# VIEWPOINT

A Publication of the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association

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September 2018

# City planning big changes in Broadway traffic

By Dan Pskowski and Dennis Cusick

The city is planning to make major changes to the traffic flow on Broadway between Third Street and Franklin Boulevard.

The Broadway Complete Streets Plan is intended to calm traffic, improve safety and make Broadway more inviting for travel on foot and by bicycle.

The four traffic lanes will be reduced to two—one in each direction—with a center turn lane, bicycle lanes on either side of the roadway, and new marked pedestrian crossings and refuge islands. A new southbound 29th Street lane will connect X Street to Broadway at the Highway 99 southbound on-ramp. Between Broadway and X Street, 16th Street will be two-way, with one southbound lane and two northbound lanes.

Megan Johnson, an associate civil planner for the city, summarized the highlights of the project and solicited comments at a public meeting attended by more than 110

Please see Broadway, Page 2

# Crime continues downward trend in second quarter

By Erik Fay

R eported crime in the neighborhood was down nine percent in the second quarter of 2018 compared to the previous quarter.

This is especially notable when the weather is warmer, more people are out and about, and reported crimes of opportunity usually increase in this period.

Curtis Park continues to have a very low rate of crime overall, especially serious crime, compared to other parts of Sacramento.

Some 84 crimes in Curtis Park were reported to Sacramento police in the second quarter.

The most notable change was a 42 percent decrease in vehicle burglaries—11 in the second quarter, compared with 26 in the first quarter.

Larceny, which is theft of personal property not Please see Trend, Page 2

## **Culinary culture in Curtis Park**



Photo/Ioan Cusick

Bruce Pierini instructs butcher Paul Carras on how to cut pork belly to prepare *porchetta*, a traditional Roman holiday dish. Carras competed in the 2018 International Butchers' Competition in Belfast, Northern Ireland. The competition is coming to Sacramento in 2020. Stories, Page 12.

# Author! Author!

Local theater to produce civil-rights memoir Page 5



## SIERRA 2DAY

Pullout events section debuts Pages 5–8

# Round & round

Traffic circle is drawing driver's ire Page 9



## Broadway: Planners call it a 'road diet'

(Continued from Page 1)

people on July 18 at Uptown Studios (2415 23rd St.).

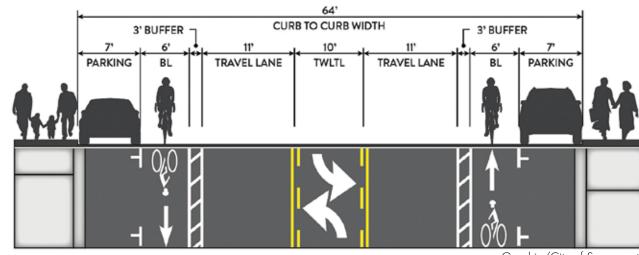
The proposal is to put Broadway on what planners call a "road diet."

The first phase of the project will cover Broadway between Third and 16th streets plus the 29th Street extension. Design and environmental clearance are anticipated to be completed by fall 2020 with construction in 2021. The timing of the second phase depends on future funding.

The city estimates the total cost of the project at \$10 million with funding from a variety of federal, state and city sources.

"Complete Street projects, often including lane reductions, bike lane additions and pedestrian improvements, are techniques used nationwide to improve safety and increase mobility options for streets with high speeds and high numbers of collisions, such as Freeport Boulevard and Broadway," Johnson told Viewpoint.

In 2016, the city commissioned a study that predicted that reducing traffic on Broadway would increase traffic on other streets, particularly W and X streets to the north and Second Avenue to the south. The study estimated that delay times would triple within 20 years during morning rush hour



Graphic/City of Sacramento

at 21st Street and Second Avenue, and during evening rush hour at Freeport Boulevard and Second Avenue.

In 2015 the city measured average daily traffic at 21,980 vehicles at Broadway's busiest intersection, at 16th Street/Land Park Drive, well short of the 25,000 vehicles a day that two-lane roads can accommodate.

The city estimated in 2016 that about one-quarter of Broadway Corridor residents commuted by walking, biking or transit, more than double the citywide average. Bus Route 51, which travels along Broadway, was one of Regional Transit's busiest lines with 6,500 passengers per day. About 1,500 passengers a day boarded light rail at the Broadway station.

While the Broadway Complete Streets Plan is

considered a great leap forward in encouraging bicyclists and pedestrians, the need for an expanded tree canopy has not been addressed. During the summer months, the lack of shade means street and sidewalk surfaces can reach 140 degrees, making it unbearable for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Why the lack of shade on Broadway? There is limited space to grow trees. The section of Broadway in the Curtis Park neighborhood, for example, has only 7½ feet of space from the back of the curb to the back of the sidewalk. This allows for a planter no wider than 4 feet.

Providing additional space requires the adjacent property owner's permission to encroach onto their property with the public sidewalk. However, this may not be possible due to site improvements along the back of sidewalk.

## Trend: Lowest crime rates recorded for Curtis Park

(Continued from Page 1)

including robbery or burglary, has been the most reported crime in Curtis Park for several years. That trend continued, with 23 reported incidents in the quarter, two fewer than in the first quarter.

The majority of larcenies in Curtis Park are delivered packages stolen off of porches, followed in smaller numbers by thefts of bicycles, decorative plants and furniture. Most of the larcenies were north of Second Avenue, clustered near the intersections of Broadway with Freeport Boulevard and Franklin Boulevard. Four other incidents took place around 24th Street and Crocker Road, south of 10th Avenue.

Vandalism, defined as the deliberate destruction of or damage to public or private property, also decreased slightly to 11 reported incidents from 13 in the first quarter.

The most significant increase in reported crime was in stolen vehicles, which more than doubled from seven incidents in the first quarter to 15 in the second quarter. Sacramento police say the increase in vehicle thefts in the neighborhood reflects a citywide seasonal increase.

Robbery and assault were unchanged, with a total of 10 reported incidents in each quarter. Most of the robberies and assaults occurred near Broadway.

Sacramento police credit the department's partnership with observant and involved neighbors for low rates of crime. Curtis Park is on a path to having a crime rate similar to the previous two years, which had some of the lowest crime rates on record for the neighborhood and for Sacramento in general.

# Robbery Assaults Burglary Burglary Larceny Stolen Vehicle Stolen Vehicle Surface Statistics in Curtis Park April 1 – June 30 Assaults The burglary 11 Stolen Vehicle Surface Statistics in Curtis Park April 1 – June 30 Assaults The burglary 11 Stolen Vehicle Surface Statistics in Curtis Park April 1 – June 30 Assaults The burglary 11 Stolen Vehicle Surface Statistics in Curtis Park April 1 – June 30

This map was created by the Sacramento Police Department Crime Analysis Unit on Aug. 8, 2018. It represents a total of 84 various types of crime in Curtis Park from April 1 to June 30.

# Restaurants closing, opening in Broadway area

By Craig McCulloch

This summer has seen major changes in Broadway area restaurants.

Shoki Ramen House, 2530 21st St., just south of Broadway, had a devastating kitchen fire on July 19 with significant smoke damage around the back windows. A cyclone fence now encircles the building. The cause of the fire is unknown and under investigation. No plans for reopening dates are posted on the restaurant's website. Shoki Ramen House's other location at 1201 R St. remains open seven days a week.

Oak Park Brewing Company, 3514 Broadway, shut down in July after four years. The Sacramento County Department of Health closed the bar and restaurant in May 2018 after an inspection found cockroaches, mice and other vermin in beer brewing and food preparation areas. After a three-day "deep clean," the business reopened. It passed a follow-up inspection a month later. The closing was abruptly announced in mid-July.

The New Canton Restaurant, 2523 Broadway, long known for its dim sum, has closed.

A new Chinese restaurant, Ming Dynasty, has opened at 1211 Broadway, across from Target, at the former location of Fortune House. It also specializes in dim sum.

#### POINT OF VIEW

## Mountable?!

## While cars go round and round, another path is over traffic circle

By Ginger Rutland

As someone who regularly drives west down Marshall Way to 24th Street, I find the new roundabout at that intersection downright dangerous.

The line behind the crosswalk where I'm supposed to stop on Marshall Way before proceeding into the intersection is so far back I can't see cars approaching on 24th Street from the south, on my left. If I nose out to get a clear view down 24th Street, I'm in the traffic lane and at risk of being hit.

I'm no traffic engineer, but I am a driver, and from my driver's point of view, the roundabout at 24th Street and Marshall Way is too big. It's also ugly.

Why can't Curtis Park have a roundabout like the one in midtown at Capitol Avenue and 25th Street? It's not just a concrete mound, like ours. It has landscaping in the middle, filled with pretty flowers and shrubs. And it's easier to get through that intersection. I don't feel squeezed when

"I can't see cars approaching on 24th Street from the south, on my left. If I nose out to get a clear view down 24th Street, I'm in the traffic lane and at risk of being hit."

I drive around the midtown roundabout, as I do when I drive around the one on 24th Street.

But, I didn't just wonder, I called city traffic engineer David Edrosolan to find out more. Both roundabouts are about the same size, he explained, approximately 27½ feet in diameter. The difference is in the width of the streets. Capitol Avenue in midtown is 60 feet wide and 24th Street in Curtis Park is only 40 feet wide. Aha! So that explains the squeeze.

But there's more. There's no landscaping on the Curtis Park roundabout because it is meant to be "mountable," Edrosolan told me.

Mountable?! I asked. The term simply means it's designed so that emergency vehicles, big trucks and buses



hoto/Joan Cusick

Installed this summer during the city's street resurfacing project, this roundabout at Marshall Way and 24th Street is giving neighbors safety concerns.

can drive over it. Really?! I guess that explains all the tire marks on the Curtis Park roundabout.

But I drive a regular passenger car, so, uh, can I drive over it too? I don't know the answer to that question. I suspect most of my neighbors don't know either. Most of us try to stay on the pavement, no small feat given the shrunken dimensions of our newly obstructed intersection, which is not a roundabout in reality but a kind of circular speed bump. Are you confused? So am I.

But that's not the end of it. There's one more difference between the roundabout of Curtis Park and the one in midtown. Capitol Avenue and 25th Street

are perpendicular to each other. The western leg of Marshall Way crosses 24th Street at an angle, making our roundabout even more challenging.

City engineers say we should be patient and withhold judgment. More traffic-calming fixes are coming to 24th Street, including speed bumps and better signage. But nothing the city has planned will make 24th Street at Marshall Way wider than it is now or the roundabout/circular speed bump obstructing traffic there any easier to navigate.

Sounds as though we'll just keep going round this not so merry-go-round.

## Pangaea celebrates 10th anniversary

By Craig McCulloch

Pangaea Bier Cafe celebrated its 10th anniversary over

"Pangaea started with three employees 10 years ago and now employs 20," said Kindra Archie, co-owner with husband Rob Archie of the cafe on Franklin Boulevard, across the street from Gunther's Ice Cream.

Archie developed his taste for Belgian beer while playing pro basketball in Europe. He finds it has unique flavors compared to domestic brews. The difference is largely because of the yeasts used and the brewing techniques, some of which were first developed by Trappist monks in Belgium.

The list of beers on tap soon expanded to craft beers, largely from California but also from other states and regions. The additional craft beers available coincided with the first Sacramento Beer Week in May 2010. Later, a bottle shop was set up with a separate entrance adjacent

to the restaurant and bar.

The 10th anniversary celebration on July 14 included many hard-to-find beers. "Ales for ALS" from Russian River Brewing in Santa Rosa was brewed as a fundraiser for ALS (also known as Lou Gehrig's disease). A portion of the sales was donated to ALS research.

Also featured were newly released beers from the new Urban Roots Brewing and Smokehouse, co-owned by Rob Archie and brewmaster Peter Hoey. Three beers from Urban Roots received awards at the State Fair beer competition this year.

"Pangaea makes our neighborhood a better place," said Hai Leong, a Castro Way neighbor and frequent customer who lives six houses away from Pangaea. "It is friendly like Cheers, where everybody knows your name."

Kindra Archie explained why she thinks Pangaea has been a success: "We have continuously grown with a lot of good feedback from our customers. The community and our neighbors helped build up our business."

Pangaea regular customer Hai Leong, left, of Castro Way, poses with Pangaea co-owner Kindra Archie, right, in front of the large beer menu.





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#### Notes from July 11th meeting

## Editor briefed board on proposed smaller-format Viewpoint

Viewpoint editor Dennis Cusick reported that our neighborhood newspaper might soon have a new look, with even more content. Herburger Publications, which also prints the Land Park News among other local papers, contacted the Viewpoint production staff regarding the change, explaining that the presses have to be reset to print our newspaper because of its unusual paper size. This limits our flexibility with deadlines and content.

Reducing the paper size would save money, plus we could add a page and a half more content. There was spirited debate among board members, including acknowledgment that change is hard, and most love the traditional-style newspaper. However, the board realizes there are real opportunities to serve the neighborhood with an updated style, which may include a pullout calendar of local events.

#### **Executive Director**

Planning has started for the Oct. 6 wine tasting event. Artwork is being designed and all of the popular major

#### **Next meeting**

The next regular meeting of the SCNA Board will begin at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 5 in the Garden Room at Sierra 2.

components, including the beer garden, will be up and running. Local food blogger Kristy Harris has been helping to connect with restaurants.

A record number of 77 vendors signed up for Curtis Fest. Heather Hogan organized food trucks and musicians for the Aug. 26 event.

Heather and Katie Byram have submitted a grant application to the county for design costs of a dedicated room for the Learnery.

#### **Neighborhood Concerns**

John Mathews will submit a letter of support plus recommendations to the Broadway Complete Streets project Phase 2. The comments will include requesting a traffic study of how residential streets in Curtis Park will be impacted from the new road design, and a recommendation for trees and landscaping for a more pedestrian-friendly Broadway. John Mathews, Andi Liebenbaum and Bruce Pierini will collaborate on the letter.

John reported that an email was sent to the Planning Commission from President **Eric Johnson** asking for clarification of whether there will be an 8 foot pedestrian/bike path through Crocker Village per the 2010 Curtis Park Village Resolution. SCNA seeks an answer to how the city will enforce the agreement, because the current plans do not show the pedestrian/bike path.

#### **President**

Eric Johnson discussed the development of the Del Rio Trail from Land Park to Meadowview, which will create a pedestrian and bike lane along abandoned railroad tracks. SCNA supports the project.

#### **Facilities**

The committee has researched historical data on maintenance and

upkeep for upcoming lease negotiations with the city. A first draft of the lease should be ready for board approval in September.

#### Development

Kat Haro reported there were more than 200 responses received to the board's survey seeking neighbors' interests and input on how the board can meet the community's needs, many online from the *Viewpoint*. From the responses received, the board will finalize its strategic plan.

#### **Senior Center**

Angela Mia reported that the center is running smoothly and attendance is strong.

#### **Action Item**

The board unanimously approved the resolution to terminate the SEP Plan for Sierra 2 employees and establish a 403b Thrift plan.

— Submitted by Kate Van Buren, board secretary

## We've gone from streetcar suburb to bike suburb

When Curtis Park was first laid out, back in the early part of the 20th century, it was a suburb. You could take the streetcar to and from downtown Sacramento, making it easy to leave your Model T in the garage. Although the concept of a carbon footprint hadn't quite made its way into the collective jargon, people were pretty green when it came to their transportation.

Today, the case is perhaps a little different, although it doesn't have to be. Although the recent street resurfacing in our neighborhood may leave a bit to be desired when it comes to smoothness, it has resulted in welcome additions to bike-friendliness, and hence opportunities to commute in an environmentally conscious way.

We now have bike lanes on Fifth Avenue between Crocker Drive and Franklin Boulevard (in a historic concurrence, the former route of the streetcar), Second Avenue from the underpass through Oak Park, and an upgraded bikeway on 24th Street between Second Avenue and Broadway.

If you have your own bike, then it's an easy ride to downtown with different routes, depending on your mood. Even if you don't have your own ride, Uber's Jump bikes (no promotional consideration paid) make things pretty accessible, which became clear to me the other day.

I had a business appointment in San Francisco at 2 p.m.—I'm morally and financially opposed to the exorbitant parking fees downtown—so I dropped my car at the west end of Broadway at 8 a.m. and rode a Jump bike to my office at Fifth Street and Capitol Mall. I paid \$1.08 to rent the bike. I found a bike right outside at 11:45 a.m., paid another \$1.08 and bopped back to Broadway,

dropped off the bike, hopped into my car and got right on the freeway. If you plan to ride a bike, just make sure to bring your own helmet.

On non-traveling days, you can usually see me cruising up 24th Street and hanging a left on P Street, taking advantage of the new separated bike lane. The combination of dress shoes and socks with shorts gets the occasional

odd look, but after 14 years of biking, I'm used to it.

Sure, there's the occasional swerve to avoid an errant car door, and those trashcans on the curb can be a challenge to negotiate. But the wind past my ears, the ease of running bike errands during lunch, and the time I save by not winding up nine floors of our parking garage leave those slight inconveniences in the dust.

ERIC JOHNSON

SCNA Board President



Photo/Joan Cusick

As we head into fall, rumor has it the weather will get cooler and the skies will get clearer. Tap into your 1920s environmental consciousness and hop on your bike!

## Montessori school coming to Curtis Park

By Craig McCulloch

Anew Montessori school is planned at the former location of the Society for the Blind on Sakura Lane, the short street across from Sierra 2, between Third Avenue and Castro Way.

Larry and Dayle Rodenborn, who reside on Third Avenue and own the property, obtained the conditional use permit for the school from the city.

Last year, the Rodenborns were denied a permit to develop the building into a neighborhood craft beer

taproom and restaurant.

Several security improvements have been made recently with additional property lighting, cameras and trimming of overgrown vegetation.

An opening date for the school will depend on the extent of remodeling needed.

Montessori schools operate according to the philosophy and methods developed in Italy by Dr. Maria Montessori. The Montessori method views the child as naturally eager for knowledge and capable of learning independently in a supportive environment.

# SIERRA 2DAY



## More hosts needed for 'Neighborhood **Dinners**'

By Terri Shettle

whosts are sought for the wildly popular "Neighborhood Dinners," an annual SCNA fundraiser.

Dinner tickets are sold at fixed prices from \$40 to \$75 per person at the Curtis Park

Wine Tasting and Silent Auction, which will be from 4-7 p.m. Oct. 6, at the Sierra 2 Center.



Last year, the six themed dinners generated \$6,000 for SCNA. All but a few seats were sold within the first hour of the Wine Tasting, and the remaining tickets sold out shortly thereafter.

A number of dinner hosts are returning, but new hosts are needed as well. This is a fabulous opportunity to give back to your community, show off your culinary skills (or those of the friend you wrangle into co-hosting with you) and meet new people. There are many ways you can participate:

- Host a dinner at your home (it doesn't have to be a dinner-one of the more popular events in previous years was a brunch).
- Get together with neighbors for an atypical dinner party (like the progressive dinner style "Six on Sixth" or the "Craft Beer Crawl").
- Pair up with a neighbor to co-host at one of your houses.

Popular dinners in previous years featured a Kentucky Derby brunch, a meatthemed Donner Party on Donner Way, and a murder mystery night in which the guests were part of the plot. Perhaps you might like to host a "High Tea," a "Children's Party" or a traditional formal dinner. This is an opportunity to let your creativity run wild or simply showcase good food and drink.

If you are interested in hosting a dinner/event, contact Terri Shettle at 916 452-3005, x 204 or terri@sierra2.org or Cheri Davis at 916 541-1229 or cheribobeari@gmail.com by Sept. 15.



Ginger Rutland wrote the play, based on her mother's memoir, after retiring from The Sacramento Bee.



## Theater company to produce Ginger Rutland's play about post-World War II Sacramento

By Judy Scheible

hen We Were Colored, A Mother's Story," will be produced by Sacramento Theater Company next spring. The play by Ginger Rutland of Donner Way is written from her mother's memoir.

Ginger lives on Donner Way with her husband, Don Fields. She wrote the play after she retired from 25 years as an editorial writer for The Sacramento Bee.

The memoir of her mother, Eva Rutland, focuses on family life and growing up in a middle-class black family in post-World War II Sacramento.

When the play was first performed at Pioneer Congregational Church on L Street, a cast problem forced Ginger to step in at the last minute and play the role of her father. Script in hand, she never missed a line.

Now her play is in the hands of theater professionals. It is scheduled to be performed next year from March 20 through April 28 in the intimate 85-seat Pollock Stage at the Sacramento Theatre Company, 1419 H St.

Instrumental to getting the play produced professionally was Stephen Eich, former managing director of Chicago's Steppenwolf Theatre Company and more

recently of the Geffen Playhouse in Los Angeles. Eich will direct the STC

"He loved the play," Ginger said. "And he's working to produce it here in Sacramento with professional actors." People who saw the original play will find the revised version has more intergenerational tension and a greater range of events that the family lived through, including the Vietnam War and the Civil Rights movement.

Ginger said her revisions include vignettes from a sequel her mother wrote but never published.

## R-E-S-P-E-C-T

Rob Archie amended the Franklin Boulevard street sign outside his Pangaea Cafe to pay homage to the late Queen of Soul after learning of her death on Aug. 16. Aretha Franklin, 76, died of pancreatic cancer at her home in Detroit.







## SEPTEMBER 2018

#### **CHILDREN**

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

Little Namaste and Sing—Kid's Yoga

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays 2:30 p.m., Room 9 Gary Austin, lilnamasteandsing@gmail.com

#### **ART**

Glass Mosaic Classes

Tuesday, Noon-3 p.m. Room 11 karensharp51@gmail.com

#### **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

#### **OTHER**

**Cochlear Community Meetings** 

6–8 p.m. Nov. 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

## SIERRA·2·CENTER

FOR THE ARTS & COMMUNITY

#### DANCE

**NEW!** Soulporary Dance Class Ages: 16+

7:30 p.m., Thursdays, Studio 1 Brianna James, dklareit@gmail.com

**Adult Ballet** 

Two Rivers Dance Center

Mondays & Saturdays info@tworiversdancecenter.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

Adult Dance Fitness with a Twist!

Sept. 8 & 15: Afro Fit 7:15-8:30 p.m., Studio 3 jdancemovement@gmail.com

Tartan Hearts

Scottish Highland Dance

9-10:30 a.m., Sundays, Studio 1 tartanhearts@gmail.com facebook.com/TartanHeartsDance

#### **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



#### **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

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: 916 743-0246

#### FITNESS

Zumba with Toya & Linda

7:30-8:30 p.m., Mondays/Wednesdays, Studio 2

LaToya Bufford, toybufford15@yahoo.com

Bellyfit®

Tuesdays; 2:30-3:30 p.m. Sundays; 4-5 p.m. Studio 1 randirobinson@mac.com

Dancehall PowerUp

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

Motivational Aerobic Dance Exercise

Monday/Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Studio 1 • Kia: keynorrisfitness@gmail.com

Zumba

Fridays, 6-7 p.m., Sundays, 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

Tuesdays / Thursdays, 4:45 p.m. (50-min. class) info@tworiversdancecenter.com

Stilettos with KG – Ages 18+8:45 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

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

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## — AT THE **24**<sup>TH</sup> **STREET THEATRE** —

#### REFUGEE JOURNEY: RESCUING LIVES

#### Wednesday, Oct. 3

**Doors:** 5:45 p.m. **Event:** 6:15 p.m. **Cost:** Free, donations welcome

**RSVP:** amnestysacramento.org or rescue.org/

united-states/sacramento-ca

Join International Rescue Committee and Amnesty

International for insights into today's world refugee emergency. The event starts with the 55-minute film "Frontline Doctors: Winter Migrant Crisis," followed by a panel of experts to update on the current situation. The documentary follows two doctors as they travel to refugee camps in harsh winter conditions. The doctors discover that thousands of men, women and children who fled war, violence and persecution are vulnerable to illness, exploitation and further suffering without sufficient efforts to protect them.



#### Thursday, Oct. 11

VIP Reception: 5:30 p.m. Awards: 6:30 p.m. Cost: VIP Reception Awards varies.

Awards Ceremony: \$35 per person. Deadline for tickets is Oct. 1. **Info:** sachistorymuseum.org or email Kelli@details2.com

This is a benefit for two of Sacramento's historic treasures: the Sacramento History Museum and the Center for Sacramento History. Awards will honor eight local businesses.



#### Tea 201: Basics of Tea Blending

Learn distinct tea qualities, taste teas and blend flavors to make your perfect cup. Saturday, Sept. 1, 1-4 p.m. Room 12, \$40/person

#### **Literary Tea for Romance Readers**

Join guest author Jayne Rylon to talk about the best romance novels currently on the shelves, with three full tiers of tea food and a free copy of a brand new novel by the guest author!

Sunday, Sept. 2, 12-2 p.m., Garden Room \$40/person

#### Let's Dance: Waltz

Learn the steps to this slow, gliding and beautifully romantic dance. Sunday, Sept. 16, 2-3:30 p.m. Studio 3, \$25/couple

Advance registration is required for all classes. Register at 916 452-3005 x208, in person at the Sierra 2 Center office or online at sierra2.org/thelearnery.

#### Summer Florals Watercolor Workshop

Capture the colors of summer and sharpen painting skills in this class for beginners and intermediate-level painters.

Saturday, Sept. 22, 3-5 p.m. Room 11, \$40/person

#### **Chocolate Tasting with** Le Grand Confectionary

Learn the history and tasting notes of chocolate. Compare high-quality samples of dark, milk and white chocolates to cheaper varieties. Take home a small



bag of goodies. Led by Carol Shellenberger. Saturday, Sept. 29, 2-3:30 p.m. Garden Room, \$50/person

# Senjor Center

#### **LEISURE**

**BOOK CLUB** 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday Sept. 10: "The Scribe of Siena"

by Melodie Winawer Oct. 8: "All the King's Men" by Robert Penn Warren

#### NONFICTION BOOK CLUB

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday Sept. 20: "The Widow Clicqot: The Story of a Champagne Empire and the Woman Who Ruled It" by Tillar Mazzeo

Oct. 18: "Chasing the Scream: The First and Last Days of the War on Drugs" by Johann Hari

#### FILM CLUB

1:30-4 p.m., 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday

Sept. 18: "Burn After Reading" (2008)

#### WOMEN'S FRIENDSHIP GROUP

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, Room 11

#### LIFE HISTORY WRITING

1-4 p.m., Wednesdays

#### **OPEN ART STUDIO**

Noon-3 p.m., Fridays, (except the last Friday) in Room 11

Noon-2 p.m., Last Friday of the month

#### **FITNESS**

#### FALL PREVENTION: FLEX, STRETCH AND BALANCE

11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Tuesdays & Thursdays \$20/4 classes; \$35/8 classes Pat Shaw: 916 856-0136

#### **GENTLE YOGA**

10-11:15 a.m., Wednesdays \$10/Drop-Ins; \$30/4 classes; \$60/8 classes Pat Shaw: 916 856-0136

#### FITNESS WALKING

9 a.m., Thursdays. Fees: free to walk; \$5/pole rentals; \$60 poles purchase Meets in the parking lot by basketball court, weather permitting.

#### **EVERYONE IS WELCOME**

Activities are free except where noted. (Donations appreciated) Room 12 • 916 455-6339

seniorcenter@sierra2.org

#### WELLNESS PROGRAM

Punch cards: \$60/10 classes; \$35/5 classes; or \$10 drop-in. Purchase cards in the Sierra 2 Center office or pay drop-in fee to instructors.

TAI CHI (Beginner, Intermediate & Mixed) 10-11 a.m., 11 a.m.-Noon, Mondays in Studio 3 & 10-11 a.m., Thursdays in Room 12

#### PILATES WITH LAUREN

10:30-11:30 a.m., Mondays/Fridays in Studio 2 & Tuesdays in Studio 3

#### YOGA + YOU

10 a.m., Tuesdays, Room 12 (Room 9 on 4th Fridays)

MONTHLY MEDITATION 11:10-11:50 a.m., 4th Tuesdays, Room 9

#### ZUMBA TONING W/ KELLY

2-3 p.m., Wednesdays & Fridays, Studio 3

#### **CARDS & GAMES**

MAHJONG

10 a.m.-Noon, Mondays

#### FUN BRIDGE (RUBBER/CONTRACT)

1-4 p.m., Thursdays

#### PINOCHLE

12:30-3:30 p.m., Fridays



#### **EDUCATION**

MY STORY PROJECT

2nd Monday, 1 p.m., and Tuesdays, 1-3 p.m.

#### **COMPUTER CLASSES**

3rd Mondays, 2-4 p.m. Cost: \$20/class Sign up in advance; no laptop necessary. **Sept. 17:** Computers Inside & Out (Hardware & Accessibility)

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Cost: ADVANCE tickets (online and in office) thru Oct. 3 SCNA members, \$45 non-members, \$50 VIP (early entry, advance only) \$75

in office or at the door only www.sierra2.org or Sierra 2 Center

Note: This is an adult-only event; no children of any age will be allowed, including infants.





## this year! Yes—With the new

VIP ticket, you get to enter early at 3 p.m.

to have first access to everything—food, beverages, view the auction tables, chat with winery reps and Rob Archie in the beer garden.

## SEPTEMBER 8TH-9TH, 2018

#### Open Studios artists to welcome visitors

 $\mathbf{I}$  t often feels that the arts renaissance is happening only in Midtown and Downtown, but that's just not the case. It's just a bit more subdued in the outlying neighborhoods. Help the arts flourish in Curtis Park. Take a couple hours on Sept. 8-9 (and 15-16) to support YOUR local artists who

share their homes, studios and creative secrets in this year's Sacramento Open Studios Tour. Curtis Park will host events and demos at Sierra 2 Center, Sierra Art Parlor, and Satterlee Studio at Franklin Boulevard and Fifth Avenue. http://www.vergeart.com/open-studios/

## What's new at Sierra 2

By Valerie Burrows

#### Experience the power of music

Singing in a choir may not seem like a great idea unless you've experienced the joy of singing in one. Beginning choir class introduces basic choir skills and develops the capacity to sing in harmony. The focus is on developing your musical

ear. There will be no auditions and no performances.

Registration is open with classes from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturdays, Oct. 20 to Nov. 17, in Room 10. The fee for all five classes is \$80. For information, contact instructor Christiana Quick-Cleveland at 916 765-6537. To register, visit www.tianame.com.

## Noted performers coming to Fifth String's Side Door

Special to Viewpoint

wo concerts at The Side Door at **▲** Fifth String in September will feature legendary performers—British folk musician Iain Matthews with guitarist Steve Postell on Sept. 8, and Carolina Chocolate Drops co-founder Dom Flemons on Sept. 25.

#### lain Matthews set for Sept. 8

Matthews was a founding member and vocalist for the British group Fairport Convention's first three albums. He then created his first solo album, "Matthews' Southern Comfort," exploring his interest in American music.

In the 1970s, Matthews started another group, Plainsong, an ensemble that allowed him to blossom as a songwriter and acoustic guitarist. He was supported by his ex-Fairport mates Sandy Denny and Richard

Thompson, both in the studio and on tour.

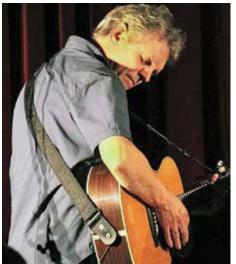
During the early 1980s, Matthews turned toward the business side of music with Island Records, but was persuaded by Led Zeppelin's Robert Plant to revisit making music. He returned to the United States for more solo work and Plainsong records.

In 2017, Matthews performed with Fairport Convention at the annual Cropredy Festival in England. Plainsong played an afternoon set to 20,000 fans.

#### Dom Flemons to perform Sept. 25

Flemons' repertoire covers a century of American folk music. He is a music scholar, historian, record collector and a multiinstrumentalist. He is considered an expert player on banjo, fife, guitar and harmonica.

In 2005, Flemons co-founded the Carolina Chocolate Drops, which won a Grammy for best traditional folk in 2010.



Iain Matthews

He left the group to pursue a solo career in

This year, Flemons released the album, "Dom Flemons Presents Black Cowboys" on the Smithsonian Folkways label.



**Dom Flemons** 

The Side Door at Fifth String is at 2900 Franklin Blvd. at Fourth Avenue. Doors open at 6 p.m.; 7 p.m. show; tickets \$20 all ages. For information and tickets, visit www.swell-productions.com.



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#### Crocker Village Update

## Construction continues on the supermarket and other parcels

By Jay Schenirer Councilmember, District 5

Rarely does a day go by when I am not asked, "What is happening at Crocker Village?" Listed below is a summary of the current and proposed work. Obviously, there is a significant amount of activity on the site relative to the Phase 1 of the commercial development.

Two important facts: First, while the two lawsuits brought by the developer continue to wind their way through the legal system, there has been no change in the city council's stand on the gas station, which was to deny a conditional use permit. Second, the city does not have information on the potential tenants in the development.

## Crocker Village Shopping Center Phase 1 (DR15-374)

**Submitted:** Dec. 8, 2015 **Approved:** Aug. 22 2017 **Status:** Plan check in progress, site work permit issued (see shaded area on site plan below).

Crocker Village Shopping Center Phase 2
North of approved Phase I

(DR18-138)

Project description: A request to construct a retail center on an approximately four-acre vacant site at the southwest corner of Crocker Drive and 10th Avenue in the Shopping Center (SC-PUD) Zone and Crocker Village Planned Unit Development. The request requires Site Plan and Design Review. Received: April 11, 2018 **Status:** Department comments and draft conditions submitted to applicant. Plan revisions have been agreed to between Planning and the applicant for compliance with draft conditions. The city is waiting on the revised plans to confirm compliance with the conditions agreement. With the revisions that are received, the project will be

neighborhood groups. **Status and anticipated decision:**Currently undetermined;
anticipated in September.

re-routed to city departments and

## Parcel Retail/Commercial Flex Zone site (DR16 329)

**Submitted:** Oct. 24, 2016 **Status:** Withdrawn by applicant Jan. 23, 2018.

## Crocker Village Single Family Residential (DR17-409)

**Project description:** A request to construct singleunit dwellings on 117 lots in the Single-Unit or Duplex Dwelling (R-1A-PUD) Zone and Curtis Park Village Planned Unit Development. The request requires staff-level Site Plan and Design Review.

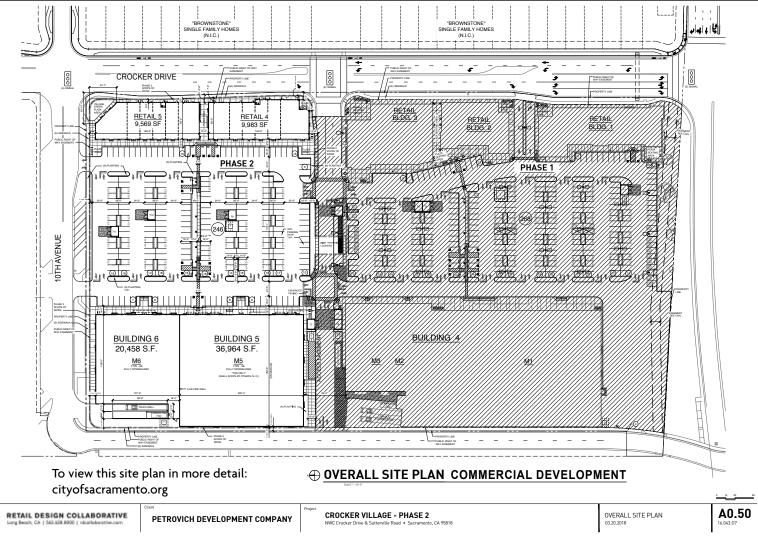
Received: Dec. 13,, 2017

**Status:** The record of decision is pending review and approval. **Anticipated approval:** potentially end of August.



Photo/Joan Cusic

Framing is going up for the smaller "out parcels" in Crocker Village while work proceeds on the large grocery store at the southwest corner of the commercial development of Phase 1.



## Crocker Village Single Family Residential (DR17-351)

**Project description:** A request to construct single-unit dwellings on 21 lots in the Single-Unit or Duplex Dwelling (R-1A-PUD) Zone and Curtis Park Village Planned Unit Development. The request requires staff-level Site Plan and Design Review. Twenty-one single family units, five conventional units and 16 alley loaded units.

Received: Aug. 17, 2017 Status: Approved May 31, 2018

## Crocker Village Sign Variance Pylon Signs on Sutterville (Z17-202)

Developer requested a variance to allow a 65 foot tall pylon sign and exceed the 35 foot height limit for detached sign within the Shopping Center (SC) zone district.

Original application received: Oct. 16, 2017. Revised application also received. Status: Application is in progress, currently awaiting plan revisions before moving forward and routing the application for formal review. Anticipated approval date is uncertain; would reasonably expect within two months.



## Age of Sierra 2 building presents challenges to keep facility up to date

"The Sierra 2 building is almost 100 years old. Obviously much renovation work has been done and continues, the latest project being the 24th Street Theatre. What are the biggest challenges in preserving the historic building and accommodating current needs?" —Bruce Pierini

#### **SCNA** board member Andrew Booth answers:

I would say the biggest challenges are cost, time and quality. This is the same infamous trio most people hear associated with construction projects. In this case, all three are magnified by the age, historic nature and year-round operation of the facility.

Finding appropriate materials to match the historic nature of the building and contractors who can perform the work correctly is always a challenge. Like any other building, there is usual wear and tear that must be dealt with. With the age of the Sierra 2 Center, there are more than the run-of-the-mill building maintenance items.

Mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems that have reached the end of their useable life need to be replaced. Upgrades are needed to bring the building up to current codes and standards.

Some of the most difficult projects involve repair to structural elements that have been damaged or degraded

Timing all of these projects is never easy. Most of the building is in use and people must either be displaced for a period of time or certain programs and events have to be suspended or rescheduled while that portion of the building is worked on.



#### In the District

## Measure U funds would be invested in city's future

District 5

ity Council voted July 31 to → place the renewal of Measure U, the city's half-cent sales tax, on the November ballot, increasing the tax to a full penny.

Because it is a general tax, the measure will require a simple majority vote to pass, and the city cannot prescribe exact uses of funds prior to the election.

In discussing the possible uses of funds, the council has highlighted potential support for

homelessness and housing, workforce development, youth programming and, most importantly, projects that will grow Sacramento's economy into a prosperous future for all. Currently, Measure U dollars fund 285 police and fire

employees and 137 city staff in parks. If extended, that first half-cent could continue to pay for these traditional and vital city services that we cannot afford to lose.

JAY SCHENIRER City Council Member

A portion of the second halfcent could be invested by the city to support job creation and economic development efforts, such as the city's joint venture with UC Davis in the Aggie Square Innovation Campus.

I hope that much of the remainder of the money could be invested in the city's future to prepare our young people to fill the jobs of the future, to build affordable housing

and to continue addressing the homeless crisis. With a state housing bond issue on the ballot and the potential resurrection of a redevelopment program, we will need local match dollars to be able to compete for state funds.

Poverty and income disparity are growing faster in Sacramento than in all but a handful of American cities. Research shows that while three-quarters of the jobs being created today require a high level of skill, just 18 percent

of Latino and black residents of the city obtain a four-year college degree. And only half continue their educations beyond high school. If we don't educate more of our people, we can't attract or grow companies that need well-trained

Measure U on the November ballot gives voters the ability to determine the city's future. These investments won't and can't go unchecked. The council is working with the business sector and the community at large to design appropriate metrics and accountability measures to ensure that the funds are invested effectively and efficiently.

I believe Sacramento is at a pivotal point in its history. Currently, the needs and desires of our residents exceed the resources we can deliver. Measure U has the potential to provide the means for our great city to take steps toward uplifting and transforming our neighborhoods and

I look forward to hearing from you on this important

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## Neighborhood writers explore wars of the worlds—of fruit and deep-sea civilizations

By Bruce Pierini

wo Curtis Park residents have recently published children's and sciencefiction books with some resemblance to contemporary headlines.

#### **Jeff Durston**

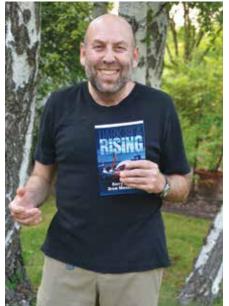
High school teacher Jeff Durston wrote the whimsical "Make America Grape Again: How One Misguided Orange Almost Ruined the Whole Fruit Salad."

In Durston's children's book, an unexpected shakeup

roils the fruit nation and an unhappy orange wants to send away all the imperfect fruit. Will the fruit learn to appreciate their differences or will they have to say goodbye to the misshapen apples, overripe mangoes and wrinkly raisins?

Told in clever rhyme, this playful tale invokes powerful themes and will have children and adults laughing as they root for a common winner-inclusion over intolerance and fairness over injustice.

"I chose this subject as an allegory because I am a father of two young children



Photo/Judy Harper

Neighbor Barry Broad of 26th Street talks about his new sci-fi novel.

"We liked the idea of challenging the of this planet," Broad said. "We loved the idea of creating a first encounter with an us as anything we could imagine that lives in outer space. We wanted our creatures to live just like we do, but in their own very different environment right here on Earth."

and I have come to believe that now, more than ever, is an important time to pass down the fundamental values of tolerance and inclusion to our kids," Durston said.

#### **Barry Broad**

Lobbyist Barry Broad is co-author with Drew Mendelson of "Dark Sea Rising," a kind of war-of-the-worlds, except the aliens are beings evolved from long-lived cephalopods (think octopus and squid). The fight is not over control of the

Earth's inhabitants but of its oil.

Why did the authors choose such an unusual clash of civilizations?

notion that we are the unchallenged masters intelligent species that was as different from have a culture, a sense of humor, to love and

From left, Sage, Brigitte, Milo, Noelle and Darryl Berberi-Hill moved to Fourth Avenue across the street from the Sierra Green playground.

Judy Harper

## Growing family finds space on Fourth Avenue

As their family grew, Brigitte and Darryl Berberi-Hill searched for a larger space than the home they owned in Land Park near Tower Theatre. The couple found their new place on Fourth Avenue in Curtis Park, conveniently near the Sierra Green playground for their young son.

Brigitte, a CPA with an accounting firm downtown, and Darryl, a geologist with an environmental consulting firm, keep busy with three children. Son Milo is 21 months old. Their nieces also reside with the couple: Noelle, age 14, started at McClatchy HISP this year and is on the cheer team. Sage, age 13, started eighth grade at Cal Middle School and enjoys softball.

"With a bigger family, we wanted a

bigger house and we were hoping to stay close to the kids' schools," said Brigitte. "We love the neighborhood-the character of the homes, the tree-lined streets and friendly neighbors. We are very happy that we found a place here."

The couple installed a new side porch. They enjoy sitting on red Adirondack chairs, with a small red rocking chair for Milo, facing Sierra Green.

Darryl brews beer in his increasingly rare spare time. They previously lived two blocks from New Helvetia Brewing Co. Now, they're within a few minutes' walk to Curtis Park's Pangaea Bier Cafe, Hop Gardens Taproom and Gunther's for family ice cream treats.

— Susan MacCulloch

## Donations for Elisa Barajas, Tamale Lady

E lisa Barajas, who has brought her homemade tamales to homes in our neighborhood for more than a decade, lost her furniture and clothing in an apartment fire, according to SCNA board member Kate Van Buren.

Kate posted on NextDoor a request

for donations of a small bed, a kitchen mixer and other utensils for Elisa. Neighbors responded with a variety of household goods and contributions of more than \$1,000 to a GoFundMe account: https://www.gofundme.com/elisathe-tamale-lady. — Craig McCulloch



Join neighbors to become an SCNA member: sierra2.org or call 916 452-3005.

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## You, too, can create a feast Romans would admire

By Bruce Pierini

Porchetta alla Romana is one of the iconic culinary masterpieces for which Rome is justifiably famous. There are countless variations, but mostly the Romans stick to something close to this recipe. You typically find it in delis and at butcher's trucks at Christmas time.

I have made *porchetta* [por-két-ta] myself several times for special family dinners. You can do it on the rotisserie or in the oven.

I recommend letting Taylor's Market butchers prepare it for you. At \$5.99 per pound for pork belly, it's a real deal. You bring the herb/garlic/fennel mixture and they do all the fancy knife and string finger gymnastics.

Order the pork belly in advance. You will need a 7 to 10-pound roast to feed 15-20 people. Expert butcher Paul Carras was my knife-and-string craftsman who happily accommodated my detailed directions. Once the porchetta is assembled, you can freeze it for up to three months.

#### **PORCHETTA ALLA ROMANA**

7 to 10 pounds pork belly

#### Herbal rub:

½ cup extra virgin olive oil

12 cloves garlic, minced

1 cup chopped rosemary leaves

½ cup chopped sage leaves

½ cup basil leaves

4 tbs fennel seeds

1 tbs Calabrian crushed red pepper

2 tbs lemon zest

1 tbs salt

The mixture should not be too oily, just wet enough to easily cover the pork.

- 1) Mix the ingredients in a food processor. Refrigerate if not using right away.
- 2) Either at home or with the butcher's help, score the fat-streaked meat side with a series of crosshatched cuts ½ inch apart and about ¼ inch from the skin on the other side. This creates the nooks and crannies for the herbal mixture to penetrate the belly.
- 3) Smear the herbal mixture all over the surface of the scored belly, making sure to force the mixture between the squares of crosshatched pork.
- 4) Roll up the belly so the edges meet each other. This is important to keep all the skin exposed to the heat that will make the delicious skin cracklings.
- 5) With lengths of string, tie the belly securely every inch along it.
- 6) Stab with shallow cuts all over the skin to allow rendered fat to leave the roast during cooking.
- 7) Put the prepared belly in the refrigerator for 24 hours uncovered to allow the skin to dry out.
- 8) If using a rotisserie, put a roasting pan underneath where the belly will turn; if oven roasting, put the belly in a rack within a high-sided roasting pan. This will catch the considerable grease that is rendered during the slow roasting.
- 9) On the barbecue, use indirect heat (use the burners aside the belly, not the ones directly underneath and slowly cook 2-1/2 hours at 300 degrees. During the last 20 to 30 minutes, turn the temperature up to 400 degrees to blister the skin. At the end of roasting, the skin should be a rich golden brown with very little charring.
  - 10) Remove belly and place on carving board. Remove



Photo/Wayne Anderson

Slicing the porchetta at his grill, Bruce is ready to serve.

strings and let sit for 15 minutes. Cut into ½ inch slices and use a spatula to plate or place on warmed ciabatta rolls.

I know this sounds complicated, but you can do it! After your first *Porchetta alla Romana*, you'll be a pro.

I would enjoy hearing how it turned out from anyone who prepares this recipe. You can write me at brucepierini@gmail.com with "porchetta" in the subject heading.

 $Buon\ Appetito!$ 

## Butchers' world competition coming to Sacramento in 2020

By Judy Scheible

Taylor's Market co-owner and butcher Danny Johnson is doing his best to put Sacramento on the international map in competitive butchering.

At Johnson's suggestion, the organizers of the International Butchers' Competition have selected Sacramento to host the 2020 event.

In March, Johnson was captain of the first team of

U.S. butchers to represent this country in the international competition, held this year in Belfast, Northern Ireland. While he was there, Johnson pitched Sacramento as a host for the next event. Paris, France and Sao Paulo, Brazil, also sought to host the 2020 event.

Now Johnson faces the daunting task of organizing the event and hosting teams from all over the world. The butchers will spend about five days touring and learning about California products and two days in competition. Dates and location of the 2020 event will come into focus after the international organizers visit the region. Johnson expects the event to occur around Labor Day, but the venue is still to be determined.

Johnson said four members of last year's U.S. team will return, and three new members will be selected.

As the event draws closer, neighbors can expect to see signs in the market about a meet-and-greet event for the visitors and a fundraiser. Each team pays its own expenses.



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