

VIEWPOINT

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November 2020

Porch Picnic nets \$18,000 for SCNA, helps restaurants

By Kathy Les

SCNA's Porch Picnic fundraiser on Oct. 10 was by all accounts a huge hit, raising about \$18,000 toward the upkeep and expenses of the Sierra 2 Center, with 195 households participating.

The fundraiser was an alternative to the annual Curtis Park Wine Tasting & Silent Auction, which could not be held due to COVID-19 gathering restrictions.

Proceeds will go toward the upkeep and expenses of Sierra 2 while it remains closed. This was made

possible by generous neighbors who willingly embraced a new way of celebrating together, even though it was necessary to stay apart.

SCNA's Development Committee – including Chair Erik Fay, and members Kathy Les, Gerre Buehler, Bill French, Martin Pierucci and Susan French –

considered several ideas before settling on the Porch Picnic concept.

Gerre, who has been in charge of *Viewpoint* circulation for most of its history, recruited the Porch Picnic volunteer delivery teams and planned all routes.

Around the neighborhood, Porch Picnics were held on porches, on tables set up in front yards, and even in back yards. Some joined with other neighbors in small clusters, some dined with family and some simply enjoyed a quiet Saturday evening alone.

"Although we missed seeing many of our fabulous friends and neighbors at the Sierra 2 Center for the

Please see Fundraiser, Page 2



Photo/Joan Cusick



Photo/Joan Cusick

Getting out the vote

Rosanna Herber, left, was among the women from Curtis Park who celebrated the 100th anniversary of women's right to vote nationally in front of the Tower Theatre on Oct. 10. Sierra 2 Center will be open for in-person voting and dropping off marked ballots from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 31 through Monday, Nov. 2. On Election Day, Nov. 3, all vote centers will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Everyone in line before 8 p.m. will be allowed to vote. The other drop boxes closest to Curtis Park are inside Raley's supermarket, 4690 Freeport Blvd., accessible daily from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. through Nov. 2 and 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Nov. 3; and inside McKinley Library, 601 Alhambra Blvd., accessible from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. through Saturday, Oct. 31, and from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Nov. 3.

SCNA board endorses Proposition 16 to remedy racial injustice statewide

By Dan Murphy

The SCNA board has taken the unusual step of endorsing a statewide initiative on the general election ballot, Proposition 16. It would repeal Proposition 209 from 1996 and allow state and local governments to consider race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin in taking affirmative action to address historical discrimination.

"That discrimination was pervasive and included segregation of our local neighborhoods," the board

said in its Oct. 7 resolution urging a "yes" vote. "It led to economic and social disadvantage for people of color that has endured until the present. Proposition 16 will allow state and local government to act to redress this inequity."

The adoption of the resolution is the latest in a series of steps by SCNA to advance racial justice in response to the killing in May of George Floyd in Minneapolis as well as police killings of other people of color.

Please see Prop. 16, Page 2

'Thief! Call 911!'

Registration and photo helped police identify and recover the bike. Page 3



Preservers offer unusual ideas

Curtis Park residents share stories about preserving the region's abundance of fresh fruits/vegetables. Page 5



Yoga studio transformed into boutique

Reimagining their dream, they brainstormed ways to make money. Page 8





Home for the holidays?

This has been a year like no other, forcing all of us to adjust. We'd like to know how your holiday plans have changed.

In the December issue, we hope to share ideas for making the holidays special and carrying us through the dark days. Do you have a table-setting idea, game or decoration to show how you will create enjoyment for you and your loved ones?

Send a paragraph or two to:
denniscusick52@gmail.com by Nov. 15.

Racial justice webinars praised

SCNA's Ad Hoc Committee for Racial Justice produced two recent webinars that attendees praised for their quality and usefulness.

The first webinar, Sept. 24, was "Facing the History of Racial Exclusion in Curtis Park." *Viewpoint* Editor Dennis Cusick moderated a discussion with panelists Ginger Rutland and Dan Murphy on the history of deeds, covenants, restrictions and redlining.

The second webinar, Oct. 1, was "Discovering and Dealing With Unconscious Bias." Psychologist Alison Ledgerwood of UC Davis shared studies showing how and where unconscious racism plays out.

She pointed out that individual bias and systematic bias are separate but intertwined. Many white people will say, "I'm not a racist," meaning they are not intentionally and actively discriminating against people of color. But passivity in the face of racism by others enables and perpetuates racism.

Videos of both webinars may be viewed at <https://sierra2.org/webinar>.

The ad hoc committee has created a list of resources on anti-racism, Black history and Black experiences at <https://sierra2.org/racial-justice/>.

— Bruce Pierini

Fundraiser: Eight restaurants supplied meals

Continued from Page 1

annual Wine Tasting, we were still able to enjoy local food, wine, music and our own good company at our dining room table overlooking our porch," said James Ozanich of Marshall Way.

Considering the logistics of eight restaurants supplying meals for delivery by 18 teams of volunteers to 195 households, the event committee breathed a sigh of relief when it was over.

Picnic dinners were delivered in time for picnickers to eat while enjoying live-streamed music performed by The Undulations and Doug & the Cover Girls.

Participating restaurants were Paragary's, Taylor's Kitchen, Hop Gardens Pizza, Revolution Café, Urban Roots Brewery & Smokehouse, Sampino's Kitchen, Vallejo's and Pangaea Bier Café.

Restaurants local to Curtis Park were chosen with each charging market rate for the dinners to help offset the restaurants' revenue losses during COVID-19 closures.

Beer by Campus Brewing and an autumn-themed art project complemented the dinner festivities made possible by Cara Gregor, the Byram family and Fran Coletti.

Sierra 2 Executive Director Terri Shettle and staff members Heather Hogan, Katie Byram and Valerie Burrows also helped.



Photo/Maggie Thomas

Cathryn Geyer of Portola Way receives her Porch Picnic dinner.

Prop. 16: Putting more focus on changes needed in our social and civic structures

Continued from Page 1

In June, the board issued a statement of solidarity with "those who have marched and who will march in protest peaceably in support of an end to racial injustice and inequity." SCNA pledged then to demand "greater focus and progress on the substantive changes that are badly needed in our social and civic structures to achieve real and tangible equity and justice for all."

That statement led to the formation of SCNA's Ad Hoc Committee for Racial Justice, which has studied a number of suggestions to increase knowledge about racial injustice and for action to help make change toward social equity and racial inclusion.

The ad hoc committee hosted a two-part webinar discussion. The first session, on Sept. 24, related the history of racial segregation in our neighborhood, in part through the experiences of neighbor Ginger Rutland's family in trying to pursue the "American Dream" of home ownership in the face of racism. It also examined the results of segregation, specifically

the enduring economic and social disadvantages for people of color that result from excluding them from the engine of American middle-class wealth generation, ownership of high-quality homes.

The second webinar session, on Oct. 1, examined implicit racial bias. It was led by our neighbor, psychology professor Alison Ledgerwood. She pointed out that many of us benefit from a system of racial segregation, even if we do not intend to. She suggested it is inappropriate to remain passive in that context. Instead, she said we need to examine what we can actively do to remedy the continuing effects of a racist system – by our own actions and through the organizations and networks to which we belong.

Members of the Ad Hoc Committee for Racial Justice asked the SCNA board to adopt a resolution supporting a "yes" vote on Proposition 16. After discussing the history and the extraordinary gravity of the issue to the peace and wellbeing of our society, the SCNA board agreed.

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Bike owner sees theft from backyard

By Patti Roberts

Last month, I witnessed a brazen thief grab my bicycle from my Fifth Avenue backyard, run past me and ride off. Those are the scary and sad parts of this story.

But the unexpected and happy ending is that the Sacramento Police Department located it a week later and reunited me with my damaged but repairable bicycle.

It is unusual these days to recover a stolen bicycle because many are broken down into parts. Also, most people have not registered their bicycles with the city, so there's no way for the police to match a recovered bicycle with the owner.

Looking out my back door, I was shocked to see a stranger snatch my bicycle and walk it through my side gate. In a fury, I began chasing him down the street, yelling, "Thief! Call

9-1-1!" Joining in on the pursuit was a passerby and much faster neighbor Alex Gillaspay, who ran two long blocks and just missed the thief as he turned down 24th Street.

I immediately called 911 to file a report and let the police know my bicycle was registered. Then I posted a photo of my bicycle and description on social media, including NextDoor.com, though I had little hope of getting it back.

A week later, a detective called to tell me my bicycle had been found. It had been tossed over a fence. Some parts had been stripped or damaged, but it was otherwise in OK shape. With repairs by The Bike Business on Freeport Boulevard, my beloved bicycle is fixed and back on the road.

"Bike theft is a crime of opportunity, and the best thing that we can do to prevent these types of crimes is to limit opportunities

for thieves to steal," says Sacramento Police Officer Karl Chan. "Also, make sure you register your bike with the Sacramento Police Department. Often officers come across bicycles that appear to be stolen, but are unable to locate an owner because the bicycle is not registered. If an officer locates your registered stolen bicycle in the field, they can run the serial number on the bicycle and return it to you."

Sacramento police recommend:

- Invest in a quality bicycle lock;
- If possible, store your bicycle indoors;
- Take a photo of your bicycle;
- Register your bicycle at rideon.sacpd.org;
- Report any bicycle theft so that the police are aware of where thefts



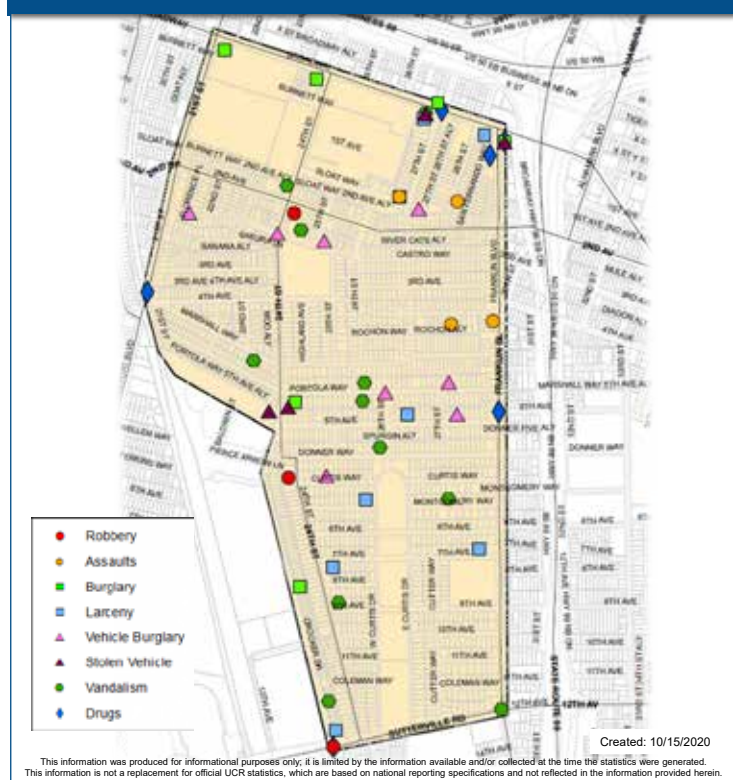
Photo/Patti Roberts

Patti Roberts had taken a photo of her bike and registered it with the city.

are occurring, and to help match your report with a recovered bicycle;

- Post a photo and share information about the stolen bicycle on social media sites such as NextDoor.com;
- If you recognize your stolen bicycle on an online classified site such as Craigslist, do not try to recover your bicycle yourself. Call the police.

CURTIS PARK | July 1 – September 30, 2020



Crime plummets in neighborhood from comparable period last year

By Erik Fay

Reported crime in the neighborhood in the third quarter of 2020, typically the highest-crime period of the year, was down more than 30% from the same period of 2019, according to Sacramento police data.

Curtis Park residents reported 52 crimes in July, August and September – three robberies, four assaults, six burglaries, 12 thefts, eight vehicle burglaries, six drug-related crimes, five stolen vehicles and 12 acts of vandalism. All of the categories had more incidents than in the second quarter except stolen vehicles and vandalism.

One of the assaults was a shooting the evening of Sept. 6 near Fourth Avenue and Franklin Boulevard. Police reported that officers responded to a report of shots fired and located a woman who had been shot multiple times.

The victim was transported to UC Davis Medical Center with injuries that were not considered life-threatening. It was not known if the victim knew the shooter or what prompted the shooting, KCRA-TV reported. No arrest was reported.

Vandalism, the most reported crime in the neighborhood in the third quarter, was not limited to any one street or part of the neighborhood.

More than 10 of the reported crimes were in the area north of Second Avenue between 27th Street and Franklin Boulevard. The northwest and southeast quadrants of the neighborhood had few crime reports. A theft was the only crime reported in William Curtis Park.

The Sacramento Police Department encourages residents to report all crimes. Call 911 if you see a crime in progress. Call the non-emergency number, 916 808-5471, to report other criminal activity as soon as possible.

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Notes from Oct. 7 SCNA board meeting

Do bylaws require 23 board members?

Is it necessary under SCNA bylaws to have candidates for each spot on the 23-seat board? If so, that would involve seeking candidates for seven or eight vacant positions for the election of board members at the annual membership meeting on Dec. 2.

At the Oct. 7 meeting, the board discussed an alternative interpretation of the bylaws – that the board could have up to 23 members. However, the bylaws require the Nominating Committee to present a list of nominees for each vacant position.

The consensus view is that until changes to the bylaws are made, if the maximum number of board members is 23, that's the target. Picking a number less than 23 would simply be arbitrary.

Finance

Treasurer **John Bailey** said the second-quarter budget is similar though leaner than the first-quarter budget, averaging an \$18,000 deficit per month during the second quarter. There were 16 votes to approve the budget.

Facilities

Roof repairs have begun at the Sierra 2 Center and have been completed in the section over the office area.

Security issues regarding homeless people in the exterior porch of the 24th Street Theatre have been resolved.

The moratorium on expelling late or non-paying tenants will expire on Oct. 28. SCNA continues to work with Great Beginnings childcare. The Italian Cultural Society debt is still outstanding.

Neighborhood Concerns

John Mathews said the city's meeting with the property owner whose fence height is in question has not yet occurred. John asked the city for information on the catch basin at Crocker Village. Large pipes are going in.

Dan Pskowski discussed the difference between city easements and rights-of-way. Each subdivision has its own type of restrictions.

Nominations

Bruce Pierini said there are three strong candidates for election to the board at the annual membership meeting. Bruce requested that board members send him the names and contact information of any additional candidates. Board President **Bill Hoover** and one member of the Nominations Committee will meet with prospective candidates.

Attendance

Participating in the Oct. 7 meeting via Zoom were SCNA President **Bill Hoover** and board members **John Bailey, Kathy Les, Andrea Rosen, Bruce Pierini, Martin Pierucci, Erik Fay, John Mathews, Dan Pskowski, Gerre Buehler, Dan Murphy, Nury Enciso, Susan French, Bill French, Kimberly Bond and Mike McKeever**. Also present were Sierra 2 Executive Director **Terri Shettle** and neighbor **Kathleen Ave**.

The next SCNA board meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4 on Zoom. Contact board Secretary Bruce Pierini at NCC@sierra2.org for a link to the meeting.

– *Bruce Pierini, board secretary*

President's message

SCNA's finances still not pretty, but Porch Picnic fundraiser helped

Good news is always welcome. I congratulate and extend kudos to all who helped make SCNA's Porch Picnic a success. It was an outstanding example of what can be accomplished with a positive attitude and creative thinking. We sold 195 tickets and received some miscellaneous donations as well.

While we will not know the final tally until a full accounting is completed, SCNA will likely net about \$18,000. A follow-up survey will be conducted to obtain a broader view of the Porch Picnic, but the early comments are positive. The food in particular seems to have been well received. It provided a needed boost to our local restaurants.

Our financial situation is still not pretty, but it has stabilized somewhat. Unfortunately, we continue to suffer a net cash outflow of approximately \$18,000 per month, although the Porch Picnic will certainly provide needed cash infusion. We do not expect any dramatic changes in COVID restrictions for the near future, but are hopeful for incremental lessening that would help

restore some sense of normalcy in the use of the Sierra 2 Center.

The annual SCNA membership meeting will be in December, when we conduct elections to fill existing board vacancies. Under our bylaws, director terms are for two years and staggered, with 12 directors elected in even years and 11 directors in odd years. Director terms begin in January at the first board meeting. Due to the circumstances of the last board elections in January 2020, 11 positions received one-year terms, which means there are 11 positions to be filled.

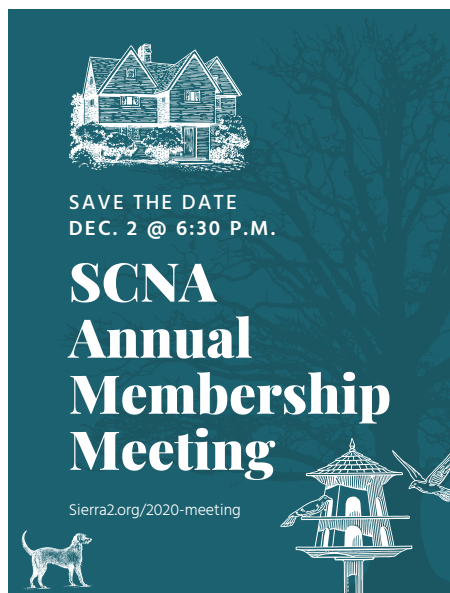
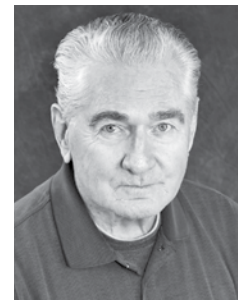
The Nominations Committee will present a list of candidates for the 11 open positions at the November board meeting. That candidate list will include any directors with expiring terms who wish to remain on the board and SCNA resident members identified by the committee as desirous of being considered.

While nominations can be made from the floor at the membership meeting, please remember that you must be a member of SCNA to participate in this process. If you have a desire to serve on the board or know someone who would be interested, please contact Bruce Pierini, chair of the Nominations Committee, through the Sierra 2 office.

Thanks to all of you again for supporting our efforts to keep Sierra 2 going. Together we will muddle through all this.

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Photo/Alex Zucco
Prepped stone fruit spiced with ginger



Photo/Carol Mott-Binkley
Homemade pesto

Preserving creativity abounds in Curtis Park

By Susan MacCulloch

Curtis Park residents who preserve the region's abundance of fresh fruits and vegetables share stories and mouth-watering photos. Alas, due to COVID-19 restrictions, we can't sample their creativity.

About five years ago, a neighbor of **Carol Mott-Binkley** on Seventh Avenue shared a basket of Meyer lemons harvested from her backyard tree. "I had no idea what to do with the beautiful gifted lemons, so I searched recipes using Meyer lemons online," says Carol. "I found an excellent recipe for Meyer lemon jam and made several batches with [these] lemons."

This gift introduced Carol to preserving. She has made jam with strawberries from a farmers' market and pesto with basil from her backyard. She also preserves batches of pickled peppers using fresh-picked banana and jalapeño peppers, dill and bay leaves, all grown in her backyard garden.

"Preserving is very fun, easy, therapeutic and a smidge addictive; an added benefit is the preserves make wonderful gifts," adds Carol.

Third Avenue resident **Alex Zucco** recalls "distinctly preserving stone fruit with my grandmother every summer – the smell of the house and how much better the homemade preserves tasted." Alex sources stone fruit from local growers; Twin Peaks is a particular favorite.

A large box of "ugly" stone fruit from a farmers market vendor yielded a great stone fruit medley preserve. "I like to pair the stone fruits with some of The Allspicery's spices – plums with ginger, peaches with vanilla (or bourbon)."

Jean Minton of Portola Way saves each season's bounty to enjoy throughout

the year. "We have a friend who lives near a farm in Dixon. When the team comes to pick the tomatoes, they have giant machines that pull the plants and sort the majority of the tomatoes into bins to be taken away," says Jean. "There are also thousands of tomatoes that get left behind, so we pick them up before the next machine comes to ground them back into the soil as fertilization."

Because her Dixon friend is moving, Jean is uncertain where to collect tomatoes next year – maybe farms where visitors can pick their own produce. She enjoys gifting sauces and salsas throughout the year. Jean recommends this tomato chutney recipe she tried for the first time this year: <https://anoregoncottage.com/addictive-tomato-chutney/>.

For at least 10 years, **Monica Flanagan** of 10th Avenue has obtained fruits from farmers' markets, friends' orchards and home gardens. She also gleans fruit during alley walks. "On a recent walk I found a large fig tree and cactus fruit here in Curtis Park," says Monica.

Monica has competed in the State Fair for four years and has won 14 blue ribbons:

- For pickled fruit/vegetables and preserves: Spicy Carrots, Your Bloody Best Friend (a spicy pickle of asparagus, carrots, green beans, and celery meant to accompany a Bloody Mary), Figs in Balsamic;
- For marmalades: Lemon and ginger, lemon and whiskey, Orange and blackberry. For jams: Cranberry and Chambord, Pomegranate and Chambord, Apricot and Ras el Hanout, Quince, Apricot-Cinnamon-Ginger, Peach and Blackberry, Quince and Za'atar, and Strawberry and White Balsamic.

"I love mixing flavors, herbs and spices, liquor and vinegar to play



Photo/Monica Flanagan
Pickled fruits/veggies and preserves, marmalades with herbs and spices, liquor and vinegar have earned Monica Flanagan 14 blue ribbons at the State Fair.



Photos/Jean Minton
This year Jean Minton gleaned 175 lbs. of Roma tomatoes, above, and made salsa, enchilada sauce, pizza sauce, pasta sauce and chutney, below.



Photo/Carol Mott-Binkley
Pickled jalapeños with garlic



Photo/Alex Zucco
Jarred stone fruit medley

with the flavor profiles," says Monica. "When I give away jams or marmalades, I encourage people to use them for cooking, baking, and/or cocktails. The most fun is experimenting with cocktails – orange ginger with bourbon or whiskey, or another favorite is cherry lemon with vodka or tequila topped with sparkling water."

She can't choose a favorite preserve, but "every summer I also preserve brandied cherries for cocktails, desserts, or ice-cream. Every fall I make

cranberry & Chambord; it's great for a Thanksgiving meal or on a cheeseboard."

Monica recommends beginners read through the UC Division of Agriculture and Natural Resource food preserving guidelines at <https://ucanr.edu/sites/camasterfoodpreservers/>.

And as many preservers have experienced, sometimes jams or jellies don't set, but the flavor prevails. "Call it a sauce," says Monica. "It's always good for spooning over ice cream, cake or as a base for vinaigrette."



Photo/Judy Green Scheible

At the tent, diners are asked to wear masks, keep a safe distance and limit tables to six people.

Big tent is dining solution for Pangaea and Gunther's

By Judy Green Scheible

It takes creative thought to figure out how to stay in business when no one can come inside and cozy up to pub food and a beer or to a hot fudge sundae. These specialties of Pangaea Bier Café and Gunther's Ice Cream are local traditions.

The neighboring Franklin Boulevard restaurants came up with a creative solution. They put up a huge tent that stretches over Third Avenue between their two corners. They put in wooden picnic tables and asked everyone to wear a mask unless they were eating or drinking. And they asked people to limit tables to six – even though they could comfortably seat eight.

One sunny Sunday afternoon in mid-October, this place was hopping. The line for Gunther's stretched about 75 feet from the front door. Everyone appeared to wear a mask and keep their distance as marked on the sidewalk.

The cooks at Pangaea kept their

servers busy delivering sandwiches, salads and beers to tables with stand-up numbers indicating orders. A busboy diligently cleaned tables as customers left.

Families with small children, groups of women friends and senior couples made up the ethnically diverse crowd. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves while staying a safe distance apart.

As for the residents who live behind Gunther's, the tent is a welcome addition. Trudy Bourgeois says, "I love it. ... We no longer struggle with parking." A 30-year resident of the neighborhood, she says all her children and grandchildren have worked at Gunther's, and she's eager to see Gunther's and Pangaea stay in business..

For Pangaea, all orders must be placed either online or in person. No phone-in orders are taken. The café is open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday to Sunday.

Gunther's is open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. Gunther's offers on-line, phone-in or in-person ordering.

POINT OF VIEW

Trees in Curtis Park

Do we need to blow leaves?

By Dan Pskowski

Fall is my favorite time of year. Triple-digit temperatures are gone, and trees show off their fall colors, making it one of the best seasons to enjoy the outdoors.

Take a stroll, ride a bicycle, sit on the porch and read a novel or relax with family. However, these blissful moments can end in seconds with the obnoxious gas-powered leaf blower that forces you to take cover or head indoors.

Recently retired, I did not realize how prevalent the sound of leaf blowers was throughout the neighborhood. Gas-powered blower noise levels on the new models are between 64 and 107 decibels. A jet takeoff is 100 decibels and any sound above 85 decibels can cause hearing loss.

Leaf blowers worsen allergies and asthma, and irritate the lungs by propelling into the air clouds of dust, dirt and toxic chemicals that may have been applied to the lawn. Even though there are federal EPA regulations, the engine releases 100% of its emissions. One hour of gas-powered leaf blower use pollutes as much as a vehicle driven 1,100 miles.

Electric leaf blowers are a cleaner alternative. However, most local gardeners and landscape maintenance businesses still use gas-powered blowers. Most of these small businesses cannot afford to make the transition to electric.



I encourage property owners to ask your gardener to rake the leaves. Yes, it's going to cost more, but it is so much better for people's health and the environment. Raking is just as efficient except when it comes to shrub beds. However, leaving some leaves is better for the plants and soil. Earthworms and soil microorganisms break down this organic material, which replenishes the nutrients that the plants have consumed throughout the growing seasons.

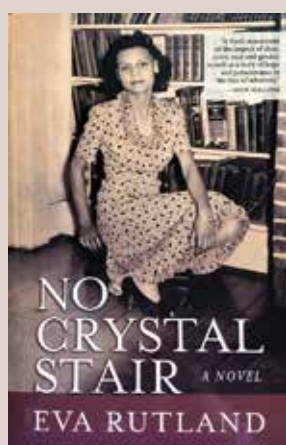
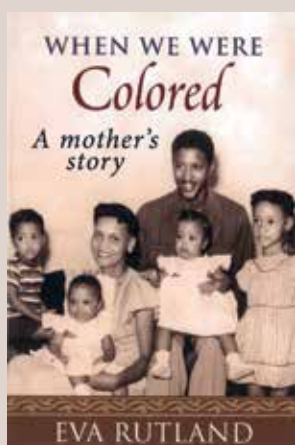
The biggest complaint about raking is that not every blade of grass and plant debris is gathered up. We have come to expect clean, pristine yards and hardscape surfaces that a leaf blower provides.

Why is Sacramento so entrenched in allowing gas-powered leaf blowers? Some 20 California cities have banned any type of gas or electric leaf blowers. The blower bans did not drive gardeners out of business.

Let us make our neighborhood a more peaceful, healthier place by bringing back the rake.

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Environmental advocate Pete Price is fondly recalled

Pete Price, a Curtis Park resident who worked three decades in and around the state Capitol, is remembered fondly by those near and far who knew and loved him.

Pete died Sept. 23 from injuries in a bicycle accident. He was 67.

"My father died doing what he loved, zipping along on his bike," daughter Jena Price wrote. "This is a deep loss to our family and I know many of you loved my father as well."

Pete started in the Assembly Office of Research in 1980, writing speeches for legislators and working on their campaigns. He later worked for Assembly Speaker Willie Brown as his senior environmental consultant.

As Brown's time at the Capitol was ending, Pete opened Price Consulting, an environmental lobbying firm representing natural resources clients with the goal of making the state healthier and cleaner.

He joined forces with Dan Jacobson to create GreenCA, a coalition of the environmental and public health communities to speak with one voice against deep-pocketed polluting interests.

"The way I sort of think of Pete's life is there's not a piece of important environmental legislation from 1995 to 2015 that passed that didn't have Pete's fingerprints on them," Jacobson told *The Sacramento Bee*. "He was so honest in the way that he negotiated that people on both sides of the aisle really trusted Pete."

Among Pete's clients was the Community Alliance with Family Farmers (CAFF), for which he lobbied from 1998 to 2010 and served on its board from 2000 until his death. In his memory, CAFF has created the Pete Price Farm Policy Champions Fund "for farmers and sustainable agriculture advocates to engage in California state policymaking," according to the CAFF website.

"He made an invaluable contribution to creating a more sustainable agriculture in California and he will be sorely missed," said Dave Runsten, CAFF's policy director.

After 15 years at Price Consulting, Pete returned to the Capitol to serve as Assembly Speaker John Perez's environmental consultant. Pete's last job before retiring was with Waste Management.

Pete is survived by his wife of 37 years, Susan; daughters Jena and JoJo; and twin granddaughters, Millie and Ellie.

The family suggested memorial donations to Trips for Kids, Qhubeka or Girls Rock Sacramento.

Jena also suggested: "Pour yourself a White Russian, put on 'The Big Lebowski,' and have a toast to our dude, my father, Pete Price."

— Dennis Cusick



Courtesy of CAFF
Pete Price

Don Wilson, 97, trained as pilot in World War II

Neighbors miss seeing Don Wilson walk with Cookie Annie II, his beloved West Highland terrier. Don died Sept. 20 at age 97. He was preceded a little over a year by his furry companion.

Don had lived in his Fourth Avenue home since 1962. He moved in after marrying Lora Girolani, whom he met square dancing. She died in 2009.

Don trained as a fighter pilot during World War II but the war ended just as he would have received his orders.

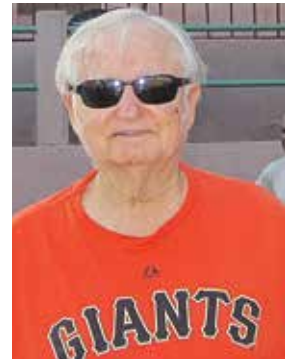
In civilian life he was an insurance agent and financial planner. And he was a traveler. He visited all seven continents and about 150 places and all 50 states. His daughter, Sally, often accompanied

Don. She recalled their final trip together in 2019 to Antarctica. Don was active in Shriners.

He bowled and played softball into his 90s and then concentrated on sit-down games like bridge and poker until the games were stopped by the pandemic.

His daughter said Don loved living in Curtis Park and had a special fondness for the trees. She said he would get upset when an elm had to be removed.

— Judy Green Scheible



Courtesy of Sally Wilson
Don Wilson



Photo/Bill Hoover

Major damage but no injuries

A driver lost control of a car on 26th Street mid-afternoon Oct. 15 and smashed into the planter and dog statue that neighbors have main-

tained just north of William Curtis Park. The driver was unhurt. The car, traffic sign, planter, plants and dog statue were extensively damaged.

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Reimagined dream allows 3 women to keep business alive

By Dennis Cusick

Three Curtis Park women had a dream – combine their professional talents for massage, psychology and yoga in a single business.

Three years ago, they opened Delta Mind and Body Center with a five-year lease at 2014 10th St., just south of T Street. At its peak, the business utilized the abilities not only of founders Anne-Christin Trost, Cara Arndorfer and Madeleine Lohman, but also 18 other practitioners.

And then the pandemic hit, a rude awakening for a business built on human interaction. But adversity also presented an unexpected opportunity with the discovery that many others shared the dream.

“My last massage was March 14,” says Anne-Christin. For seven months, she has been unable to do the work she loves to do. “I can’t do it safely right now – for myself and my clients.”

After the shutdown, Madeleine taught virtual yoga classes on Facebook the first couple months. “We started on Zoom in July,” Madeleine says. “Everybody loves it. It allows me to see everybody’s face. It’s having community again.”

Madeleine offers yoga on Zoom three days a week – two classes each on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and one on Saturdays, with payment in advance on Venmo or PayPal. She says she has a few openings, but will cap participation at 16 students per class, “because I still want there to be personal attention. If I had more than 16, I wouldn’t be able to do that.”

Madeleine also offers a 21-day streaming series of half-hour lessons: “Calm Anxiety with Gentle Yoga.”

Cara, who had a psychology practice in Davis in addition to counseling sessions at Delta, says, “I think my transition has been the easiest because I kept all my clients and transitioned them into a virtual platform.”



The pandemic prompted Cara Arndorfer, left, Madeleine Lohman and Anne-Christin Trost to repurpose a yoga studio into a boutique.

Photo/Joan Cusick

“People have been overwhelmingly generous. I feel people are a community holding us up.” – Anne-Christin Trost

The pandemic presented a challenge to keep the business running on reduced revenue while they remained obligated for more than two years on the lease for a facility they could no longer use for massages, yoga or psychology appointments.

“We were very fortunate that the city put a moratorium on commercial evictions,” Anne-Christin says. “That was a godsend.”

They brainstormed ways to make money with the empty yoga studio space. What about a store?

Anne-Christin says, “I had always as a hobby sold things online, things I’d found at a yard sale, picked up and then later let go.”

Donation centers were closed because of the pandemic, which created an opportunity to benefit from others’ discards.

They asked neighbors, friends and clients for

donations of items they could sell online. Anne-Christin managed the operation, with daily runs to the post office with outgoing shipments.

“People have been overwhelmingly generous,” Anne-Christin says. “I feel people are a community holding us up.”

By September, their house, front porch and back yard overflowed with that generosity. A yard sale that spread into a neighbor’s driveway and yard generated about \$700 on a “pay what you want” basis.

The best of the donated items were moved to the yoga studio, converted into a thrift store and boutique, which they named “s’Lädle” (“little shop” in the Swabian German dialect). Anne-Christin runs the store Tuesday through Saturday, and posts promotions on social media every day.

They recently managed to get up to date on the rent.

“We keep reimagining things,” says Cara. “There have been some stressors, but the strength of our relationship is what keeps the business going.”

For further information, visit www.deltamindbodycenter.com.

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