VIEWPOINT

A Publication of the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association

Vol. 41, No. 5

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

December 2019

Dale Rodenborn of Third Avenue helps sons Case, 8, and Evan, 6, select gift tags from the Angel Tree at the Sierra 2 Center. Both boys chose tags for boys who asked for trucks, games and sports balls from the Salvation Army program.



Photo/Joan Cusick

Neighbors' generosity makes the season bright

By Judy Scheible

ur neighborhood is known for its generosity, and it's never more apparent than during the holidays. For the fifth year, neighbors are helping the Salvation Army make sure every needy child gets a gift through the Angel Tree project.

The Sierra 2 staff got the project rolling in mid-November by setting up the tree in the Sierra 2 Center lobby near the front door and hanging gift-wish tags on the tree. Each tag represents a child's wish for a gift and includes his or her clothing sizes.

When neighbors stop in to select a tag, they sign the adjacent list with

Deadline for returning gifts to Sierra 2 office is Dec. 12.

their name, phone number and the key information on the tag. Each one has a child's name, age, size and gift wish. These range from a warm jacket (probably a mom's idea) to Legos, sports balls, art supplies, books and scooters — lots of scooters this year. Neighbors often add clothes to a child's wish.

After gifts are purchased, neighbors return them unwrapped to the Sierra 2 office, where they are put in a special bag with the child's name and tag.

Before the end of November,

most of the initial 100 tags had been taken, and the staff requested 50 more.

The deadline for returning the gifts is 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec.12.

Curtis Park neighbors bought more than 100 gifts last year. The staff hopes to double that this year. Sierra 2 staffer Stacy is in charge of the program this year, but most staffers can answer questions at 916 452-3005.

Among the many nonprofit organizations helping to feed and clothe poor people in our region are Loaves & Fishes, Wellspring Women's Center on Fourth Avenue, the Food Bank at 33rd Street and Broadway and the Salvation Army.

Neighbors challenge SCNA action eliminating membership

By Dennis Cusick

A bout two dozen longtime neighborhood leaders confronted the current SCNA board at its Dec. 4 meeting over the legality of bylaw changes that first eliminated members' voting rights and then ended SCNA membership altogether.

The sometimes heated one-hour discussion, at the start of the monthly meeting, resulted from a letter sent to the board Nov. 23 by many of the same people. The letter, reprinted on page 3, said the bylaw changes were made "without following the procedures that are required by state law and the bylaws to make these changes."

The letter said its authors "believe that the purpose of membership, and the right to vote, as part of SCNA's legal and organizational structure, is vital to involving our neighborhood community, both in board decisions and board selection. It's what gives SCNA its strength as an association."

Board member Eric Johnson was the board's point person for the discussion. He said there were two reasons for changing SCNA from a membership organization to a "non-statutory" organization: concerns about board members' legal liability; and concerns that the board could be vulnerable to a hostile takeover. Still, Johnson conceded, "We might be wrong."

The letter's 32 signers include former SCNA presidents Judy Harper, Mark Helmar, Rosanna Herber and Bill Hoover, as well as about a dozen former SCNA board members.

Herber, noting the size of the audience at the meeting, said, "This should be a real signal to the board that something's wrong."

Johnson agreed with Helmar's assessment that "Under your proposal the board selects its own members."

Please see Bylaws, Page 3

Trees of all ages need maintenance

Arborist Dan Pskowski offers tips to ensure health and longevity of your trees. Page 9

in winter



Trendy clothing shop on Franklin Boulevard

Sopha shopkeeper haunts flea markets to find clothing treasures to offer fashion bargains. Page 11



Longtime managing editor says it's time to say goodbye

By Dennis Cusick

Managing editor Carol Blackman doesn't recall when she started designing and assembling *Viewpoint*, though it was more than 30 years ago. What she does remember is she was there at the beginning – as a writer.

The first issue of *Viewpoint*, in July 1979, had a staff of five, listed alphabetically – Carol Blackman, Bob Foreman, Bruce Hagel, Dennis Renault and Judy Schroeter.

Carol wrote "Carol's Corner," a mix of nostalgic items about neighbors' recollections of streetcars on Fifth Avenue, William Curtis' vineyards south of Donner Way, and "Whiskey Hill" in the 1920s at 12th Avenue and Franklin Boulevard.

At the November meeting of the *Viewpoint* staff, Carol announced that this issue would be her last.

"I find that as my family has grown up, I want to spend more time traveling and having more adventures with them," Carol says. "My focus will turn to my personal life and projects at home and in the garden that have been waiting for my attention for too long."

Still, she says the departure will be bittersweet. "Of all of my freelance projects of over 30 years, I've always enjoyed producing *Viewpoint* the most," Carol says. She hosts the monthly staff meetings at the home she and husband Peter, a retired



attorney, share on 26th Street.

And, in recruiting new neighbors to help publish the neighborhood newspaper, she says she has met neighbors who have become friends. "Viewpoint is truly a group effort of volunteers who love living in Curtis Park and enjoy chatting about our community happenings," Carol says.

Beginning with the February issue, neighbor Nina Bookbinder of



Left, Carol
Blackman in
production
of her final
Viewpoint
edition. Nina
Bookbinder,
right, of
Highland
Avenue will take
over the job.

Highland Avenue will be in charge of production. Nina has worked as a designer and art director for the old Emporium department store in San Francisco and J.C. Penney in New York. Since 1986, she has had her own design firm, producing advertisements, catalogs, newsletters, book designs and web design. She has received a Clio Award and an American Graphic Design Award.

Police department creates mental health unit to provide for those in need

By Erik Fay

We all regularly see individuals who may be experiencing some form of crisis and are in need of mental health or other types of assistance. Mental health challenges are not limited to any particular neighborhood, socio-economic class, or racial group. Sacramento Police Department officers are frequently the first people called and asked to intervene and provide assistance to those in need of mental health services.

Calls to the Sacramento Police Department related to mental health issues have increased. In 2018 the Department received 9,267 requests for assistance related to mental health issues. The number of requests increased to 10,587 in the first ten months of 2019.

In response to the need in Sacramento for mental health services and for effective first responder action, the Sacramento Police Department created the Mental Health Unit in October 2018. In May 2019, Bridgette Dean was hired as the first Police Social Services Administrator. Bridgette has a bachelors and masters degree in Social Work from CSU Sacramento. She previously worked in elementary and high schools before taking a position with the Roseville Police Department. She is not a sworn officer but is a licensed clinical social worker and acts as a civilian lieutenant. She oversees the Mental Health Team plus the IMPACT Team (which responds to issues associated with homelessness) and the Hospital Team (which responds to needs of people in Kaiser and Sutter emergency rooms).

The Mental Health Unit consists of two sergeants, 16 officers and one reserve officer. They are available whenever requested by patrol officers in the field or by the public. The unit sees their purpose as bringing a different perspective to mental health situations. Bridgette strongly believes their unit and the Department can blend social work with police work. Their ultimate goal is to connect people with services they need and thereby reduce repeat 911 calls. Currently they connect people to over 50 organizations that offer counseling services,

shelter and housing, suicide prevention, health clinics, older adult services, self help guidance and much more. Ultimately, the department may establish more teams which would partner with clinicians from Sacramento County for crisis support. This is because law enforcement cannot always be the primary responders for challenges of homelessness and non-criminal crisis issues that impact city neighborhoods.

The Sacramento Police Department is unique in having devoted so many resources to mental health. In all of California only Roseville has a similar unit and it was created by Ms. Dean. Additionally, all department officers are now extensively trained in mental health. Officers are required to complete a minimum of 40 hours of annual mental health training. Our police department has created a new model for other California cities.

The Mental Health Unit can be contacted for services and resource information at SPDMentalhealthinfo@pd.cityofsacramento.org or by calling the non-emergency number at 916 264-5471.

SCNA Crab Feed set for Feb. 22

By Terri Shettle Sierra 2 Executive Director

SCNA's fifth annual Crab Feed will be from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, in Curtis Hall at the Sierra 2 Center.

Offerings will include beer bread, fresh green salad, pasta and Dungeness crab, with a no-host bar with beer, wine and soft drinks for purchase, all followed by a dessert auction. No outside beverages, please.



Live music will be performed. Tickets will be available online and in the office, starting in mid-December. Tickets will be \$50 for an individual unassigned seat and \$450 for a reserved table for eight. Sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 916 452-3005 or go to sierra2.org.

The event is a fundraiser for SCNA and Sierra 2 Center for the Arts & Community.

Buy or make presents on Dec. 7 at Holiday Gifts & Goods

By Katie Byram

Sierra 2 Center offers an unusual spin on craft fairs in which neighbors can craft their own holiday goodies from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7.

Holiday Gifts & Goods will feature two meeting halls and a patio tent filled with talented vendors selling creative gifts, such as handcrafted cutting boards from Ralph Copeland, colorful pet bandanas from Leashes and Collars, hammered leaf pendant necklaces from Maureen Hefti, and a set of bath bombs from Heats Path Designs.

Available in the Craft Tent will be opportunities to block print a cheerful design on a shirt, gift bag or card with Tenacious Goods, and design beaded ornaments for your tree with Capital City Beads. Also in the tent will be water marble silk scarves, coasters and ornaments from Craftopolis Craft Club.

Bylaws: Members present simple resolution

(Continued from Page 1)

The SCNA board made changes in the bylaws at meetings Sept. 5, 2018, and May 1, 2019. Notes of the Sept. 5, 2018, meeting published in the next month's *Viewpoint* included a single sentence on the decision: "The board unanimously passed bylaw revisions to comply with the California Corporations Code and SCNA's articles of incorporation."

In the June 2019 issue of *Viewpoint*, the board reported: "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." No mention was made of the elimination of SCNA membership.

The full import of the bylaws revisions was not immediately clear, apparently not even to some board members. Former board member Bruce Pierini said at the Dec. 4 meeting that he had voted in good faith for the 2018 bylaw changes that had been recommended by a consultant. "I now realize that I made a mistake," Pierini said. "I was wrong."

Attached to the Nov. 23 letter to the board was a fact sheet that made several points about the history of SCNA and its bylaws:

- SCNA was incorporated in 1980 as a nonprofit public benefit corporation.
- SCNA is a membership organization.

- Resident members in good standing are entitled to a vote at any meeting of the membership and may attend any meeting of the board.
- The members are entitled to vote for the election of directors at the regular annual meeting of resident members.
- California nonprofit corporation law protects the voting rights of members, which may not be terminated without written notice and a vote by the members.

Speakers from the audience made the point that if the board wants to change the 2013 bylaws, it must rescind the 2018 bylaws that are void, give proper notice and take it to a vote of the SCNA membership.

SCNA President Andi Liebenbaum responded to the letter with a letter of her own, dated Nov. 25. "We take your concerns seriously, and appreciate the care and energy put into the research," she wrote. "If we have erred, and correction of past actions is necessary, I am confident our legal and nonprofit experts will guide us through that process."

Johnson said the board would consult with an attorney about the legality of the bylaw changes and report the results of its investigation before its January meeting.

At the end of the discussion, neighbor Gerre Buehler asked if she could remain to observe the rest of the meeting. The answer was no. Sierra 2 Executive Director Terri Shettle explained: "The bylaws don't allow for public participation."

November 23, 2019

Board Members Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association

Dear Members of the Board,

We are members of the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association (SCNA), many of us former board members, who recently became aware that the board changed the SCNA bylaws in September 2018, to terminate all membership rights, including the right to vote on board members. Nonetheless this action was taken without following the procedures that are required by state law and the bylaws to make these changes. The attached memo titled SCNA Membership Provisions summarizes these requirements.

We also believe that the purpose of membership, and the right to vote, as part of SCNA's legal and organizational structure, is vital to involving our neighborhood community, both in board decisions and board selection. It's what gives SCNA its strength as an association. We are concerned the board may not recognize this essential aspect of what makes SCNA strong, successful and beneficial to the Curtis Park neighborhood.

We believe that the SCNA board did not follow the requirements of state law and the pre-2018 SCNA bylaws. We respectfully request that the board rescind the September 2018 and May 2019 bylaws.

In addition, we, as SCNA members, request that this issue be added to the agenda of the next SCNA board meeting on December 4.

Marian Moe
Judy Scheible
Gerre Buehler
Susan MacCulloch
Erik Fay
Genevieve Shiroma
Constance Hoover
Kathleen Ave
Nancee Murray
Mike McKeever
Cheryl Stewart

Carol Blackman
Mike Scheible
Sharon Helmar
Steve White
Anne Mazur
Michael Abbott
Bill Hoover
Rosanna Herber
Mimi Budd
Brenda McCulloch
Wayne Anderson

Peter Blackman Kathy Les Mark Helmar Craig McCulloch Kathleen Babin Charon Jenner Judy Harper Meg Heede Nancy McKeever Lynda White

SIERRA 2 CENTER

By Valerie Burrows SCNA Facility Administrator

Political collectibles

Button collectors, political junkies and armchair historians can delve into their passions at a show of political memorabilia and pop culture from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15 in Room 10. The gathering will offer thousands of Americana items. Experts will provide free appraisals. Admission is \$3; children and students are free. Children receive free buttons from various dealers. The show is sponsored by the American Political Items Collectors. Information: Adam Gottlieb, 916 956-2030.

Path to happiness

Would you like to go deeper, explore the way and know more about the Buddhist view of genuine happiness? Join Dr. B. Alan Wallace, an author, scholar, scientist, Buddhist and founder

What's new at Sierra 2

of the Center for Contemplative Research, for a two-day workshop Jan. 11 and 12, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Curtis Hall. He will share insights gleaned from decades of contemplation and work with such spiritual leaders as His Holiness the 14th Dali Lama. Assisting will be co-teacher Eva Natanya, a scholar, lecturer, writer and translator

Meditations offered during this two-day workshop present a path to inner fulfillment and human flourishing. Aimed at people inspired to explore the path in more detail and gain insights into the Buddhist view of genuine happiness, this weekend retreat will include an introduction to the path, known as the nine stages of shamatha, with guided meditations and Buddhist perspectives useful for both beginning and experienced practitioners. The afternoons

will introduce compassion and heart-opening practices, and the days may conclude with Q&A, if time permits.

Tickets are \$80 per day and can be purchased at bookwhen.com. Scholarships are available; no one will be turned away for lack of funds. Contact diamondlight.sac@gmail.com to apply.

Tamale fiesta

Soroptimist International of Sacramento South hosts a fundraiser dinner at 6 p.m. Jan. 18 in Curtis Hall to benefit underserved women and girls in our community.

Past recipients included emancipated foster youth, WEAVE, CASH (Community Against Sexual Harm), AAUW (American Association of University Woman) and My Sister's House.

Dinner will include tamales, salad, rice and beans. The event will also feature a raffle and dessert auction. Call 209 553-0512 to purchase tickets at \$25 per person.

Notes from Nov. 6 meeting

SCNA sets community meeting for Dec. 11

A general neighborhood community meeting is set for Dec. 11. County Supervisor Phil Serna and City Councilmember Jay Schenirer are expected to attend. SCNA committee members will staff booths to answer questions and listen to ideas from the public. Music and beverages such as cider and hot chocolate will be provided. A slideshow of past events may be presented, as well as a giant map of the neighborhood so attendees can mark their own homes to get an idea of who is being represented.

Gift cards may be offered as a raffle/door prize.

The board thanked departing members **Bruce Pierini** and **Andrew Booth** for their service.

Executive board

The Executive board had three meetings to revisit the strategic plan goals. **Kat Haro** developed a spreadsheet from the document identifying goals already accomplished, capital campaigns needed, timelines for the facility lease agreement and a communications calendar.

Development

The wine tasting event was a success and was expected to meet projected budgets.

The Development Committee discussed supporter benefits and levels.

The committee can help with the development director hiring process by

researching the cost of hiring a recruiter, listing the job on employment boards and consider changing the position's title. The committee will review the plan for a neighborhood survey and will revisit the annual communications calendar and event metrics and benchmarks.

Neighborhood Concerns

The Neighborhood Concerns Committee met with **Justin Luna** of the city traffic division to discuss the traffic circle and other traffic-calming measures.

Next meeting

The next regular meeting of the SCNA board will begin at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 8 in the Garden Room at Sierra 2.

Facilities

Alex Moos is the new chair of the Facilities Committee.

Plumbing is being installed at the new Learnery Lab room. Work is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

> Submitted by Kate Van Buren, board secretary

SCNAI	ncome/Expenses
--------------	----------------

Fiscal Year 2019	Year to Date Actual	Annual Budget	Prior Year Actual	
Total Income	901,123	928,930	959,992	
Total Expense	(938,913)	(946,673)	(934,480)	
Other Income (Expens	se)22,477		2,429	
Net Income (Loss)	(15,313)	(17,743)	27,941	

Results are for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, compared to the prior fiscal year. To learn more about the financial state of SCNA, attend the Community Meeting at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11 in Curtis Hall at Sierra 2 Center.

SCNA President's message

New format for Dec. 11 community meeting

pen invitation – calling all friends and neighbors of Curtis Park, as well as friends and neighbors outside of Curtis Park: You are invited to a festive and informative community meeting of the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood Association on Wednesday evening, Dec. 11, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

phorhood Association on dinesday evening, Dec. 11, an 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The neighborhood ociation is hosting an evening of good cheer you to get to know our work, our members,

association is hosting an evening of good cheer for you to get to know our work, our members, and one another. Our various committees and programs will be set up for you to mingle, ask questions, and become involved. You will have the opportunity to learn about the facility itself, the programs we offer in the Learnery Lab and the Senior Center, our Neighborhood Concerns Committee, The Viewpoint, our fundraising and outreach activities, and other information about the organization.

Unlike past years where the community meeting was presented in a classroom set-up, this



year we are designing the event to result in greater opportunities for mingling and interaction. A long table with treats to eat and drink will form the center of the room, and board members and their "stations" will be set up around the perimeter. Chairs and high-top tables

will be set up around the room so you can enjoy the people and information of greatest interest to you.

For news and updates of interest to our community, Sacramento City Councilmember Jay Schenirer will make a short presentation. Also invited (but not as yet confirmed) is a representative from the office of State Assemblymember Kevin McCarty. Unfortunately, due to recent back surgery and an overtaxed staff, we will not have comments from County Supervisor Phil Serna this year.

We are looking forward to presenting a great evening, a lot of fun, and some inspiration. We hope you will join us.

Editors

Dennis Cusick, Susan MacCulloch

Managing Editor Carol Blackman

Proofreader Fran Coletti

Contributors

Valerie Burrows, Katie Byram, Erik Fay, Mindy Giles, Adrianna Gonzalez, Heather Hogan, Alison Ledgerwood, John Mathews, Craig McCulloch, Bruce Pierini, Dan Pskowski, Patti Roberts, Judy Scheible, Jay Schenirer, Terri Shettle, Kate Van Buren

Ad Manager Fran Coletti

Distribution Gerre Buehler

Photography

Nina Bookbinder, Rudy Calpo, Will Carlton, Joan Cusick, Caroline Dunivant, Judy Harper



SIERRA 2DAY

Donner Way couple promote 'nomadic theater company'

By Patti Roberts

Tf you notice Adrienne Sher and ☐ Tom Rhatigan walking around the neighborhood in matching black-andwhite Black Point Theatre T-shirts, it's just one of the many ways these two thespians are advertising their new theater company.

The two, who live on Donner Way with their dog Stella (as in A Streetcar Named Desire's "STELLA!"), are excited about their new adventure. Their home is where noted architect/ furniture designer and Curtis Park native Ray Eames grew up. This seems apropos since Eames' father once managed a local vaudeville theater, the Empress Theatre (now the Crest Theatre).

Their first show, which opens on Jan. 24, is John B. Keane's "The Field," set in an Irish village. The play has been described as "a funny, fierce and tender study of the love a man can have for the land and what he is willing to do to make it his own."

Both have more than 40 years of theater experience. Adrienne is an adjunct professor in the Theatre Arts Department at Sacramento City College, and a well-known local actor and director. Tom has had a long career as an equity actor in various locations including New York and

now Sacramento. He also has taught an "Acting Against Aging" class at Sierra 2 Senior Center.

Adrienne and Tom worked together more than 40 years ago in Key West, Florida, where they often portrayed onstage romantic partners. However, they lost touch with each other when Tom went to New York and Adrienne moved to Sacramento three decades ago. They reconnected 10 years ago and it didn't take long for them to realize they wanted to be permanent costars in their personal

They decided to start a new theater company because "we wanted to work together and we want to provide opportunities for local actors as well as local theatergoers," Adrienne says. "By creating our own theater we have control on those decisions - we get to pick the play and pick the cast."

Adrienne is Black Point Theatre's artistic director; Tom is associate artist. Their play selections will be on the classic side – "universal to the human experience, a way to examine what makes a successful life, how moral choices affect lives, to present characters that are relatable," Adrienne says.

Adrienne and Tom are working to get word out about Black Point Theatre: distributing flyers door-to-



Photo/Mariam Helalian DeGaxiola

Adrienne Sher and Tom Rhatigan and their dog Stella at their Donner Way home.

door, hanging posters at Sierra 2, handing out car magnets, lawn signs, and, of course, wearing Black Point Theatre T-shirts.

Adrienne calls Black Point a "nomadic theater company," meaning they don't have a permanent home, but will rent local theater spaces to showcase their productions.

"The Field" will play Jan. 24 to Feb. 16 at California Stage, 2509 R St. For tickets, visit blackpointtheatre.org.



Comedian Vicki Barbolak will bring her "Trailer Nasty" Comedy Show.

'America's Got Talent' comedian coming to 24th Street Theatre

Viewpoint staff

omedian Vicki Barbolak will bring her "Trailer Nasty" comedy show to the 24th Street Theatre from 7 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 12.

Barbolak finished in the top 10 on "America's Got Talent" in 2018. Her comedy reflects life as a mother, her marriages and her love of the Southern California trailer park lifestyle.

Local comedians Suzette Veneti and Melissa McGillicuddy will open the show.

Wine, beer and holiday gifts will be available for purchase in the Garden Room, along with a live auction.

All proceeds will benefit Sunburst Projects to provide essential services to children and families living with HIV/AIDS in the Sacramento area.



DECEMBER 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

Good Shepherd Parish

Sundays, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Room 9 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

Saturdays, 1:30-3:30 p.m., Room 9 Pastor Grant Harper: 916 382-2885

OTHER

Puppy School classes

Wednesdays & Thursdays, 6-8 p.m. Room 10 Sirius Dog Training, 800 419-8748 siriuspup.com

Cochlear Community Meetings

6-8 p.m., Dec. 13 Curtis Hall cochlear.com/US/events

Know Thyself as Soul - Meditation

1st Sunday of the month, 1-4 p.m. Curtis Hall knowthyselfassoul.org

DANCE

Adult Ballet

Two Rivers Dance Center

Saturdays, Studio 2 10:15 a.m., Ballet 1. 12:30 p.m., Ballet Basics richard@tworiversdancecenter.com

Intro to Adult Ballet

Saturdays, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Studio 1 richard@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 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

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, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Studio 1 tartanhearts@gmail.com Facebook: TartanHeartsDance

Moodment Dance

Saturdays, 2:30-3:30 p.m., Studio 2 moodmentdance.com

AfroRhythmz Dance Class

Thursdays, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Studio 1 225 263-1707

> COOK REALTY can assist with the

purchase or sale

LEADING REAL ESTATE

COMPANIES[®]

of the world

www.cookrealty.net

of any

property

across the

nation!

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

Empire Pop Choir

Wednesdays, 7 p.m., Room 10 EmpireArtsCollective.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

Hung-Gar Gung Fu

Sundays, 5:30-7 p.m., Studio 2 Sifumarez@gmail.com, (916) 764-8749

YOGA

Iyengar Yoga

Tuesdays, 10-11 a.m. Studio 3

Helping Dreams Come True in the Sierra Curtis Neighborhood since 1974



ART

FITNESS

Zumba

Studio 2

Weight Watchers

Thursdays, 8:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m.

Stilettos with KG - Ages 18+

Wednesdays, 8:45 p.m., Studio 3

krystal, kgstilettos@gmail.com

Zumba with Toya & Linda

Dancehall PowerUp

Mondays & Wednesdays, 7:30-8:30 p.m.,

Thursdays, 8:30-9:30 p.m., Studio 3

LaToya Bufford, toybufford15@yahoo.com

LaToya Bufford, toybufford15@yahoo.com

Abraham Contreras, pakko.zumba@yahoo.com

Fridays, 6-7 p.m., Sundays, 11 a.m.-noon,

Saturdays, 9 a.m. Room 10. 800 374-9191

Glass Mosaic Classes

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

Discover Independent Living with Services in Land Park at Eskaton Monroe Lodge.



Transforming the Aging Experience

| Eskaton Monroe Lodge

Independent Living with Services Land Park

916-441-1015

800 450-3148 SOURCEMENT &

"For Fine Older Homes and **Quality Newer Homes**"



Buying or Selling 916 451-6702

Property Management 916 457-4907



4305 Freeport Blvd.



- AT THE 24TH STREET THEATRE -

JOHNNY CASH & NEIL DIAMOND CHRISTMAS TRIBUTE

Dec. 6: 7-9:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$30

BrownPaperTickets.com Tickets sold at the door.

Musician and singer/songwriter Danny Millsap saw Johnny Cash perform in concert in Fresno and was hooked. He formed The Only Cash Tribute Band, doing his part to keep the music alive. The Tribute Band

recreates the style, mystery and music of Johnny Cash.



TRAILER NASTY **COMEDY SHOW**

Dec. 12: Doors 6 p.m., Show 7-9 p.m. Tickets: VIP: \$55 – includes wine, beer, appetizers, signed photo & premium seating

Premium Seating: \$35 General Admission: \$25 BrownPaperTickets.com

Vicki Barbolak was a top-10 performer on "America's Got Talent." Her "Trailer Nasty" comedy show reflects her life as a mom, her marriages, and her love of the Southern California trailer park lifestyle.

Local comedians Suzette Veneti and Melissa

McGillicuddy are the opening acts. Wine, beer and holiday gifts will be available for purchase in the Garden Room, along with a live auction hosted by Vicki. Proceeds benefit Sunburst Projects, providing essential services to youth and families living with HIV/AIDS.

GENUINE HAPPINESS: A FRIDAY EVENING TALK WITH DR. B. ALAN WALLACE

Jan. 10: 7-9 p.m. Tickets: General: \$25 hookwhen com

Additional donations of \$30-50 support scholarships and teachers

Join Diamond Light Tibetan Buddhist Group as Dr. Wallace shares his message of joy, hope and inspiration. Dr. Wallace provides a unique perspective on what

brings us genuine happiness, combining his research in quantum physics, neuroscience, philosophy and Buddhist meditation with his work in mind, consciousness and contemplative studies.





EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Activities are free except where noted. (Donations appreciated) Room 12 • 916 455-6339 seniorcenter@sierra2.org

CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The Senior Center will be closed Dec. 23 to Jan. 3. It will reopen Monday, Jan. 6

LEISURE

BOOK CLUB

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

Dec 9: "Washington Black" by Esi Edugyan

Jan. 13: "Song of Solomon" by Toni Morrison

NONFICTION BOOK CLUB

3rd Thursday, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Dec. 19: "The Passage of Power: The Years of Lyndon Johnson" by Robert Caro

Jan. 16: "The Sociopath Next Door" by Martha Stout

Feb. 20: "The Hidden Life of Trees" by Peter Wohlleben

FILM CLUB

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

Dec. 17: "The Sting" (1973) **Jan. 10:** "The Lion in Winte" (1968)

Fridays, Dec. 6 and Jan. 10

10-11:30 a.m. in Room 9 Learn how to use healing Reiki energies. Fees: \$10. Pre-registration is required. Contact Katie at 916 452-3005 ext. 208

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

FDUCATION

MY STORY PROJECT

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

STITCHER'S CIRCLE

2nd Thursdays & 4th Mondays, 2-4pm A social group for sewers, knitters and more

HEAD SPACE

3rd Mondays, 12:30-2 p.m., Room 12 Discusses topics that can improve mental health.

ANDROID PHONE TRAINING

Wednesday, Dec. 18 • 9-11 a.m. in Room 9

Learn tips for iPhone use. With CTAP instructor Love Miller.

No cost. Registration is required. Contact Katie at 916 452-3005 ext. 208

FITNESS

GENTLE YOGA

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

WELLNESS PROGRAM

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

BELLYFIT® SAGE

Mondays, 9-10 a.m. in Studio 3

STRENGTH & BALANCE

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

(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, 11 a.m.-noon in Studio 2

FEEL GOOD YOGA

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. Room 12

ZUMBA TONING WITH KELLY

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

CARDS & GAMES

MAHJONG

Mondays, 10 a.m.-noon

FUN BRIDGE (RUBBER/CONTRACT)

Thursdays, 1-4 p.m.

PINOCHLE

Fridays, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Last Friday of the month, Noon-2 p.m.



RENTAL SPACE

SIERRA 2 CENTER SIERRA CURTIS

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

CALL FOR OUR BROCHURE: 916 452-3005

Special Events • Meetings • Seminars • Classes • Conferences • Concerts • Plays

RENTAL SPACE CALL FOR OUR BROCHURE: 916 452-3005



YOUR **NEIGHBOR** LARRY

Broker Associate

916 849-9431 easterling129 @gmail.com

EARNERY Cultivating Curious Minds

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.

DECEMBER

Cool Yule Embroidery Class

Beginner class covers basic embroidery stitches during a festive holiday project, with choice of Scandinavian snowflakes, Christmas trees or geometric woodland creature designs. Suitable for adults and children ages 12 and up. All supplies are included.

Room 12, Saturday, Dec. 14, 10 a.m.—1 p.m. Fees: \$43 (materials included)



ELEARNERY

JANUARY

Slice of Love: Valentine's Linocut and Block Printing Workshop

Local artist Heather Hogan invites you into her world of linocut and block printing with a crash course to teach carving techniques for making neat designs that can be printed on cards – perfect for Valentine's Day.

Room 7, Saturday, Jan. 2, 3-5 p.m. Fee: \$65



Watercolor Doodle Birds & Flowers Workshop

Join Tonja Wilcox for a couple hours of pure creativity, using blobs of watercolor paint, a fine line pen, and a little imagination to make whimsical birds and flowers.

Beginning to intermediate painters welcome. All materials are provided.

Room 7, Saturday, Jan. 18, 3-5:30 p.m. Fee: \$40



New Year New Tea

At this High Tea, guests will engage in a sixtea tasting with a certified sommelier followed by a festive high tea event with three-tiers of afternoon tea food.

Garden Room, Sunday, Jan. 19, 1-3 p.m. Fee: \$40 for adults; \$15 for kids 12 and under

Beginning Spanish

New Spanish students can learn the basics in a welcoming small-class environment.

Room 7, Tuesdays, Jan. 21-Feb. 25, 6-7:20 p.m. Fee: \$100

Conversational Spanish

A new session of on-going intermediate Spanish education, new students always welcome.

Room 7, Wednesday, Jan. 22-Feb. 26, 6-7:20 p.m. Fee: \$100

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

Many ways to support Senior Center

By Katie Byram

The Sierra 2 Senior Center is a special place where older adults come together daily to discover new skills, work up a sweat in a safe environment, share personal stories and life histories, and engage in meaningful social interactions.

In the past few years, it has added high-quality fitness classes in the Wellness Program and has scheduled more social interest groups, including the Nonfiction Book Club, Women's Friendship Group and Stitcher's Circle.

In 2020, more guest lecturers and presentations, and visual and performing arts activities are planned.

Research shows that older adults who participate in senior center programs experience measurable

improvements in their physical, social, emotional, mental and economic wellbeing.

If you'd like to support the Senior Center and its mission:

- Consider donating to the Senior Center. Funds raised this time of year go toward operation costs not met through class fees and activity donations. Donations can be made in the office or mailed to the Sierra 2 Center at 2791 24th St. Checks should be made payable to SCNA.
- Shop our Holiday Gifts & Goods event on Saturday, Dec. 7.
- Tell or bring a friend. The Senior Center welcomes anyone in the Sacramento region over 50 years of age.

The Senior Center is selfsupporting. A donation in any amount is a huge help.



Photo/Joan Cusick

The entrance at the Sierra 2 Senior Center welcomes participants in a variety of activities from exercise, tai chi, crafts, games to educational classes. You can support the Sierra 2 Senior Center with a donation or simply telling or bringing a friend to join you in a class or event at this vital resource for seniors.

Trees of Curtis Park

Trees still need attention after shedding leaves

By Dan Pskowski

While most deciduous trees have shed their leaves in preparation for the winter season, they still need some attention. Here's a checklist for newly planted, young, established and mature trees. Now is the perfect time to plant a replacement for a tree you removed.

Newly planted trees (in past 12 months)

- If rainfall is steady, remove the earthen well from around the base to avoid standing water for long periods.
- Remove the ties on staked trees. If a winter storm causes the tree to lean, it can be straightened up by reinstalling the ties.
- Perform minor pruning by removing dead, broken, rubbing or crossing limbs. If there is more than one central leader, reduce one. But don't remove more than 10% of the branches or it will cause excessive sprouting of new branches. No topping or stub cuts. Find pruning instructions at www.sactree.com/treecare.



Young trees (less than 10 years old)

Check soil moisture. Stick a shovel in the ground under the outer tips of branches. If it goes in less than 6 inches and you aren't hitting roots/



then give it a slow soak. Why? The winter season is when trees produce numerous roots because the soil doesn't freeze.

- Has turf grown around the base? Trees grow better when there is a minimum of 3 feet turf-free radius around the trunk. Install some type of organic mulch in this area.
- If tree is still staked due to leaning, check with an arborist. There is a root development problem that needs to be addressed.
- Take a flat shovel and deep edge to a 6-inch depth along sidewalks, driveway and patio. Roots travel great distances and by severing the roots while small, you may avoid costly concrete repair 15 to 20 years later due to roots heaving the concrete.
- Inspect branching, raise up low limbs over any structures, driveway, street and sidewalk. Remove dead, broken or rubbing limbs. Remove no more than 10% of the branches. No topping or stub cuts.

Established trees (10-25 years old)

- Maintain a turf-free area around the base.
- Continue deep edging to a 6-inch depth with a flat shovel along sidewalks, driveway and patio. If you are doing this for the first time, excavate a trench and use pruning tools. If you are severing roots more than 2 inches in diameter, an arborist should inspect to ensure the stability or health of the tree has not been compromised.
- Look up in the canopy for hanging and/or split branches. Also inspect the branch unions for cracks.
- Have a professional arborist inspect to determine any required pruning.

Mature trees (25 years and older)

- If it is an evergreen or the tree is located in turf and there has been no measurable precipitation, then water.
- After every storm, inspect the canopy for any hanging, broken or split branches. Also check the branch unions for cracks. Binoculars are helpful to inspect tall trees. Check the area around the base for any soil heaving or copious amounts of soil on the concrete surface adjacent to the tree. These indicate excessive movement in the soil with the possibility of the tree blowing over. This requires a risk assessment by a professional arborist.
- Mushrooms or conks on the external surface of the tree's base indicate that a professional arborist needs to do some investigative work.

Using this checklist with follow-up



preventative maintenance will ensure the health and longevity of your trees.

When large limbs or trees fall onto the street or sidewalk during storms, call 311 or email 311@ cityofsacramento.org. Permits are required for any work done on city trees or private protected trees.

For further information: http://www.cityofsacramento.org/Public-Works/Maintenance-Services/Trees/Permits-Ordinances.



You have Photos! We have Solutions!

Photo & Digital Management | Scanning & Digitizing Services Slide & Negative Scanning | Photo Memory Books Video Montages | In-home Consulting



Certified Professiona

judybujold.com photos@judybujold.com 916 747–9236

BUJOLD Captured Moments

For photo workshops: www.judybujold.com

ADULT BALLET INTRODUCTION TO BALLET Saturdays 11:30 am - 12:30 pm New 12-week series starting January 2020 also available: BALLET BASIC BALLET 1

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

two rivers dance center

HOME OF RIVER CITY TAPS



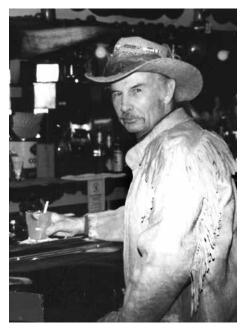
Neighbors recall legendary host Bob Ross, 90

eighbors are toasting the memory of Bob Ross, who hosted many legendary margarita parties with his wife Alice in the home at Marshall Way and 27th Street where he lived for close to 50

Bob died in July, just after his 90th birthday.

Bob referred to their Pueblo Revival home as "Malfunction Junction." It reflected his love of Mexican art and culture. Bob loved going annually to Ensenada, Mexico.

For decades, Bob and Alice hosted margarita parties that lasted long into the night. Bob created a secluded basement bar that was the talk of the neighborhood. He had a bed laid out in case anyone was in no shape to navigate the stairs at the end of the evening. Neighbor Kathryn Beltrami remembers she was always amazed



Bob Ross

at Bob rising early the next day to straighten up.

Bob was born in Hanford in 1929. He married Alice when she was 17. After he served in the U.S. Air Force, Bob and Alice settled in Curtis Park.

Alice and their son, Cliff, preceded Bob in death.

Bilingual holiday musical coming to Guild Theater

The holiday season meets political satire and magical realism in this year's production of "La Pastorela de Sacramento," with performances Dec. 18 and Dec. 20-22 at the historic Guild Theater on 35th Street near Broadway.

San Francisco Mime Troupe alumna Marie Acosta and Tomas Benitez of Teatro Café have updated their musical to speak directly to current times. Characters include Gila, a college student and climate activist; Armando, a developer about to land an important contract in Oak Park; Juan, an Afghanistan war veteran coping with PTSD; and Carmela, a Sacramento-born actress whose Hollywood career crashed when she refused to sleep with her producer. The four must work

together to help an undocumented family (Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus) and save the world from disaster.

La Pastorela de Sacramento is presented by the Latino Center of Art and Culture and Oak Park Neighborhood Association.

The bilingual musical is designed to engage kids and adults. Tickets, at \$15 for adults and \$5 for kids, are available through www. EventBrite.com. Performances are at 8 p.m. Dec. 18, 20 and 21, with 2 p.m. matinees on Dec. 21 and 22.

Event-goers who arrive half an hour before the show will experience a Posada procession with El Coro del Pueblo, a bilingual choir that will perform songs of hope and resistance as well as Spanishlanguage Christmas favorites.

Others struggle to achieve what we take for granted

This past month, through my non-L City Council "pay the mortgage" work, I spent three days visiting the 5,000 student San Ysidro School District at the U.S. border with Mexico.

It is an impoverished district with more than its share of challenges over the past decade, including nine superintendents in the past five years and board members accused and convicted of corruption that helped drain the financial coffers of the organization. Thankfully, the district seems to be on the path to recovery, with its leadership focusing all its current efforts on student supports and achievement.

While in San Ysidro, we had the privilege to meet and hear from several students who have overcome remarkable challenges just to get to

JAY **SCHENIRER**

> City Council Member District 5



school every day. These students and their families, citizens of the United States, have been forced to move from San Diego to Tijuana due to of the high cost of housing.

Because of their desire and determination to continue to receive a U.S. education, these students rise every day at 4 a.m. to make it through the border crossing, get on the San Diego trolley, transfer to a bus, and

then walk the remaining distance to get to school on time. After a full day of classes and studying, the routine reverses itself, and the students generally arrive at their homes around 8 p.m. This is all done in the name of receiving a quality education, something many take for granted.

So why am I telling Viewpoint readers about students 500 miles from Curtis Park and Sacramento? I believe that it's important for us every so often to step back and take stock of the abundance of what we have and appreciate what surrounds us.

Our office receives hundreds of emails and calls each week, with complaints ranging from a trash can that was not picked up, to a Jump Bike or Gig Car parked in front of their house, to homeless encampments in

their neighborhoods. While we do our best to prioritize these calls and do everything we can to meet the needs of all our District 5 constituents, given limited staff and resources, we simply can't get to everything in the timely manner we would like.

I write this column as Thanksgiving approaches, a time when I hope we can all reflect and appreciate what we have. Among those things are a great neighborhood and community, and a city that is working continuously to improve and provide the programs and services you all desire and need.

My hope is that we can support one another in facing the challenges before us, with an understanding that we need to work together to make Sacramento the city and community we all want.

CORBIN CONSTRUCTION



916 899-4606 corbinemmett@yahoo.com

CSLB: 942801

With 45 years experience, we specialize in older homes!

If you dream it, Emmett can build it!

AFFORDABLE HANDYMAN SERVICE

Garden Maintenance

Pruning/Weeding • Rototilling • Gutter Cleaning Trimming/Tree & Shrub Removal • Hauling General Labor • Concrete Removal • Odd Jobs

Call Lester: 916 838-1247



REASONABLE ~ DEPENDABLE ~ HARDWORKING

TAP DANCE CLASSES FOR ADULTS

river mornings evenings weekends **BEGINNING TO ADVANCED CLASSES** for information go to:

rivercitytaps.com



STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANIES HOME OFFICE: BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

KEN PERRY, Agent

2724 24th Street Sacramento, CA 95818

(916) 452-6668

We specialize in insuring the older home.

COMMUNITY CORNER

New Cutter Way neighbors move into a colorful home

By Susan MacCulloch

Since Mary and Greg Snider moved into their Cutter Way home in June, they've been asked more than once – many times in fact – of plans to change their home's exterior color. The answer is a definitive "no." They love its periwinkle color.

The couple purchased the circa 1929 house from the prior owner who lived



Photo/Will Carlton

Mary and Greg Snider at their front door of their home on Cutter Way.

No Viewpoint to publish in January

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

there for 46 years, a daughter of Benny Goodman aka the "King of Swing." Because of Greg's interest in that era's music, the seller left several pieces of memorabilia for the new owners.

Both are now retired. Mary enjoyed a 30-year career in marketing and practice management of various health care practices. She was elected as a councilmember in Oro Valley, AZ (near Tucson) and served for eight years. During this time, she spearheaded an initiative to establish safe high school grad night celebrations (alcohol and drug-free).

Greg served 28 years with the FBI. His career took the family from Portland, to Houston, to San Francisco, then Tucson. During his last year with the FBI, he served in Kiev, Ukraine working with the Ukrainian government to address stemming the tide of human trafficking.

Following his FBI career, Greg spent 18 months in Iraq embedded with the U.S. Army and served as a Law Enforcement Professional (LEP) "He played a key role in establishing the use of forensic evidence to identify critical components of the IED's that were killing our soldiers," said Mary

After careers that took them to various locales and at times separated from their adult children, the Snider family is reunited in the Sacramento-Bay Area region. One son and his family live in Land Park, an eight-minute drive from their three-year-old grandson. The other son works and resides in the Menlo Park area.

Echoing a sentiment expressed by many Curtis Park newcomers, "We immediately felt a community vibe," said Mary. "A feeling of acceptance."



Estelle Tin has a knack for finding and offering stylish women's fashions at her shop, Sopha on Franklin Boulevard.

Photo/ Judy Scheible

Warm greeting for customers of women's clothing shop

By Judy Scheible

E stelle Tin has come a long way from a Thai refugee camp to her trendy clothing shop on Franklin Boulevard.

Curtis Park neighbors who drive or walk by may see colorful women's clothes hanging on a rack outside the modest storefront just south of Fifth Avenue, next door to the appliance store. It's called Sopha, a variation on Estelle's Cambodian name. Inside, visitors find a cheerful, friendly shopkeeper who is eager to show her fashion bargains.

Estelle opened her shop in June 2018. It's her first store but not her first adventure in women's clothing. While growing up in Stockton and taking classes at Delta College, she spent time buying and selling at the city's flea market. She still haunts the market to find treasures for her shop. She also spent a year working at a clothing store for juniors.

Estelle said she completed four

associate degrees at Delta College, but life got complicated while she pursued a bachelor's degree at Sacramento State University. One of the complications was the birth of her son, who is in fourth grade at Phoebe Hearst Elementary School.

Estelle came to the United States in 1986 when she was 2 years old. She has five siblings. Slowly they're all getting their citizenship, including her parents. She became a citizen about 15 years ago.

Like any merchant, Estelle copes with the challenges of running a business. She said one of hers is space. She has had requests to carry men's clothing but she doesn't have room for now.

A customer arrived on a bicycle, selected several items to consider and greeted Estelle by name.

Sopha is open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday at 3011 Franklin Blvd. The shop phone number is 916 917-5649.







Bret Harte offers several programs to meet student needs

By James Tucker

The 2019-20 school year marks my fourth year as principal of Bret Harte Elementary School. My goal is to stay at least 10 years to build a stable foundation of programs to continue the school's success.

Over the last few years, our staff has implemented new programs to stay up-to-date with students' educational needs. We have focused staff development in Social Emotional Learning to create a safe and caring community. The Sanford Harmony Curriculum was implemented this year to build community and teach social skills that make students productive, leading to success as they achieve their educational goals.

Small-group instruction allows staff to focus on identifying individual student needs. Bret Harte implemented the iReady Diagnostic and Online Curriculum that assesses students' levels and prescribes online lessons to meet standards in language arts and mathematics.

Attendance at Bret Harte has improved 5% during the last year, which is the highest in the district.

We have the Reading Partners program, in which community volunteers provide one-to-one tutoring in reading.

Yoga instructor Ms. Sara teaches each class weekly in mindful breathing, self-regulation skills and yoga poses. As a school, we practice weekly a mindful



Photo/Greg Tucker

James Tucker at home with his dog, Sidney.

"We have focused staff development in Social Emotional Learning to create a safe and caring community."

minute breath to support kids during transition times. All teachers use this mindful breath to transition to learning after recess and lunch.

Music teacher Mr. Cunningham teaches singing to the low grades, recorder to third- and fourth-graders, ukulele to fifth-graders, and keyboard to sixth-graders. He also runs the choir group and teaches students to play instruments at lunch and after school. Our kindergarten music program offers local celebrity Mr. Cooper on Fridays.

Supervision starts at 7:15 a.m. daily. Target Excellence is our K-6 free

after-school program that runs until

6 p.m., with enrichment programs in street soccer, food literacy, dance, cooking, gardening, community building, arts and crafts, Hope Tech coding for fifth- and sixth-graders, and RIVER (an exercise program through UC Davis).

After-school basketball and football are available for intermediate students. An after-school running club trains for and runs the Running for Rhett 5K in Curtis Park

The Garden Council fundraises, plans, organizes volunteers, and plants with our students. We began our program with K-3 and have extended it to include fourth, fifth and sixth grades this year.

Our active PTA focuses on fundraising, family engagement and providing family fun events. The PTA sponsors monthly family lunch days on the first Friday of the month, coffee with the principal, educational nights such as STEM and iReady family night, festivals, pancake breakfasts and monthly movie nights. It also organizes off-campus fundraisers such as dine and donate with Panda Express, Chipotle and candy sales.

I encourage you to set up a date to tour the school if you have a prospective student.

Our kindergarten visitation day will be 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan.14, in Room 35. We will tour all classrooms and talk about programs. Please contact the main office at 916 395-5190 to register for visitation day.

James Tucker is principal of Bret Harte Elementary School.



SIERRA 2 TENANTS

Diamond Light
Tibetan Buddhist Group
Room 14 • diamondlightsac.org

Eben BurgoonRoom 16A • ebenburgoon.com

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

Italian Cultural Society Language School Room 13 • italiancenter.net

La Famiglia Catering Kitchen-Garden Room lafamigliacatering.com

Sacramento Braille Transcribers Room 8 • 916 455-9121

Sacramento Yoga Center Room 6 sacramentoyogacenter.com

Straight Men's AA Room 15 • aasacramento.org

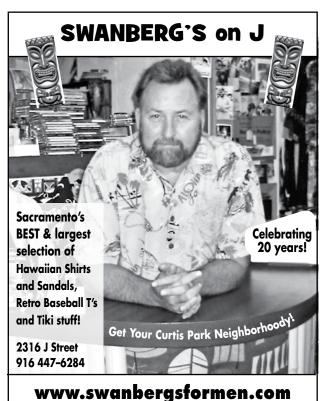
Sugar Plum Vegan Bakery Kitchen-Curtis Hall sugarplumvegan.com

WarmLine Family Resource Center Castro Cottages • warmlinefrc.org

Empire Arts Collective

Room 19 • empireartscollective.com

Macondo Music Room 19 • macondomusic916.com







To ADVERTISE
in the Viewpoint, call Fran
at 916 452–3005, x210