goals were to have fun and learn from the other butchers. He did both. Customers can anticipate new display techniques and

value-added products like kebabs.

“It was an eye-opening experience,” Carras said. “I enjoyed competing against other butchers. ... I was really impressed by a Bulgarian butcher, a breaker/boner who left almost no meat on his butchered bones.”

Johnson said his favorite moment occurred at the start of the competition when the Sacramento contingent of about 40 joined the other American fans to repeatedly yell, “Team USA.” Among those yelling was Curtis Park neighbor Tina Thomas of Coleman Way.



Photo/Marina Sousa

Danny Johnson, left, surprises Paul Carras with a quick kiss during the World Butchers’ Challenge in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Once the competition started, each team had three hours and 15 minutes to butcher half a beef, half a hog, a whole lamb and five chickens. In addition, they had to prepare the butchered meats for counter display. And they had to accomplish their tasks in the midst of chaos and loud music.

Taking the team to Belfast involved plenty of fundraising. Overall the team raised \$80,000 for the trip, but team members still had to dig into their own pockets.



Photo/Paul Carras

Judges evaluated how well the butchers displayed their products.

Feathered friends make 25th Street home

New neighbors live by laws of the wild

By Bruce Pierini

The neighborhood has been abuzz with talk of the new neighbors who in March moved into an “apartment” 50 feet up in a front yard sycamore. A pair of Cooper’s hawks had built a nest—though credit goes mostly to the male whose job it is to not only build the nest but also provide food for his family.

The pair’s characteristic staccato hehehehehehehe could be heard as they searched the area for small birds. And then one spring day I looked up and saw a hawk devouring a mourning dove atop a large valley oak.

As spring went on, neighbors brought out binoculars, exchanged news of sightings or behavior at dinner parties, and went to the “bird bible” — The Cornell Lab of Ornithology complete with birdcalls.

We were all stumped. Were there hatchlings? The bonded pair were supposed to keep quiet when fledglings were in the nest so as not to alert any potential predators. But the birds continued their repertory of calls. Also, there were no telltale signs of scattered bird-prey carcasses.

Cooper’s hawks fly above the tree canopy and then dive-bomb through the trees, taking small

birds. We could see the male, smaller than the female, glide gracefully through the huge oaks. Then nothing. No sightings. Silence. Were they gone? And suddenly we spotted the three downy off-white nestlings, with gold and black coloration on their heads, peering over the edge of the nest, waiting for daddy to deliver the next meal.

Cooper’s hawks are fairly common in urban and suburban neighborhoods. After I posted an announcement of the fledglings on Nextdoor.com, I received many responses including a few cautionary tales: woeful accounts of cats, squirrels, rats, chickens and even dogs taken or injured by a Cooper’s hawk attack.

Natural predation is hidden, much less dramatic and of a vastly miniaturized scale on city streets, but, as in the wilds, food is food.

But we earnestly don’t want Bella, our dear calico cat, to become our new neighbors’ daily meal as they reign over the skies of lovely Curtis Park.



Mama Cooper’s hawk watches from a branch above the nest.



The two fledglings await food from Papa.

Photos/Will Carlton

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Fun for the whole family

Curtis Fest is set for Aug. 26

The 12th Annual Curtis Fest will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 26 in William Curtis Park. The event will feature more than 60 artisans under the beautiful canopy of trees in the park.

Curtis Fest has gained popularity over the years as a Sacramento favorite, bringing many premier artists to join the lineup this year. This free event is open to the public and includes food from Masa Guiseria Taco Truck, Kado’s Asian Grill, Culinerdy pan-global cuisine and Cowtown Creamery.

Music will be provided with jazzy tunes from John Merriman, along with other live music throughout the day. An expanded petting zoo returns this year as well as a climbing station. There will other entertainment and a magic show by the children’s fairy.

Curtis Fest will be followed by Music in the Park from 6 to 8 p.m.

—Heather Hogan

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Thursday, July 12; 6:30-8:30 p.m., Room 9, \$10/person

Let's Dance: Foxtrot

Grab a partner and learn Foxtrot, an all-American dance from the 1910s.

Sunday, July 15; 2-3:30 p.m. Studio 3, \$25/couple

Etiquette Tea for Grandma & Me

Proper table etiquette never goes out of style. Youngsters 5 to 10 are invited to this fun tea with The Novel Tea.

Sunday, July 15; 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Garden Room, \$30/person; \$50/1 adult & child

Sew & Sip: Beginner's Sewing Class

Bring your sewing machine and we'll grab coffee and craft a cute tote bag with instructor Rebecca Huval.


Saturday, July 28, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Room 12, \$50/person

Wine Talk & Taste with Kip Wiley

Learn about wine from the perspective of a wine grape grower (21+ only).

Saturday, July 21 2-3:30 p.m. Room 12; \$40/person

Led by Kip Wiley of Shooting Star Vineyards. Taste three reds, a white and a rosé.



For August classes, visit Sierra2.org

Cultivating Curious Minds with Classes and Workshops for All

Zumba toning class joins wellness lineup

By Katie Byram

The Senior Center has added a cardio toning class to its schedule with Zumba Toning, a new class led by instructor Kelly Pineda. This class aims to help older adults improve cardiovascular health and muscle tone with fun, upbeat music and light weights.

Unlike a traditional Zumba class with fast-paced choreography and nonstop movement, this class has a focus on toning. Zumba Toning is at 2 p.m. Fridays in Studio 3. There is a \$10 drop-in fee, or punch cards may be purchased in the Sierra 2 Center office.

Kelly hails from El Salvador and has been dancing to Latin rhythms all her life. She has taught Zumba classes for more than seven years. She is also

a wellness coach with a passion for healthy living. Kelly also teaches senior-gear Zumba classes at the Hart Senior Center in Midtown.

Free Friday in August

The next Free Friday will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday Aug. 17 in multiple rooms at the Sierra 2 Center. In addition to the regularly scheduled classes Pilates with Lauren, Open Art Studio and the new Zumba Toning, guests can look forward to a handful of special activities. The unofficial theme is “the more you know” as many of the activities are education-based.

Guests at Free Friday can get their computer and smart phone questions answered in Tech Talk, hosted by A Leap Ahead IT instructors Bill Prevost and Sean Harris. Cate Schmiedt, Sierra 2

Center’s resident fun-maker in the Sierra Art Parlor, will lead an interactive art activity.

And, Sacramento Public Library’s James Scott is back for another historical talk, about Gold Rush saloon culture, complete with an ice cream bar. This event is supported by an Ethel Hart Mutual Endowment Fund grant. A detailed schedule of activities can be found online at sierra2.org or at the Senior Center.

Free Fridays help expand our reach into the senior community so more people can benefit from the low-cost and free activities and social groups that enrich lives.

The first event on May 18 was a success with about 60 attendees. The last Free Friday event in 2018 will be Nov. 16.

Curtis Park is full of arts for Open Studios Tour 2018

By Heather Hogan

Our neighborhood will be celebrating the arts from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the weekend of Sept. 8-9. Hop on your bike or strap on sandals to view paintings, ceramics, photography, pyrography, textiles, book arts, cyanotype, upcycled crafts and more. The experience promises to get hands-on creative.

Stop #1: Corner of Franklin Boulevard and Fifth Avenue

Take a peek inside Satterlee Photodesign Studios where accomplished artists and longtime Curtis Park residents and business owners share their work and discuss techniques.

Artists include:

- Sandy Whetstone, ceramic sculptor and printmaker, with work at Sparrow Gallery, Crocker Museum Store and the Pence Gallery store.
- Jennifer Beckman who most recently

Rachel Kern of Oli and Baz will show her art in the Garden Room at Sierra 2.

showcased her paintings at the Curtis Park home and garden tour.

- Don Satterlee, a professional photographer with work in the rooms of the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco.
- Jill Esteroff, a painter whose work has graced the cover of Inside the City several times.

Stop #2: The Sierra Art Parlor at 24th Street and Castro Way

Catch up with Cate the Fun-maker at the Sierra Art Parlor (next to Sierra 2 Center) at her arts and crafts studio dedicated to empowering everyone through the acts of creation, exploration and FUN.

Check out their equipment, memberships, classes/workshops, and family events in drawing, encaustic painting, printmaking, bookbinding, collage and assemblage, paper craft, textile arts, sewing, leathercraft, jewelry making and more.

Stop #3: Sierra 2 Garden Room

Hosting artists who are unable to open their studios, Sierra 2 Center will present various arts demos all day long.

Try ice dye, cyanotype (sun printing), learn some watercolor, painting, and alcohol ink tricks, discover pyrography (burning wood to form images), craft a book from a single

SIERRA 2

SENIOR CENTER

Room 12 • 916 455-6339

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

July 9: “Manhattan Beach” by Jennifer Egan

Aug. 13: “True Colors” by Kristen Hannah

Sept. 10: “The Scribe of Siena” by Melodie Winawer

NONFICTION BOOK CLUB

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., 3rd Thursday

July 19: “And Their Children after Them: The Legacy of ‘Let Us Now Praise Famous Men’” by Dale Maharidge and Michael Williamson

Aug. 16: “Havanas in Camelot: Personal Essays” by William Styron

Sept. 20: “The Widow Clicquot: The Story of a Champagne Empire and the Woman Who Ruled It” by Tillar Mazzeo

FILM CLUB

1:30-4 p.m., 3rd Tuesday

July 17: “Wild Target” (2010)

Aug. 12: “North by Northwest” (1959)

WOMEN'S FRIENDSHIP GROUP

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 2nd and 4th Wednesday, Room 11.

All women are welcome.

EDUCATION

Senior-to-Senior: Learn to Play Mahjong

10-11 a.m. Monday, July 23, Room 12

Cost: Free; RSVP at 916.452-3005 x208

FITNESS (Wellness Program)

Monthly Guided Meditation

11:10 a.m., 4th Tuesday, Room 9

Following Yoga + You, with Heera Kulkarni

\$10/drop in; \$35/5-classes; \$60/ 10-classes

Zumba Toning with Kelly

2-3 p.m. Fridays, Studio 3

\$10/drop in; \$35/5 classes; \$60/10 classes

EVENTS

AARP Driver Safety Program

9 a.m.-1 p.m., Aug. 13 & 14, Room 10

Fee: \$15 (AARP members) or \$20 (non-members)

Register: Jim Finnegan, 916 804-9777

Free Friday

10 a.m.-4 p.m., Aug. 17

Free for all seniors in Sacramento

Pick up schedule online or at the Sierra 2 Center

POTLUCK

Last Friday of each month, noon-2 p.m.

sheet of paper, or see how to upcycle cans into a centerpiece tree.

Enjoy snacks and shopping in the air conditioned Garden Room. Enter to win art and goodies in our fundraiser raffle. Showcasing artists include Rudy Calpo, Tonja Wilcox, Steve McCready, Rachel Kern of Oli and Baz, Joel Smith, Heather Hogan of Tenacious Goods, Art to Wear by Dee, and Nikki Thompson of Deconstructed Artichoke Press.

For a schedule of events closer to the big weekend, check Sierra2.org/open-studios. Thank you for supporting local artists.

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SHREK THE MUSICAL JR.

Aug. 3-5

Friday, Aug. 3; 7 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 4;
1 p.m., 4 p.m. & 7 p.m.
Sunday, Aug. 5; 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.

Tickets:
youngactorsstage.com/tickets
Info: 916-760-8388

Everyone’s favorite ogre is back in this hilarious stage spectacle! It’s a “big bright beautiful world” as everyone’s favorite ogre, Shrek, leads a cast of fairytale misfits on an adventure to rescue a princess and find true acceptance. Part romance and part twisted fairy tale, Shrek JR. is an irreverently fun show with a powerful message for the whole family.

THE GONDOLIERS

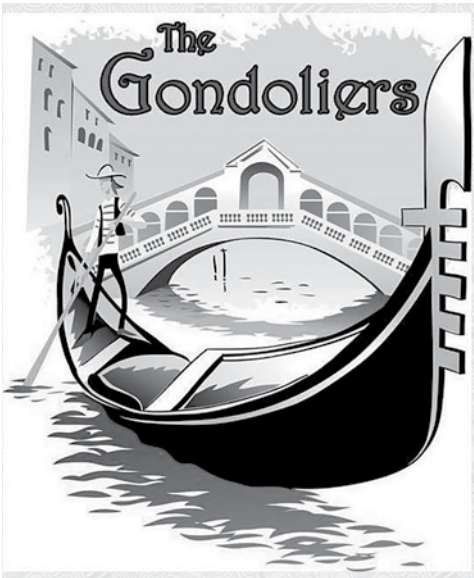
Aug. 17-19 and Aug. 24-26

Friday and Saturday evenings: 7:30 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday matinees: 1:30 p.m.

Tickets: www.lots gondoliers.brownpapertickets.com

The 12th collaboration of Gilbert & Sullivan, *The Gondoliers* (or *The King of Barataria*) tells the story of two charming Venetian gondoliers who are informed that due to an error of identity when they were young boys, one of them is the heir to the throne of Barataria. They share the responsibilities of governing until it can be ascertained which of them is which. Matters are complicated when the Duke and Duchess of Plaza Toro reveal that their beautiful daughter was married to the future king as an infant. The problem? The gondoliers are both newly married. Gilbert’s characteristically “topsy-turvy” plot is paired with some of Sullivan’s finest music in one of the duo’s most enduring collaborations.

This is Light Opera Theater’s fourth production of *Gondoliers* since 1982. Director Robert Vann has chosen to set it in the 1950s with some clever twists and turns that will not fail to amuse even the most ardent G&S aficionado. There will be a live orchestra and supertitles.



ALIVE INSIDE:
BRAIN HEALTH & TECHNOLOGY
Aug. 28

Doors: 5:15 p.m. Film: 5:45 p.m.
Cost: \$10 at the door; \$2–\$8 if purchased in advance
Tickets: aging2.com/events

Music. Emotion. Memories. It all comes together in this insightful and stirring documentary. Watch firsthand the magic that results when a person with advanced dementia hears a favorite song. This film, which has won many awards, tracks the efforts of social worker Dan Cohen, through his nonprofit organization, Music and Memory, as he advocates the use of iPods as personalized music therapy for dementia patients. At first appearance, the patients we meet are alive physically but it is questionable what remains within them. Through music, we see the inner person embrace the world with joy.

Following the documentary, there will be a panel discussion with specialists in the area of memory and music.

ACTIVITIES AT SIERRA 2



CHILDREN
Capital City Music Together
Children 5 and under.
For schedule:
Jennie Ribadeneira, 916 990-3222
capitalcitymusictogether.com

MUSIC
Nashville Songwriters Association
2nd Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Room 12
Free • Gabrielle Kennedy: 916 476-5073

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
916 205-3970 or fenixdrumanddance.com

OTHER
Cochlear Community Meetings
6–8 p.m. 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

ART
Glass Mosaic Classes
Tuesday, Noon-3 p.m.
Room 11
karenssharp51@gmail.com

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

Heels & Sass Dance class
8:30-9:30 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, 916 792-5561

Kalanjali: Dance of India
Saturdays, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Rooms 11
510 526-2183, katherine.kalanjali@gmail.com

West African Dance
5 p.m., Saturdays, Studio 3. All ages
916 205-3970 or fenixdrumanddance.com

Adult Dance Fitness with a Twist!
August 18 & 25: Hip Hop Heels
7:15-8:30 p.m., Studio 3
jdancemovement@gmail.com

Tartan Hearts
Scottish Highland Dance
9-10:30 a.m., Sundays, Studio 3
tartanhearts@gmail.com
facebook.com/TartanHeartsDance

SPIRITUAL SERVICES
Sacramento Native American Believers Fellowship
Sundays, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Room 10
Lee Aviles, 916 203-6461

Mustard Seed Faith Ministries
Sundays, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Room 9
Pastor Dorothy Hayes, 916 213-0901

Good Shepherd Parish
Sundays, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Room 12
Contact: Mother Elizabeth English
916 502-6773, GoodShepherdCommunity.org

Empowerment Theological Seminary
Mondays, 6-9:55 p.m., Room 9, 916 308-7646
empowermenttheologicalseminary.com

True Life Ministries
Sundays, 2:45-4:15 p.m., Room 9
Pastor Grant Harper: 916 382-2885

MARTIAL ARTS
Eagle Claw Kung Fu Academy of Sacramento
Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m. Studio 2
Saturdays, 12:30-2 p.m., 916 441-7215

Sacramento Sword School
Martial Sword Arts of Europe
Thursdays, 6:15-8:15 p.m., Studio 2
Maestro Eric Myers: 916 276-2247

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Lohan36@sbcglobal.net

New!
Beginning Tai Chi
12:30-1:30, Sundays, Studio 2
embodytaichi.com or 530-574-3684

YOGA
Iyengar Yoga
Tuesday, 10-11 a.m. Studio 1
Gladys Callander: 916 743-0246

FITNESS
Hot Hula Fitness
7-8 p.m. Fridays, Studio 3
OhanaFiit, 916 595-3765

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 3
Wed., 5:30 p.m., Studio 2
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., 12:15 p.m., 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, 916 956-0876

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

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

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

My Story project filmed refugee born in Jewish ghetto in Shanghai

By Craig McCulloch

The My Story Project in the Sierra 2 Senior Center recently filmed a story about Jewish refugees fleeing the Nazis in Germany before World War II and landing in Shanghai, China. Angelika “Angie” Rooney told her family story that included some family members who perished at the Auschwitz concentration camp.

Rooney began her story on film with a short history of Germany with the rise of Adolph Hitler in 1933. The Nazis blamed the severe economic woes of Germany upon the Jews, who were less than one percent of the German population. In 1935 the Nuremberg Laws were passed divesting the Jewish people of all property and citizenship rights.

The Jews tried to flee to other countries that would permit asylum. However, they met with significant restrictions on immigration. Rooney remembered a story passed along by her mother of the family sitting around the dining room table full of maps trying to locate a place to find refuge. Someone learned that Shanghai did not require either passports or a visa for immigrants. Her mother therefore immigrated to Shanghai in 1939. Her father also went to Shanghai in 1939. But her parents did not know one another when they left Germany. Both went by sea, but on different ships. They met and married in Shanghai.

In the late 1930s the region was a war zone due to the Second Sino-Japanese War. Shanghai fell to the Japanese and a ghetto was established by the Japanese after the attack on Pearl Harbor. It was formally called “Restricted Sector for Stateless Refugees.” Living conditions were extreme. There was poverty, hunger,



Photo/Dan Rooney

Angelika “Angie” Rooney, star of a recent video about her story living in the Jewish Ghetto in Shanghai China during WWII.

poor sanitation and rampant disease. Rooney included in her video some photos of conditions in the ghetto. The Shanghai Ghetto was the only ghetto outside of Europe.

Rooney was born in Shanghai and remembers the family had only a small room in an attic in the ghetto. The room was infested with rats. Her video included some family photos of her as

a young child. She looked a lot like Shirley Temple, the popular child actress. Like Shirley Temple, she had blond curly hair, dimples and blue eyes.

After Pearl Harbor the US entered the war against Japan. She recalled the frightening air raid sirens when U.S. planes bombed the Japanese occupied city near the ghetto. In 1945 the war ended with the U.S. bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Her family eventually was able to sail to San Francisco to make their new home in the U.S.

After the My Story Project DVD was produced for Rooney, she and her husband, Dan, traveled to Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Museum in Israel, to present it for their archive collection of stories of other wartime survivors.

The My Story Project has produced over 70 videos on DVD of life stories, although not all have historical significance such as this one. The Project has experienced story coaches to help the clients prepare their story, organize and scan their photos. The group of volunteers also films the story, edits the video as needed, and packages it in an attractive case for sharing with family members or others.

To get started in telling your story, or become a volunteer, call the Senior Center at 916 455-6339.

Spotlight on SCNA Board Member



As a new board member, Steffan jumped into helping to develop the neighborhood survey to assist the board with its strategic plan.

Steffan Brown began with focus on member issues

By Carol Conti

Wanting “to give back to the community,” Steffan Brown decided to join the SCNA board. His family moved to Curtis Park in 2004 after a short stay in Elk Grove. Having moved to Sacramento in 1999, the Browns missed the charm and character of their 1922 Craftsman home in Portland. While house hunting, the Browns observed a group of Curtis Park neighbors enjoying the Christmas spirit with mugs of eggnog, decorating posts with Christmas ribbon. That was the deciding factor. Steffan told his wife, Carmel, “I want to live in this neighborhood.”

Additionally, the passion for vintage homes eventually led Steffan to his new career in real estate. The Browns purchased a “fixer upper” to become their new home. Steffan quit his job as a chemical engineer to spend the next four years remodeling the residence while being a full fledged stay-at-home dad.

Days were full of construction and all aspects of managing his new household—laundry, carpools, soccer coaching, cooking, etc. Once the remodel was finished, the kids nearly grown, and a new career established, Steffan found the SCNA Board was the perfect fit.

As a new board member, he has spent the last year learning the inner workings of SCNA and the management responsibilities of the Sierra 2 facility. Steffan sits on the Development Committee for SCNA and has been involved with membership issues. He helped to develop the neighborhood survey (inserted in this issue) to determine neighbors’ interests and ideas for SCNA. This survey will be used to complement the nearly completed Board strategic plan.



Celeste Snavelly of 24th Street with her newly published book.

Senior center’s life history class was inspiration for this author

As a resident of Curtis Park and the author of a newly published book *Just Across the Tracks*, Celeste Snavelly credits her success to the Life History group at the Senior Center at Sierra 2 Neighborhood Association.

While nursing her husband in his final years, she joined the class due to a passion for writing. Twelve years later, she gathered her stories

and became a published writer, having also printed poetry in four other books.

She still attends the Life History class; her interest has not diminished.

Just Across the Tracks is available at Barnes & Noble, Amazon and most book vendors.

—Bruce Pierini

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Nextdoor

Emotions run high after fatal dog confrontation

By Craig McCulloch

An incident at Larkin Way and 21st Street between dogs and their owners resulted in the death of a Chihuahua named Milo and generated more than 350 posts on NextDoor, along with name-calling and profanity that often accompanies emotional topics in social media.

On June 5, Chelsea Hall walked her two dogs at Larkin Way, holding Milo in her arms with the other dog on a leash. According to Hall, she set Milo on the ground to relieve himself with no leash attached. A man walking a large Labrador Retriever crossed 21st Street as Milo barked at him. The two dogs went nose to nose, and the lab’s owner allegedly hit Milo with his cane, resulting in the elderly Chihuahua’s subsequent death.

ABC 10 News identified the owner of the retriever as Dr. Brian Bolstad, one of the dentists in a building at 2650 21st St.

Sacramento police took a report but no criminal charges were filed.

The Sacramento Bee reported that the dentist denied wrongdoing and called Hall’s account “a gross mischaracterization of the sequence of events.”

Eyewitness reports posted on NextDoor got the attention of KCRA 3 and ABC 10, both of which broadcast TV news stories.

About 15 people chanting “Justice for Milo” demonstrated outside Bolstad’s office on June 11.

A small memorial to Milo was also made.



Red Bikes blossoming

An outbreak of Red Bikes – aka Jump Bikes – has recently populated bike racks throughout Sacramento, including our neighborhood. These shared bikes are for around-town trips. The bikes have electric motors as well as pedal power.

The NextDoor discussion involved complaints about people parking bikes in front of Vic’s Ice Cream taking two auto parking spaces.

To rent the Jump Bikes, first download the Jump Bikes app for either Apple or Android phones and register for an account with a credit card. Then use the GPS to locate a bike. When the bike is found, sign in with a PIN, unlock it, and start riding. The pricing is \$2 for 30 minutes and 7 cents for each additional minute. You only need to lock up the bike where your trip ends.

NextDoor.com is a social media app used by neighbors to share information with other neighbors. It is often used for reporting crime to neighbors, lost pets, contractor or handy-person repair recommendations. Other adjacent neighborhoods to Curtis Park are also available. It is free to use and supported by advertisements.

In the District

City’s housing crisis is challenge for all of us in Sacramento

As you know, Sacramento has a housing crisis. The causes include a lack of supply, new families moving to Sacramento from the Bay Area, the demise of redevelopment funding and programs, and rising costs throughout the construction industry and housing market.

Coming out of the Great Recession, when we should have been building 3,000 units a year to meet our projected growth, we were building only 300 units annually.

The impacts of this situation are enormous, particularly for individuals and families that have seen continued and significant increases in their rents, as supply remains stagnant. Such rent increases are unacceptable and as a compassionate community, we simply cannot allow our neighbors to be forced out of their homes.

As one proposed solution, housing advocates are collecting signatures and promoting a rent-control

JAY
SCHENIRER
City
Council
Member
District 5



initiative for the November ballot. I am opposed to the specific language in the initiative, which I feel would actually make the problem worse in the long run by stifling the market for new housing development and increased investment—our best long-term solution.

There are some rays of hope. The legislature has placed a \$4 billion housing bond on the November ballot. If passed, it will fund affordable housing for our city’s most vulnerable residents, including those experiencing homelessness, veterans, and those with low incomes. In addition, the ballot will include \$2 billion from the Mental Health Services Act to be used for housing. Also, the next governor could bring back some form of redevelopment program.

In the short term, however, we must take action to help those most in need. Each week at City Council we hear from individuals losing their homes. Meeting this challenge is who we are as a community.

At this time, there is no specific rent-control proposal before City Council. Over the next few

SIERRA 2
TENANTS

Charr Crail Photography
Room 19 • charrcrail.com

Diamond Light Tibetan Buddhist Group
Room 14 • diamondlightsac.org

Eben Burgoon
Room 16A • ebenburgoon.com

Great Beginnings Child Development Center
Rooms 1-5 • 916 456--4642

Hope Harris Photography
Room 19 • hopeimages.com

Italian Cultural Society Language School
Room 13 • italiancenter.net

La Famiglia Catering
Kitchen-Garden Room • lafamigliacatering.com

Leann Holtsmann Photography
Room 19 • leannaholtsman.smugmug.com

Sacramento Braille Transcribers
Room 7 • 916 455-9121

Sacramento Yoga Center
Room 6 • sacramentoyogacenter.com

Sierra Art Parlor/Cate Schmiedt
Sierra Cottage • sierraartparlor.com

Straight Men’s AA
Room 15 • aasacramento.org

Sugar Plum Vegan Bakery
Kitchen-Curtis Hall • sugarplumvegan.com

WarmLine Family Resource Center
Castro Cottage • warmlinefrc.org

‘I am opposed to the specific language in the (rent-control) initiative, which I feel would actually make the problem worse in the long run by stifling the market for new housing development and increased investment—our best long-term solution.’

months, led by the mayor, the council will hold at least one workshop and a series of discussions on this issue.

It is my hope that the city will create policies to support the development of more affordable housing options and ensure that no one is unfairly pushed out of their home because they can’t afford to pay the rent. Your input will help inform future policies to help prevent that from happening.

To facilitate this conversation, I will hold a District 5 town hall meeting in August. We’ll keep you updated on ways you can be part of this discussion.



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Flavor of the Month in JULY: BLACK RASPBERRY OREO!
Flavor of the Month in AUGUST: CARAMEL CRACKLE CRUNCH!

Five kids in three months happened at Portola Way West baby boy boom

By Judy Harper

This has been a prolific year for baby boys born in the western blocks of Portola Way.

The first was Lucas, born Feb. 18 to Jeremy Wildfire and Alexa Kleysteuber. Wylder made his entrance on April 22 to Erin and Brian McCommon. And then on May 5, Mikio and Yoshio joined the party. Kristin and Amie Anderson-Satow credit their yoga classes for two babies after only “5 pushes and 8 minutes!”

Adding somewhat to the Portola Way Baby Boy Boom was Casper Lemei, born to Emily (Chisholm) and Galen Lemei on April 12. Emily grew up on Portola, and she and Casper can be found most weekday afternoons on the front porch of Casper’s grandparents, Les and Peggy Chisholm, while Daddy is at work.



Lucas was born Feb. 18 to Jeremy Wildfire and Alexa Kleysteuber.

Photos/Judy Harper



Wylder made his entrance on April 22 to Erin and Brian McCommon.



Mikio and Yoshio were born on May 5 to Kristin and Amie Anderson-Satow.



Casper, born to Emily, right, and Galen Lemei, hangs out with grandparents, Les and Peggy Chisholm.

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COMMUNITY CORNER

Wine Tasting is set for Oct. 6

Save the date for the 28th annual Wine Tasting, Silent Auction and Beer Garden from 4 to 7 p.m. Oct. 6 at the Sierra 2 Center.

With more than 20 restaurants, 25 wineries and a dedicated beer garden, guests can anticipate exciting fare, along with an extensive selection of items in the silent auction, including popular neighborhood dinners. A raffle will conclude the evening.

This event is a major source of funding for SCNA. Proceeds help to provide community events such as the Spring Egg Hunt, Music in the Park



and Curtis Fest. Funding also helps send sixth-graders from Bret Harte Elementary School to the annual Sly Park Nature and Science Camp and helps provide resources to McClatchy High School's Speech and Debate Team and Humanities and International Studies Program.

Tickets go on sale Aug. 1 at www.sierra2.org. For more information, call Sierra 2 Center, 452-3005, or visit our website.

SCNA seeks donations for the silent auction, volunteers and event sponsors.



Photo/Craig McCulloch

Neighbors have coffee and chat with cops about neighborhood issues

About 20 to 25 neighbors met with six Sacramento police officers at “Cops and Coffee” on June 12 in Curtis Hall. The program was an informal Q&A discussion with patrol officers about neighborhood issues. From left are Angela Mia, John Mathews, Mark Phillips, Nicoletta Anselmo and Stephanie Duncan.

Join neighbors to become
a member of SCNA:

www.sierra2.org or call 452-3005



More than 20 restaurants, 25 wineries and a dedicated beer garden make the annual Wine Tasting and Silent Auction a major source of funding for SCNA.

Photo/Joan Cusick



July 16 workshop will teach how to talk across the political divide

The local chapter of Better Angels (www.better-angels.org) is holding a skills workshop on July 16 to help people learn how to talk with friends and loved ones who disagree politically. Please join us for this free interactive workshop to learn skills for having respectful conversations that clarify differences, search for common ground, and affirm the importance of the relationship.

Better Angels takes its name from Abraham Lincoln's first inaugural address, where he appealed to the “better angels of our nature” to bridge the political divide. Better Angels is dedicated to reducing polarization between conservatives and liberals and reuniting America to address the common good.

Monday, July 16
Trinity Cathedral, The Great Hall
2620 Capitol Avenue
6:00 – 8:30pm

— *Steve Sphar of Third Avenue*
steve@stevesphar.com or 916.739.8057

VIEWPOINT

Neighbors who have an interesting story (news about their babies, new neighbors, milestones and special events) are encouraged to submit ideas or articles 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.

A neighbor could use your assistance

Many Curtis Park residents know Emily Uebelhoer, a former chemist turned Realtor with ReMax Gold for 16 years with son Jakob, 18, and daughter Grace, 11. She lives at 2524 Curtis Way. Jakob attends Christian Brothers High School and Grace is home schooled.

Recently Emily was diagnosed with an aggressive form of breast cancer, and will be undergoing chemotherapy throughout the summer, followed by radical surgery in early fall.

Curtis Way neighbors have generously stepped up to assist Emily's family by signing up to bring dinners, provide rides and financial contributions. But much more help is needed. We would like to extend our range to include more of our Curtis Park neighbors.

For meal donations, please contact Nancy Blackburn at wittywords1@att.net or 916 612-2939 (call or text).

For any additional questions or information, please contact Wendy Roof at wrfiregoddess@gmail.com or 916 804-5129 (call or text).

For financial contributions, please send a check directly to Emily Uebelhoer at 2425 Curtis Way, Sacramento, CA 95818. — *Nancy Blackburn*

ADULT BALLET CLASSES

BALLET BASIC BALLET 1
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for information contact:
Richard@TwoRiversDanceCenter.com
class location: Sierra 2 Center

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A REPUTATION FOR UNDERSTANDING
FINE OLDER HOMES FROM THE INSIDE OUT.

Photos: Images have increased adoption of shelter cats to 80 percent

(Continued from Page 1)
passion and personality to each individual cat. We will never be able to repay her for her kindness.”
Hope’s inspiration? “I had seen a video of a woman on the East Coast who had an idea to start

taking beautiful portraits of animals at an animal shelter, and it made a huge difference in the adoption rates,” she says.
Hope grew up following her Air Force father to different military deployments. She started taking

animal photos while living in Izmir, Turkey. Hope studied photography at the Ray-Vogue School of Design in Chicago, which allowed her to explore her artistic creativity while learning the intricacies of the large-format 4-by-5 camera. She is inspired by the works of Richard Avedon, Sara Moon and Irving Penn.
Hope eventually moved to Sacramento, where she worked at the Black and White Photo Lab. She has lived in Curtis Park for 14 years. She shares her home with cats Lily and Skippy. She loves the neighborhood’s people, trees, greenery, parks and sense of safety.
In her studio at the Sierra 2 Center, Hope does fine art photography, family and pet portraits, and commercial work. Her photos display a sense of simplicity, feeling, and sometimes whimsy.
A gallery of her portraits may be seen at www.hopeharrisphotography.com.
Note: As we were going to press, Hope told us that all three cats photographed in this issue of Viewpoint have been adopted.



"Bailey"



"Havanna"

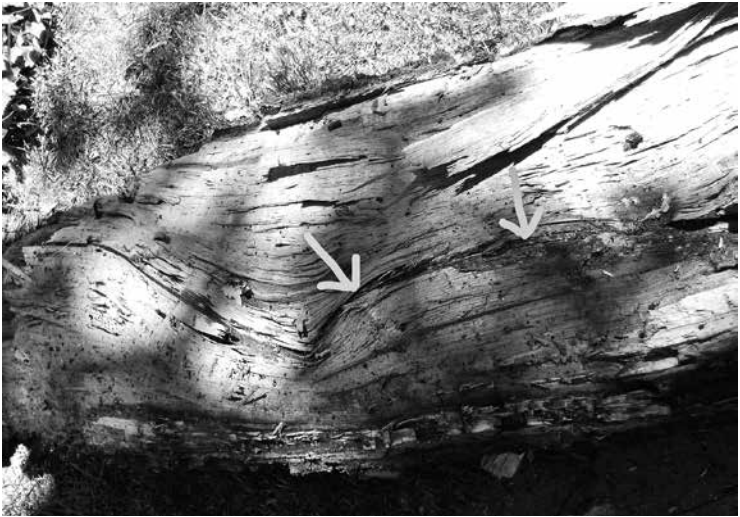
Trees: Summer branch drop may occur from internal cracks

(Continued from Page 1)
inconspicuous flower. If there is no wind or rain to knock off the flowers, then every flower develops into a fruit.
Dead or decayed limbs may also fail during the summer due to the high temperatures drying out the wood fibers. Dry wood has less bending capacity and decay fungi reduce wood strength.
Healthy branches that fail usually have internal cracks that may not be visible where the branch broke off. But in dissecting the branch, the crack will be revealed further down the branch.
Cracks near the outside of the branch develop a rib that is a longitudinal bulge of response wood growth. These cracks usually develop during winter storms. Then the summer heat dries out the wood along

the crack and the limb fails.
Many species have such crack defects, but the main concern is with mature native oaks. The valley oak is the most prevalent native oak in the
Some of these large majestic oaks are removed because a large summer limb failure has compromised the tree’s structure.

Curtis Park neighborhood. Some of these large majestic oaks are removed because a large summer limb failure has compromised the tree’s structure.
Internal cracks and other hidden defects limit an arborist’s ability to predict summer branch drop. Support systems, either cables or Cobra® on

mature valley oaks, are recommended preventative measures. These systems modify the wind load on the limbs, which prevents internal cracks.
However, branches could still fail in extreme weather conditions, but the risk is greatly reduced having a professionally installed support system.
Homeowners should periodically



Photo/Dan Pskowski

Arrows point to the internal crack defects, which are not visible externally or from where the branch broke.

look at the crown for any dead, broken or split limbs that may pose a problem. If you have any concerns, call an ISA-certified arborist.



To advertise in *Viewpoint*
and support SCNA,
call Fran at 452-3005.



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