

VIEWPOINT

A Publication of the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association

Vol. 40, No. 10

2791 - 24th Street, Sacramento, CA 95818 • 916 452-3005 • www.sierra2.org

June 2019

Who is that small person?



Photo/Joan Cusick

Sebastian the St. Bernard is learning to share his home on Portola Way with baby Frances, who was born April 1 to parents Jessica Cuckovich and Jason Schwerin. For some of the other changes in the neighborhood, see Community Corner, Page 11.

Neighbors seek cleaner, quieter yard-care tools

By Bruce Pierini

Are you sick and tired of the whining noise of gas-powered leaf blowers?

Not only do they emit noxious contaminants in clouds of dust, evidence suggests that their loud noise contributes to serious health problems, including heart disease, high blood pressure, low birth weight and physical, cognitive and emotional issues that arise from being too distracted to focus on complex tasks and from never getting enough sleep, according to a report last month in *The New Yorker* magazine.

Concerned about these problems, dozens of neighbors gathered May 18 in Curtis Park to consider greener alternatives such as electrical lawn equipment and simple rakes and brooms.

The event was sponsored by the SCNA Neighborhood Concerns Committee in coordination with "Clean and Quiet Yardcare," an ad hoc group organized by Kathy Les and Hal Thomas of Portola Way with the help of a dozen motivated neighbors.

Kevin Jillson from Stihl products provided equipment and demonstrations on their uses.

SMUD board member Greg Fischman came to learn more about cordless electric equipment. Fischman said he uses all-electric equipment now because "you don't have to buy

Please see Leaf blowers, Page 9

Proposed shelter needs state funding, another vote

By Jay Schenirer

Earlier this year, I proposed two temporary homeless shelter sites in District 5 – one at the Florin Road Regional Transit station parking lot, and the other in a Caltrans-owned lot on X Street near Alhambra Boulevard.

Since announcing those two sites, our office has held large community meetings and small neighborhood meetings, has spoken with more than 400 neighbors, and has received hundreds of emails and phone calls about concerns not only for those who are experiencing homelessness on our

streets, but also concerns about the impacts of people living without shelter in our neighborhoods.

Last month, City Council approved two sites – Capitol Park Hotel at Ninth and L streets downtown and the Ethan Way Re-Housing Shelter at Cal Expo –

Please see Shelter, Page 3

Summer concerts in the park

Councilmember Jay Schenirer will serve ice cream again during the summer concerts
Page 5



Clubs for movie and book lovers

The book and film clubs at the senior center promote inclusivity and idea sharing
Page 5



Flipping, serving pancakes raises funds for Bret Harte

Volunteers, supporters came for the annual pancake breakfast
Page 12



Powerhouse Science Center designer lives on Fourth Avenue

By Judy Scheible

If you've driven recently along Interstate 5 just north of downtown, you've probably seen the construction under way on the old power station next to the river. The architect who designed the renovation and expansion of the historic building is Jason Silva of Fourth Avenue.

A graduate of Cal Poly's architectural program, Silva is a partner in Dreyfuss + Blackford Architecture. He has worked on the Powerhouse Science Center for 12 years.

Leading up to the start of construction were numerous design changes and challenges with funding.

"We always had to be sensitive to the historic significance" of the



Architect for the Powerhouse Science Center is Jason Silva of Fourth Avenue with his wife, Janel, and their son, Madison, 12, on vacation in Arizona.

building, Silva said.

Since mid-May, drivers have been able to see into the building because the east wall has been removed.

"I'm excited that it's moving forward," Silva said. "Everything from



Rendering of the planned Powerhouse Science Center that is to open in 2021.

the beginning design is there. It's an amazing project."

Silva explained that the construction includes shoring up the historic building as well as adding a floor in the central area, building a

planetarium, a classroom and a café.

Silva said he expects the Powerhouse Science Center to open in 2021.

For more information about the center: www.dreyfussblackford.com/project/powerhouse-science-center/.



Auburn Overlook by Jill Estroff

Solo show for Jill Estroff at KVIE Gallery from June 27 to Aug. 23

Curtis Park artist Jill Estroff will have her first solo show at KVIE Gallery.

A public reception will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. June 27 at KVIE Studios, 2030 W. El Camino Ave.

"Outdoor Beings: Being Outdoors" features her vivid landscapes with figures.

"Artist Gregory Kondos was

recently honored there, so it is a special privilege to be in such fine company," Jill said.

The show runs through Aug. 23 at KVIE, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information: www.jillestroff.com.

Sunh Fish Co. moves to Broadway

In early May, The Sunh Fish Company, formerly on 19th and V Streets, moved to 1313 Broadway.

Sunh Fish is a retail and wholesale fish market that sells fresh fish and seafood. It has been a popular place for neighbors to shop because of its nearby location to our neighborhood.

Fresh live crabs and lobster are available in season. There is a frozen cabinet that includes shrimp, pot stickers, and tofu. A separate shelving area offers an assortment of seasonings, condiments, Asian food sauces, and tempura to be used in fish preparation.

— Craig McCulloch

Home on Portola Way was childhood residence of world famous designer

By Erik Fay

A "sold" sign recently appeared in front of 2115 Portola Way, a two-bedroom home occupied when new by a family whose 7-year-old daughter would later become one of Sacramento's most famous native daughters — Ray Eames.

In collaboration with her husband, Charles, Ray Eames designed era-defining architecture, industrial and commercial furnishings, textiles, sculpture, medical tools and toys. She designed pieces in the collections of New York's Museum of Modern Art and the Library of Congress. Her commercial and industrial designs from the 1940s to the 1970s received international recognition.

Called Ray-Ray by her family, she was born on Dec. 15, 1912, at Sutter Hospital to Edna and Alex Kaiser. Alex Kaiser managed the Empress Theatre (now the Crest), but by 1920 he was a successful agent and general manager of the Sacramento Agency for the California State Life Insurance Co. The



Ray Eames in one of her iconically designed chairs.

family owned the home at 2115 Portola Way from 1920 to late 1923.

Today, much of the two-bedroom home looks as it would have during the Kaiser family's time. Notable changes include a remodeling of half of the front porch, which allowed an enlarged master bedroom. One bathroom looks to have been remodeled in the 1940s.

During the family's years at 2115 Portola Way, Ray attended Highland Park School for third and fourth grade and the brand new Sierra School for fifth and sixth grade. She is certainly Sierra School's most famous graduate.

In 1924, the Kaiser family moved into a Donner Way home that they

Please see Eames, Page 10

Two new members join SCNA board

Sense of community attracted Angelis family

For new SCNA board member Charles Angelis, coming to California from his native Greece was a cultural shock. He had lived on an island with 80,000 residents, where people knew their neighbors. In his 20s, he had served in the Greek army, traveling and meeting people from different walks of life.

In California, he found himself in cookie-cutter suburbs “where it seems people lock themselves in their homes after work and don’t talk to each other much.”

And then, while house hunting, Charles and his family discovered Curtis Park. “There’s a greater sense of community connection here,” he says. “People seem to get out into nature, even if that’s urban nature, and talk to each other. Neighbors are friendlier here.”

Charles purchased a cargo bicycle to transport his children to school and shop for groceries at the new Safeway. Riding his bike with his children has helped Charles and his family feel connected with several staples of Curtis Park life – the farmers markets, coffee shops, events and other adventures.

Charles is a project engineer for the Bay Area startup Plex. Previously, he worked as a team manager for Apple at its Elk Grove campus, a digital media teacher for the San Juan Unified School District, and a freelance video editor. He is excited to consult and be a part of a future “tech lab” at Sierra 2.



Charles Angelis

Moos, wife enjoy biking to work downtown

New SCNA board member Alex Moos, his wife, Nichole, and their golden retriever, Chewie, knew Curtis Park was the perfect place to settle down.

Nichole works as an optometrist at Capitol Optometry on 12th Street. Alex works for the state Department of Education and is pursuing a doctorate in education at UC Davis. They can both ride their bikes to their downtown jobs if weather permits.

Alex and Nichole enjoy walking Chewie through the leafy streets of our historic neighborhood. They savor the restaurants and breweries that attract top culinary talent from all over

California.

Alex is an audiophile. From Otis Redding and Miles Davis to Nirvana, his broad taste in music is found not on a Spotify playlist but on his collection of vinyl albums.

Alex and Nichole have a busy life, but Alex has prioritized volunteering some time and energy to serving on the SCNA board to connect with everything that makes this neighborhood a wonderful place to settle down.



Alex Moos

Shelter: City Council is moving forward to approve funding for shelter

(Continued from Page 1)

which could make 280 more beds available by next winter. Other sites, including one in south Sacramento (not Florin), and the Broadway/X Street site were identified as suitable options for additional beds, but funding is contingent upon the upcoming state budget.

We are moving forward with the Broadway/X location. Part of the vote last month was to authorize city staff to conduct preliminary site analysis if additional funding becomes available. Another public vote by City Council is required to approve funding (when available) for the Broadway/X site.

Through our neighborhood outreach, concerns were identified related to community safety, especially because of proximity of schools and youth programs to the proposed sites. In response to these concerns and to maintain open communication with neighbors, we established a community advisory committee for the proposed Broadway/X shelter, comprising neighbors and representatives from neighborhood associations, business organizations and owners, and the city. The committee will meet monthly and on an as-needed basis to develop a good-neighbor policy between the

More than \$14,000 donated to SCNA on Big Day of Giving

By Terri Shettle

SCNA received \$14,391 in donations in the 24-hour Big Day of Giving on May 2.

SCNA had identified several priorities for funding during the campaign: 24th Street Theatre renovation; Sierra 2 Center preservation; Trees and Gardens Fund; Senior Activity Center; and The Learnery Lab construction.

The majority of donations were



designated for Sierra 2 Center preservation (\$9,958). Other contributions included \$1,462 to continue the theater renovation project; \$1,325 for the newly created Trees and Gardens Fund; \$900 to build The Learnery Lab; and \$746 for the Senior Activity Center.

Some 600 nonprofits in the region received total donations of \$8,357,634 in the annual campaign.

NextDoor

Many mourning death of Third Avenue dog

By Craig McCulloch

Trex, a small Chihuahua that was lost on New Years Eve 2018 and found three months later with help from NextDoor readers, died on Easter Sunday, according to his owner, Hai Leong of Third Avenue. More than 50 people posted expressions of sorrow on NextDoor.

Bougainvilleas grow in Curtis Park

A Land Park resident recently posted a question about whether bougainvilleas can be grown successfully in our climate. He received about 30 positive replies from people who have grown the plants along south and southwest exposures. Several recommended that the plants be covered

during a frost period. Some noted that the leaves fell off during the winter but recovered well in the spring and came back with many colorful blossoms.

Stolen bikes on the rise

The number of bicycles reported stolen continues to rise, even as some other types of theft decline, according to FBI statistics. The Sacramento Police Department offers a free bicycle registration program. If the bike is stolen and recovered by police, it will be returned to the registered owner. See <https://rideon.sacpd.org>. In addition, the nonprofit group Sacramento Area Bike Owners offers many tips for properly locking your bike and types of bike locks available – <https://sacbike.org/resources/protect-your-ride/>.

city and the neighboring community, and learn about shelter operations, data related to police calls and services around the shelter, and any challenges that may arise.

I also met with schools and youth programs in the immediate area near the shelter – St. Hope, Sacramento High School, the Salvation Army, the Greater Sacramento Urban League, College Track, Teach for America, and American Legion High School – who also shared concerns and with whom we’ll work to address any issues or perceived issues related to a shelter between Broadway and X Street.

In the meantime, my office will continue to meet with constituents, the community advisory committee, and educators in the neighborhood to ensure that when funding becomes available, we will be prepared and have the support of the surrounding community.

For me and my office, continued communication between the city and constituents on the homeless crisis has been a top priority. We will continue to work to ensure that all constituent voices have been heard.

Jay Schenirer is the councilmember for District 5.

Notes from May 1 meeting

Bylaws amended to change date of election

The election of the SCNA board of directors will be changed to coincide with the beginning of the fiscal year, which starts in July. Our bylaws will be amended to include language that resident members will always be in the majority. A vote to approve the amended bylaws was unanimously passed.

SCNA President **Andi Liebenbaum** will facilitate the annual board retreat. Attorney Coryn Gardner will give a presentation on the legal responsibilities that board members have overseeing a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Crocker Village park

Wendy Roof, the niece of historian **Donald Rivett**, has lived in Curtis Park for 25 years. She shared with the board the contributions made by her uncle, who published thousands of articles and pictures of Curtis Park. His name has been proposed for the new park in Crocker Village. He grew up in Curtis Park and meets the city's

criteria for the park to be named after him.

Neighborhood Concerns

A representative of Land Park Softball, a Little League organization, attended the Neighborhood Concerns Committee meeting and asked for our support in encouraging the city to improve the Curtis Park ball field. The field would be available for other groups when the league was not using it. The committee supports the softball league's request.

Chair **John Mathews** reported that the last Cops & Coffee was not well attended. However, Neighborhood Concerns will probably host one more in 2019. The next one will have more structure, a theme, crime statistics and a presentation. Suggestions, such as cyber security and outwitting porch pirates, can be submitted to Neighborhood Concerns.

Viewpoint

Viewpoint is one of the best forms of communication SCNA has to reach

Next meeting

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

out to the community. A discussion included a suggestion of asking at least one board member to attend *Viewpoint* meetings, and putting *Viewpoint* under the executive director's purview, so that important information about Sierra 2 makes it into each edition.

Egg hunt

A well-attended Egg Hunt left some children with very few eggs. More will be needed next year, especially considering the increase in young families in Curtis Park. Children and parents had a fun time at each craft table, and the Easter Bunny welcomed hundreds of children for their yearly photo.

Dogxilliary

The Dogxilliary dog park at Sierra 2 Green is in need of someone who has a couple of hours a week to input registration information into a database, respond to emails, and update the Facebook page. There are only a few rules that need to be followed, and maintaining a registry of dogs and owners is one of them. If there is a high school student needing community service hours, contact **Kate Van Buren** at ktvanburen6@gmail.com.

Curtis Fest

Executive Director **Terri Shettle** reported that Curtis Fest has 20 artists signed up, with a goal of 100 vendors. Each booth costs \$75. There will be food and beverages. The petting zoo will not be a part of Curtis Fest this year.

Early sponsors for Music in the Park are Cook Realty, SMUD and Councilmember Jay Schenirer.

— *Kate Van Buren, board secretary*

President's message

SCNA board feels shelter proposal is worth trying

The SCNA board voted at its April meeting to support the city's plan to construct a temporary homeless shelter at the proposed Broadway/X Street location.

Recognizing that this position has thoughtful supporters and detractors, we present answers to some reasonable questions about this vote and the neighborhood association's consideration of the difficult and competing issues related to the shelter.

Why did the SCNA board support the establishment of the center at the X-Alhambra location?

Most people agree that encampments of tarps and tents along the freeway have been increasing in number and size. It feels as if the number of homeless people living in and adjacent to our neighborhood is growing. The significant challenges for all parties struggling from the effects of chronic homelessness are staggering. Business and homes are impacted. Addiction and mental health issues suffered by many on the streets, a lack of available and concentrated

ANDI LIEBENBAUM
SCNA Board President



resources, and negative interactions between some of our local businesses and neighbors with some of the people living along the freeways have created a perfect storm of tension and frustration. That makes the climate right for a solution, and we believe that Mayor Darrell Steinberg's call for the council districts

to establish triage centers throughout the city is a thoughtful, reasonable and important attempt at a solution.

What do we think are the benefits to the Curtis Park neighborhood?

Since it appears there already are dozens of homeless people living in and around Curtis Park, placing a shelter near to where these people are, providing services for them, and ideally giving them a path toward greater health and shelter is a benefit for our neighborhood. We are hopeful that the city's Pathway to Health Program and establishment of triage shelters will help the people on the streets who are suffering and also our local business people

and neighbors whose lives and livelihoods have been negatively impacted in the absence of solutions.

Do we see any potential drawbacks?

We understand the sensitivity of locating homeless shelters and services; doing so adjacent to residential and burgeoning business corridors is probably not anyone's first choice. However, we trust the city's commitment to addressing anticipated negative consequences. As identified in the good-neighbor policy, issues such as cleanliness, noise and other nuisances will be addressed, security and safety at the shelter site and in the adjacent neighborhoods will be funded and the city and service providers will be held accountable for delivering to the best of their abilities.

We accept the possibility that the Broadway/X Street site may not work out as planned. We accept that more services are needed for families with children. We recognize that there is no magic-wand solution. But we are ready to try something different, because what we are doing is not working.

We support the city's efforts to implement a proven, reasonable and cost-effective opportunity that stands to benefit all of us. We look forward to learning more and remaining engaged as the shelter programs become reality.



SIERRA 2DAY

Music in the Park series starts June 30 with Afro-Latin funk

The first free concert in the Music in the Park summer series at William Curtis Park will be from 6 to 8 p.m. June 30, featuring the Afro-Latin funk sounds of Sang Matiz.

The band has enlivened audiences for more than eight years with original compositions and covers that fuse high-energy World and Afro-Latin beats with contemporary rhythms such as pop, jazz and funk. The combination of styles weaves catchy, syncopated melodies with flamenco-style finger picking.

This is a great way to relax with family, friends and neighbors on the last Sunday of the month. With a blanket and picnic basket, you can enjoy the music in a wonderful outdoor setting. There will be at least one food truck for each event – Kado's Asian Grill on June 30.

Mr. Cooper will get the evening started and entertain the young at heart between sets.

Music in the Park concerts, hosted by SCNA, are held annually the last Sundays of June, July and



The high-energy band Sang Matiz will perform at the first of the summer series of Music in the Park.

August. Series sponsors are Cook Realty, SMUD and City Councilmember Jay Schenirer, who will again dish out Gunther's Ice Cream throughout the evening.

The other performers in the concert series will be Dr. Rock and The Stuff on July 28; and On Air on Aug. 25, following Curtis Fest.

Film, book clubs offer several options for seniors to socialize

By Katie Byram

Social groups and clubs are often geared toward specific interests, which can make it difficult to find a group that meets an individual's needs. Fortunately, the Senior Center has a multitude of choices with the

aim to offer something for everyone.

With two monthly reading groups on the calendar, there's always a variety of books to read and discuss. Bibliophiles and book critics alike find book clubs to be a fun space to discuss ideas, share viewpoints, and get recommendations on good

authors. The Nonfiction Book Club focuses strictly on nonfiction titles with often-lively discussions on current events and societal issues. The Fiction Book Club has a more traditional approach, reading novels from all genres, and typically pleasing participants with a variety of reading preferences. A top reason to join a book club is the prompt to read titles and genres one might otherwise avoid.

The Film Club is a monthly gathering for movie lovers. The group selects films from all genres and enjoys popcorn at every screening. Participants are encouraged to suggest movie titles from the new DVD releases to the old favorite movies with replay value. While providing the opportunity to see movies for free, the Film Club promotes inclusivity and idea sharing. Founding member and steadfast attendee Jack Rader describes himself as a social person who likes the Film Club because it "gives me contact with others of similar interests. I don't get that interaction outside of the Senior Center."

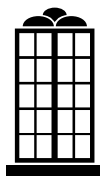
All clubs at the Sierra 2 Senior Center are open to newcomers. Clubs are donation-based, so members are asked to chip in a couple dollars each month (especially if they treat themselves to the free coffee.) See the Senior Center calendar listing on page 7 for the latest book and movie titles.



The Fiction Book Club meets monthly and provides a place to discuss ideas and share viewpoints.

Photo/Kate Lauter

JUNE 2019



SIERRA 2 CENTER

FOR THE ARTS & COMMUNITY

**CHILDREN****Capital City Music Together**

Children 5 and under.

For schedule: Jennie Ribadeneira,
916 990-3222. capitalcitymusictogether.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**ART****Glass Mosaic Classes**Tuesdays, Noon-3 p.m. Room 11
karensarp51@gmail.com**DANCE****Adult Ballet****Two Rivers Dance Center**Saturdays, Studio 2
10:15 a.m., Ballet 1. 12:30 p.m., Ballet Basics
info@tworiversdancecenter.com**Irish Folk Dancing**1st and 3rd Mondays, 7-9 p.m., Studio 1
Liam Irish, 530 677-5549**Polynesian Dance**Tuesdays, 6-7:30 p.m. Studio 2
alohatya@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**Thursdays, 3-4 p.m., Studio 1
Amy Cornellier, 916 792-5561**Kalanjali: Dance of India**Saturdays, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Room 11
510 526-2183, katherine.kalanjali@gmail.com**Tartan Hearts****Scottish Highland Dance**Sundays, 9-11 a.m., Studio 3
tartanhearts@gmail.com
facebook.com/TartanHeartsDance**Moodment Dance Workshops**Saturdays, 2:30-3:30 p.m., Studio 2
moodmentdance.com**Treat Dance Class**Fridays (except the last), 8-9 p.m., Studio 1
Ashley Battle, (916) 399-6474**AfroRhythms Dance Class**Thursdays, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Studio 1
225 263-1707**MUSIC****Nashville Songwriters Association**2nd Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Room 12
Free • Gabrielle Kennedy: 916 476-5073**Japanese Taiko Drumming**Tuesdays, 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**Tuesdays, 7:30-8:30 p.m.
Thursdays, 8:15-9:15 p.m.
Saturdays, 9-10 a.m.
Studio 2
Shifu Byron, lohan36@sbcglobal.net**T'ai Chi Ch'uan**Saturdays, 8-9 a.m. Studio 1
Bradford Louie, bwlouie@yahoo.com**OTHER****Cochlear Community Meetings**6-8 p.m. Aug. 15, Nov. 7 Curtis Hall
cochlear.com/US/events**Know Thyself as Soul – Meditation**1st Sunday of the month, 1-4 p.m. Curtis Hall
knowthyselfassoul.org**FITNESS****Zumba with Toya & Linda**Mondays/Wednesdays, 7:30-8:30 p.m.,
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**Zumba**Fridays, 6-7 p.m., Sundays, 11 a.m.-noon,
Studio 2
Abraham Contreras, pakko.zumba@yahoo.com**Weight Watchers**Thursdays, 8:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m.
Saturdays, 9 a.m. Room 10. 800 374-9191**Stilettos with KG – Ages 18+**Wednesdays, 8:45 p.m., Studio 3
krystal, kgstilettos@gmail.com**Floor Stretch & Conditioning**Saturdays, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Studio 1
info@tworiversdancecenter.com**YOGA****Iyengar Yoga**Tuesdays, 10-11 a.m. Studio 3
Gladys Callander: 916 743-0246

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AT THE 24TH STREET THEATRE

A CELEBRATION OF HULA AND ALOHA

June 23 • 1-3 p.m.

Tickets: \$25 or two for \$40; \$12 (12 and under). Advance: Eventbrite.com; and alohatyra@gmail.com; or at the door.

Aloha Polynesia is celebrating 25+ years of hula and aloha in Sacramento. This concert will feature dances from Polynesia and live music. Featuring special guests Kalama Brothers (musicians from southern CA), Sacramento's 'Ohana Dance Group, and Legacies of the Pacific from the Bay Area.



CHILDREN'S DANCE RECITAL

June 30 • 2-3 p.m.

Tickets: \$15 at tututix.com

Info: dancedaze.org or 530 341-3292

You're invited to attend Dance Daze Inc. spring recital featuring performances and demonstrations from their Creative Movement class (ages 2-4), Ballet/Jazz/Hip Hop Combo class (ages 4-6), and Ballet & Contemporary class (ages 6 and up). Also included will be dance pieces performed by members of the UC Davis Release Contemporary Dance Company.



NEIGHBOR-TO-NEIGHBOR CLASSIFIEDS

FOR RENT: Fully furnished house available June 15 to Oct. 15. \$2,600/month, includes all utilities, wifi, gardener and bi-monthly house-cleaning. alevineharroun@gmail.com. (916) 529-6293.

ADS are \$5 for 25 words or less with advance payment. Deadline is the 15th of the month. Make check to Sierra 2 at 2791 24th St., Sacramento, CA 95818.



LEISURE

BOOK CLUB

2nd Monday, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

June 10: "Becoming" by Michelle Obama

July 8: "Sophia Tolstoy" by Alexander Popoff

NONFICTION BOOK CLUB

3rd Thursday, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

June 20: "Real American: A Memoir" by Julie Lythcott-Haims

July 18: "The Blue Zone Solutions: Eating and Living like the World's Healthiest People" by Dan Buettner

FILM CLUB

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

June 18: "Eternal Sunshine of a Spotless Mind" (2004)

WOMEN'S FRIENDSHIP GROUP

2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Room 11

LIFE HISTORY WRITING

Wednesdays, 1-4 p.m.

OPEN ART STUDIO

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

BEGINNING DRUMMING

Tuesdays, 1-2 p.m. Studio 1

Fee: \$7 per class or \$25 for the month

POTLUCK

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

FITNESS

FITNESS WALKING

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

GENTLE YOGA

Wednesdays, 10-11:15 a.m. Fees: \$10/drop-in; \$30/4 classes; \$60/8 classes Cancelled through May

EDUCATION

CULINARY ADVENTURES

with Heera Kulkarni

4th Tuesday of each month, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Prices vary by workshop

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Activities are free except where noted. (Donations appreciated)

Room 12 • 916 455-6339

seniorcenter@sierra2.org

MY STORY PROJECT

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

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.

HEAD SPACE

3rd Mondays, 12:30-2 p.m., Room 12

TAI CHI (Beginner, Intermediate & Mixed)

Mondays, 10-11 a.m. Studio 2

11 a.m.-noon Studio 3

Thursdays, 10-11 a.m., Room 12

PILATES WITH LAUREN

Tuesdays/Fridays

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STRENGTH AND BALANCE

Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Room 12

& Thursdays in Room 11

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Wednesdays & Fridays, 10-11 a.m., Studio 3

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MAHJONG

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



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California Poppies Watercolor Class

This class will focus on the California Poppy. Instructor Tonja Wilcox will teach several ways to create the delicate petals and help participants complete a composed piece with complementary greenery and flowers. No drawing skills needed. Good for beginners and intermediate level painters.

Saturday, June 1, 3-5:30 p.m.

Room 11, Fee: \$40

Beginning 2 Spanish

This class is a continuation of Beginning Spanish, perfect for those who feel "in-between" levels. With fun exercises and activities, you'll learn a new language in a simplified, comfortable and fun environment. Led by Deb Fountain.

Tuesday, June 4-July 9, 6-7:20 p.m.

Room 12, Fee: \$100

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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.

Mountains on the Lake

Acrylics Painting Class

Discover the joy of painting in this landscape painting class led by local artist Lizzy Mailho. Lizzy will guide painters in mastering clouds, mountain ranges, pine trees and lake water. Participants will use tabletop easels, palette knives and 2-inch bristle brushes to create a masterpiece. All painting styles are welcome.

Saturday, June 8, 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Room 11, Fee: \$45

How to Plan the Perfect Tea Party

Spend the afternoon learning and experiencing high tea hospitality. Each attendee will learn fancy napkin folds; craft matching menus and place cards; learn how to brew the perfect tea; and make brilliant scones. These elements will come together in an afternoon tea experience with three tiers of delicious tea foods. Presenter: Novel Tea.

Saturday, June 22, 1-3 p.m.

Room 12, Fee: \$45



Watercolor Birch Trees Workshop

Learn to use masking tape and masking fluid to create beautiful birch treescapes with colors inspired by the natural colors in Sacramento. Led by local watercolor artist Tonja Wilcox.. No drawing skills needed.

Saturday, June 29, 3-5:30 p.m.

Room 11, Fee: \$40

For more information and to see more listings, visit www.sierra2.org/thelearnery.

What's new at Sierra 2

Puppy school

Do you want to enjoy life with your new puppy? Prevent problem behaviors before they start. Get your puppy off to the right start with safe socialization and gentle training methods with Sirius Puppy Training classes in Room 11.

Puppy Kindergarten, for 8- to 11-week-old pups, is at 6 p.m. Wednesdays. Puppy Training 1 for 12- to 18-week-old pups, will start June 19 at 7 p.m. Wednesdays and start July 11 at 6 p.m. Thursdays. Puppy 2, for puppies that have completed Puppy 1, will start June 19 at 8 p.m. Wednesdays starting June 19. All classes are ongoing and start every five weeks.

Puppy Kindergarten is \$125/four weekly classes. All other classes are \$200/five weekly classes.

Instructor Heidi Hurdy is a certified dog trainer who has taught puppy classes for more than

10 years. For more details: www.siriuspup.com or contact Heidi at double.duty.dogs@gmail.com.

Coping with cancer stress

Wellness Within Cancer Support Services invites cancer patients, survivors and caregivers to attend a special daylong cancer retreat. This event will be presented from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday June 28 in the Garden Room. The day will include a guest speaker presenting "Nutritional Strategies to Manage and Prevent Cancer," as well as samplings of Wellness Within's classes. This retreat will help participants relax, reflect and be in community with people of shared experiences. Participants will learn new wellness practices to add to daily life.

A nutritious lunch will be provided. *Suggested donation is \$25.* Visit wellnesswithin.org or call 916 788-0333 to learn more. — Valerie Burrows

Dogxilliary is seeking a new organizer

One of the assets of living in Curtis Park is the Sierra 2 Green, which is a multi-use park for sports, picnics and various events. Also, it serves as a training facility for dogs, and within certain hours, is an off-leash park. To retain the privilege of having this jewel in our neighborhood, we must keep a registry of dogs and their owners. This also serves to protect our beloved best friends from unvaccinated or untrained dogs and owners.

The job entails maintaining a database, responding to emails, forwarding conflicts or emergencies to Neighborhood Concerns Committee and checking the Sierra 2 Green Facebook page.

If you are able to tackle the initial set up of the database, organize emails and input data, this may be just the job for you.

If you're interested in learning more, please contact Kate Van Buren at: ktvanburen6@gmail.com.

ADULT BALLET CLASSES

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Leaf blowers: Gas engines negatively affect global climate change and other problems

(Continued from Page 1)

and store gas, the equipment always starts, there is no maintenance, and it's much quieter and non-polluting."

According to SMUD board member Heidi Sanborn, "The Sacramento region has the fifth worst air quality in California." Sanborn moved out of Midtown to Carmichael after she got fed up with the noise of cars and blowers in the central city. "Getting us off gas engines is a super-high priority because they're so very polluting of the environment."

Claudia Anderson, who lives next to the park, said she is motivated by the contribution blowers make to global climate change. "We all need to take steps at a community level to make an impact," she said. But she sees a big problem in going green in Curtis Park: "The only electric gardener available, Fresh Air Yard Care, is maxed out and not taking new clients."

Kim Alexander of Fifth Avenue will take the issue of dangerous air and noise pollution to the May 29 Mayors' Commission on Climate Change, which is a joint initiative of Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg and West Sacramento Mayor Christopher Cabaldon. "We need to put these air and noise pollution reduction efforts into our neighborhood strategic plans," Alexander said. "Then these plans need to become part of the city's and county's general plan."

Rick Zacaroli has gone electric for three years. He said his Markham Way neighbors now suffer from "green envy." Zacaroli said his wife, Lori, appreciates



Photo/Dan Pskowski

In front of the display, are left to right, Kevin Walsh, Kevin Jillson (rep for Pacific Stihl) with neighbors Candy Anderson, Nancy McKeever, Rosanna Herber, Bruce Pierini and Kim Alexander. "not having to smell all that gas."

SCNA board member and arborist Dan Pskowski notes that not only the neighborhood but also professional landscapers benefit from the conversion to electric equipment. "If you're a landscaper in your 50s, you have shoulder rotator cuff problems due to the constant pull-starting of the gas-powered equipment," Pskowski said.

Visitors were impressed by the electric equipment's light weight.

For resources to replace gas-powered yard equipment with electric equipment: <https://sierra2.org/neighborhood-scna/advocacy/clean-quiet-yard/>.



Photo/Bruce Pierini

Paul Durbrow of 26th Street will care for your garden with a rake and hand tools.

Paul Durbrow rakes

When the Neighborhood Concerns Committee of SCNA was in the park one dark, cold morning, a gentleman walked up and volunteered to rake leaves – for anyone in the neighborhood who "feels at the mercy of Big Garden Care."

His name is Paul Durbrow, 50 in July, who lives on 26th Street. Paul taught high school math for 20 years but is currently not working. That means he is home to "hear the gas-powered lawn creatures every day, even in the rain!"

Paul likes to "get out and rake, sweep and dig by hand because it's good for us, our neighbors, our planet." He wants to use hand tools as a means to meet his neighbors, help beautify the neighborhood and get some outdoor exercise on top of it.

"I'm willing to meet with folks and see what they want done and how I can help."

Contact Paul at pddurbrow@hotmail.com.

— Bruce Pierini

Habanero Quintet to perform June 15

Doug Pauly of Second Avenue brings the Habanero Quintet to The Side Door, 2900 Fourth Ave., from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday, June 15.

The band plays a musical gumbo of Cuban Son, American Jazz and contemporary stylings. Doug Pauly (tres), Steve Roach (trumpet), Matt Robinson (bass), Tim Metz (drums), Kamau Mensah (percussion).

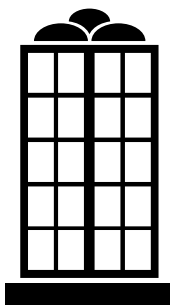
The venue is child-friendly; tickets are \$20.



Second Avenue neighbor Doug Pauly, left, will perform with Habanero Quintet at The Side Door.

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POINT OF VIEW

Battle to protect threatened trees can appear futile

By Dan Pskowski

For an advocate for trees not only in Curtis Park but also throughout Sacramento, trying to preserve city and private protected trees through the city's tree appeal process can seem futile.

Urban Forestry has crafted a process so any tree can be removed, even if the tree is healthy, structurally sound and has public support for preservation.

Tree appeals are not all handled in the same manner. City trees being removed as part of Urban Forestry's tree maintenance program are appealed to the Public Works director's designee, which is Urban Forestry.

I have appealed a few city tree removals, but quickly realized it was useless. It's like appealing a traffic citation to the police officer who issued it. Furthermore, it would reflect poorly on Urban Forestry staff if a tree they claimed warranted removal was preserved.

City trees and private protected trees that Urban Forestry has granted a removal permit cost \$298 to file an appeal. This charge was instituted to discourage concerned residents from opposing tree removals.

There was a significant spike in tree removal when the paradigm shift occurred in Urban Forestry from protect-and-preserve to remove-and-replace.

A hearing officer who is not a degreed arborist hears appeals. Developers present arguments on why the trees can't be preserved. But the hearing officer (who may not have an understanding of tree biology) must weigh arguments to preserve or remove and render a decision within 10 days of the hearing.

At a hearing last July, such a strong case was made to preserve a 34-inch diameter, 65-foot-tall London plane at 12th and O streets that the project manager requesting removal was allowed to submit additional information after the hearing was closed.

When a public records request was submitted for a public tree in the Land Park neighborhood, the city claimed there were no records. However, records that would have bolstered the case for preservation did exist but weren't released until after the tree appeal hearing was over. Why? Because based on the information contained in these records, the hearing officer would have denied the removal permit.

Removal of city trees for public projects requires

prior approval from City Council. City staff gets as much time as needed to present the project and trees proposed for removal. Residents opposed to the tree removals get only two minutes to testify. City staff also has the opportunity to respond to councilmembers' questions after public testimony is closed.

A Curtis Park resident recently filed an appeal for a private protected tree in a front yard across the street from her home. I inspected the tree, but from the ground was unable to make an accurate assessment if it could be preserved. My recommendation was to withdraw the appeal and use the \$298 fee to assist the tree owner in obtaining an advanced assessment by a qualified ISA certified arborist. However, Urban Forestry indicated there would be no refund even though the hearing hadn't been held. In another case, a developer withdrew a tree removal permit request for four mature Canary Island date palms. There was no appeal hearing, but again Urban Forestry indicated there would be no refund.

The message is clear: Don't waste your time or money trying to save trees because Urban Forestry is prepared not to allow trees to be saved.

Designer: Eames produced many design drawings at Sacramento Junior College

(Continued from Page 2)
owned until 1934.

Ray had a creative and culturally active childhood and teen years while living in Curtis Park. Her parents introduced Ray to the arts at an early age. Theater, drawing, design and dance were all key elements in her life. She was a member of the Sacramento High School Art Club, took art and design classes at Sacramento Junior College, and worked in local theater.

She produced many design drawings and paintings in this period. Her designs focused on women's fashions, fabric patterns, residential architecture, and abstract shapes which show themes similar to those found in her later sculptural, molded plywood furniture, and textile designs.

One of her signature design shapes was first documented while she lived in Curtis Park.

Alex Kaiser died unexpectedly in 1929. Edna Kaiser moved the family to New York after Ray's brother Maurice received an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1931.

In 1940, after several years of study with abstract expressionist painter Hans Hoffman, Ray was admitted to the Cranbrook Academy of Art in Michigan. McClatchy Newspapers president Eleanor McClatchy was a



Ray Eames' family lived at 2115 Portola Way in the 1920s.

Photo/Erik Fay

They moved to Los Angeles, where they developed the work that would eventually make them among the most recognized designers in the United States.

Ray maintained lifelong ties to Sacramento. The California Museum had an extensive exhibit in 2013 titled "Ray Eames – A Century of Modern Design," with many examples of her

Sacramento work.

She is one of two former Curtis Park residents inducted into the California Hall of Fame – Ray in 2012 and Joan Didion in 2014.

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51 years of Curtis Park memories

After 51 years in the family home on Fourth Avenue, Margie Piering decided it was time to downsize. She's moving to the Pocket area, closer to her middle son, Rob, and his family.

Margie sums up Curtis Park's ambience: "It's a feeling – the neighbors, the trees and this home." She marvels that Curtis Park has retained this particular sense of caring neighbors since she arrived in 1968.

While the Sacramento suburbs were the choice for young families, the Pierings chose a different path. Her late husband, Jerry, worked for the Army Corps of Engineers and during his commute home, he drove through Curtis Park and enjoyed the



Photo/Judy Harper
Margie Piering

established neighborhood with a mature tree canopy.

The couple moved into their home in February 1968 with their three boys, who were 6, 5 and 2 at the time. With its close proximity to Sierra School and the adjacent park, their home quickly became the neighborhood gathering spot for their sons' friends.

The Piering boys attended the Sierra School. From her front yard view, she could hear the kids play at the park and watch them walking to and from school. Back then, parents on her street would honk a car horn at 5 p.m. as the signal for the kids to come home for dinner.

Jerry ran the Curtis Park Little League for years, in a space behind the Sacramento Children's Home. They used and built baseball diamonds on an empty lot behind the Children's Home, which meant that resident children could play at no cost.

Margie's grandkids are having a difficult time with her move, especially since her home is an easy walk from Gunther's and Sierra Green.

While she'll miss her home and neighbors, "The neighborhood isn't getting rid of me; I'll be back," said Margie.
— Susan MacCulloch



Andy Bein and Bella Blackman Photo/Judy Harper

New on 4th Avenue

Neighbors recently welcomed Andy Bein and Bella Blackman to Fourth Avenue. Both are retired. For 23 years, Andy, a native of New York City, taught in the social work department at Sacramento State University. When not out hiking, he does clinical supervision and leads seminars. Bella was a nurse and midwife. Now she volunteers at a nature center.

They raised their two children in their Land Park home, which they had planned to remodel. However, when their longtime friend Susan Orr died, Andy and Bella opted to move into her home instead of enduring a remodel.
— Judy Scheible

New adventures ahead in South Carolina

After 32 years in Curtis Park, Anne Ferguson is selling her 26th Street home and moving cross-country to her newly purchased house in Habersham, S.C., near Beaufort.

"It's an opportunity to live in a part of the country I've not seen," she said. "The new community has similarities common to ours – it's an active neighborhood."

Before retirement, Anne worked as an attorney specializing in health-care business

transactions and regulatory matters.

Her lifelong passion for interior design led her to form ChambreChic, a business specializing in one-day room makeovers and other design work. She plans to continue this business in her new location.

Anne opened her charming home during two Curtis Park home tours. She believes Beaufort will be a good locale for new designs. It's an area along the Sea Islands with plenty of historic architecture,

waterfront activities and a friendly community.

Anne moved to Curtis Park in 1988. She viewed 100 houses before finding her 26th Street home. "I put everything into this house, all the improvements and extensive remodeling," she said. "I loved my home, but I found a home I like equally as much."

Driving to her new home across the country "fulfills a dream," she said. Freckles, her English spaniel, will keep her company during the drive.
— Susan MacCulloch



Photo/Judy Harper
Anne Ferguson

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University



Maxwell Pease

Maxwell Pease, son of Dorsey Griffith and Randall Pease (deceased Nov. 2017). Max grew up on 8th Avenue. He graduated from Sacramento State with a bachelor's degree in music. Max is working as a part-time professional jazz singer and also seeking full-time work.



Isa Flores-Jones

Isa Flores-Jones, daughter of Kim Flores and Dave Jones of Cutter Way, graduated with a bachelor's degree in history and literature from Harvard College. She plans to continue her advocacy against climate change.

High School



Niccolo Abate

Niccolo Abate, son of Michael & Lorraine Abate of 25th Street, graduated from Sacramento Waldorf School. Nicky will attend UC Santa Cruz to major in computer science: Computer Game Design. Nicky just published an album of music (Plastic Dream) online at: niccoloabate.bandcamp.com.



Taylor McCrary

Taylor McCrary, daughter of Bill and Dawne McCrary of 24th Street, graduated from CK McClatchy High School. She plans to study pre-med at University of Reno Nevada.



Kianna "Kiki" Walker

Kianna "Kiki" Walker, daughter of Chris and Wendy Walker of 6th Avenue, graduated from CK McClatchy High School in the HISP program. Kiki plans to attend San Diego State University in musical theater.



Sydney Walthall

Sydney Walthall, daughter of Brent Walthall and Lynda Smith of Donner Way, graduated from CK McClatchy High School. Sydney plans to attend University of Colorado at Boulder in the fall.



Callie Wong

Callie Wong, daughter of Patrick and Margaret Wong of Marshall Way, graduated from CK McClatchy High School in the HISP program. She plans to attend Cornell University.

Did we miss your grad?

The July *Viewpoint* will include more high school and college graduates in our neighborhood who may not have made it into this issue. Our deadline is June 15.

Please send the high-resolution photo and information to Carol at carolox@comcast.net. Photos and information can also be left at the Sierra 2 office during business hours. Please be sure to put the graduate's name on the back of the photo and include a phone number.

Bret Harte News

Pancake breakfast raises \$750 for Bret Harte PTA

By Adrianna Gonzalez

Bret Harte PTA served 147 people and raised about \$750 at the April 27 pancake breakfast fundraiser.

Volunteers included Daniel Savala, Rosana Barron, Maribel Duran, Samatha Woodmoore, Shannon Bradley, Lehte, Maxine Sarmiento, James Tucker, Ted Richardson, Bryan Terrell and Paul Yenovkian.

Broadway Coffee, Shift Change Market on Freeport Boulevard, City Councilmember Jay Schenirer and County Board of Education Trustee Bina Lefkowitz contributed to the event.

Proceeds went to the PTA general fund for use in future activities.



More than 150 people consumed pancakes, potatoes, juice and bacon on a sunny Saturday morning.

Photos/Caroline Dunivant