



# RIVER PARK REVIEW

*It's a great place to live!*

riverparksacramento.net

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April 2015

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## River Park in the News

On February 25, 2015, KCRA 3 news reported that the occupant of a house in River Park had erected a “display” that included the Nazi swastika symbol. The display started with a Palestinian flag in December, and a wooden representation of a man with his arms in the air in January, according to KCRA-3. However, in February the display was expanded to include an Israeli flag in which the Star of David had been replaced by a swastika, and an American flag with the stars replaced by a swastika. Subsequently, a star of David with the word “shalom” was also put up.

Several other news organizations followed suit and reported on the “display”. The occupant has refused to answer questions, only referring to the display as his “art”.

In what could be described as an emergency meeting, the Board of the River Park Neighborhood Association met to discuss how to handle the



situation. The Board immediately issued the following statement to the press through our City Council Representative Jeff Harris.

“We, the community of River Park, are very disappointed that one of our neighbors has chosen to construct a “display” outside his home that contains symbols that are highly offensive and represent one of the greatest tragedies in modern human history. River Park is a family-focused neighborhood that promotes

*Continued on page 4*

## Upcoming Events...

### Monthly RPNA Meetings Third Thursdays

April 16th and May 21st  
Fremont Presbyterian Church  
Block captains meet at  
7:00 p.m.  
RPNA Board meets at  
7:30 p.m.  
All residents are welcome.

### Glenn Hall Park Workday

**Date: Sat. May 2nd, 9:00 til noon**  
**Tools and refreshments provided.**  
**We will be pruning and spring cleaning.**

Contact: Jeff Harris: 455-0996  
or cadence@surewest.net



### SPRING GENERAL MEETING ALL RESIDENTS WELCOME!!

**Saturday, April 18th  
10:00 a.m.  
Caleb Greenwood  
Multi-Purpose Room**

Contact: Serge Stanich  
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**Who Really Was Caleb Greenwood?  
Part 1**

by Howdy Hoover



I remember many years ago our family moved to Sacramento from Redding. This was a big change for my sister and me, coming from a smaller community to such a big city. Leaving all our friends and comfortable surroundings behind, we bought a new house in River Park and began new friendships.

Our parents enrolled us in the local elementary school with a funny name. It was called Caleb Greenwood. What kind of name is that I wondered? Was this guy the founder of River Park? I asked around but nobody really knew much about Caleb Greenwood.

Later on I went to my teacher and asked her who Caleb Greenwood was. She said that most of the Sacramento schools were named after famous people in California history. So for many years I left it at that, thinking of Caleb Greenwood only as a school because I didn't know who the person was.

More recently, when I developed an interest in western American history, I did some research on Caleb Greenwood. It is very difficult to find information on Caleb's history. He was probably born in Virginia around 1763. His descendants claim he had to leave home at age 18 because he got in trouble with the law (he shot one or two men who were trying to take their black cook away against her will).

The next 25+ years in the Caleb's life are somewhat sketchy. It is believed he was hiding out in the mountains of Tennessee or Kentucky. Caleb was an expert shot with his flintlock rifle and was very capable of living off the land. In 1810, already in his late 40s, Caleb joined John Jacob Astor's trapping party and left St. Louis to trap beaver about 400 miles up the Missouri River.

Caleb spend the next 25, or so, years trapping in the Rockies and living with the Indians. This was a very old age (late 40s to early 60s) to be trapping, but Caleb was in very good shape and was actually a hunter for the party and did not have to wade into the cold water to set traps. A very good portrayal of this lifestyle is the movie Jeremiah Johnson starring Robert Redford, or a visit to the trapper station at Sutter's Fort.

At the age of 62 or 63 Caleb married a crow Indian woman named Batchicka. They had five sons and two daughters. This superhuman geriatric feat alone was something to marvel at, but Caleb still had not done the things that would make him famous. That didn't come until the 1840's when Caleb was in his eighties.

In the early 1840s the westward movement of settlers to Oregon and California was beginning. Elisha Stevens and Stevens-Townsend-Murphy party left Council Bluffs, Iowa in 1844. They were headed for California with 27 wagons and a guide named Caleb Greenwood. Caleb was accompanied by his two oldest sons, John and Brit. Caleb knew the west well from all his years trapping and living with the Indians. When they crossed South Pass, Wyoming, Caleb showed them a shortcut that bypassed Fort Bridger. This saved them about 85 miles and five or six days travel. This route for many years was known as the Greenwood Cutoff.

*Continued on page 4*

River Park Review is published 6 times per year and is available to all River Park residents at no charge.



The craft beer scene is expanding like wild yeast, but many people in River Park have been brewing at home long before it was cool.

A recent question posted on River Park social media pages received over twenty energetic responses from brewers, neighbors, relatives of home brewers, and those wondering how to get involved. Chances are, you're just a few degrees away from knowing someone in River Park who's got a fresh batch of ale ready for tasting.

For those not familiar with the process, there are different methods to brewing your own beer, ranging from the easy "beer in a bag" kits, to the challenging all-grain brewing. Most brewers produce five gallons per batch, each requiring 2-6 weeks before it's ready to hit your lips. Ingredients for a batch will run \$30-\$60, not including the equipment.

Home brewers have a solid understanding of proteins, hops, yeasts, boiling, fermenting, and though many have a science background, they insist, "anyone can do it," using information available on the internet. They all have strong opinions on taste, ingredients, and beer styles, but the one thing they all share is a deep appreciation for the social aspect of brewing beer and the community among local brewers.

For five years Jeff Henderson has lived and brewed in River Park. He's got a set up in his garage with boilers, buckets, hoses, bags of hops, grains, and sugars that all end up in his custom kegerator when they're done. Jeff brewed a special ale for his wedding (a porter called "For Richer or Porter"), brews a custom Christmas Ale, and is quick to offer a glass of his latest creation, a chocolate hazelnut stout. Up next for Jeff? A Pliny the Elder clone.

Josh Holmes, a veterinarian who lives on Callister, has been brewing for about six years. He began with "beer in a bag" kits, but quickly progressed to all grain ales. Now he grows his own hops in his backyard, which go into a wet-hopped ale after each harvest. Josh brewed twice a month before kids, but

now he's happy with six or eight batches each year, many of which are shared with neighbors.

This author has been lucky to live near a home brewer for the past ten years as well. Adam Bursch brews fruit ales, among others, and has been doing so since college. He warns that styles with high sugar content are a bit more dangerous, as he's had a five gallon glass "carboy" explode in his guest room during the process. Adam derives a personal satisfaction from producing his own beer, loves sharing bottles with neighbors, and is always available to share knowledge and wisdom about the brewing process.

A fair amount of labor goes into a batch, and that work often includes large buckets of hot liquid, stirring, mashing, measuring, and cleaning. Most brewers prefer not to do it alone. Offering to share stories and beer is usually enough to entice neighbors and friends to help in the process. Many say that's often a catalyst for them to try to brew on their own.

Equipment and ingredients can be purchased online or at local homebrew stores. Josh says, "Many brewers are DIYers and come up with little tricks and tools to make their systems work. That's one of the most interesting things about brewing with others you can always learn something."

If you're interested in a River Park homebrew tour or club, please email me at [ericrs@surewest.net](mailto:ericrs@surewest.net).



tolerance, diversity and community. The River Park community would like to express in no uncertain terms that we are offended by this display, we categorically reject the sentiments expressed, and we request that the homeowner remove the materials immediately.”

In addition to the statement, the Board has been working with Councilman Harris to draft a letter to the resident requesting that the display be taken down. Councilman Harris also contacted the Coalition for Palestinian Rights to see if they would be willing to intervene with the resident on behalf of the neighborhood. The Coalition subsequently requested the removal of the Swastikas and issued a statement condemning the use and display of the swastika symbol. Individual Board members are attempting to contact members of the family of the occupant of the house to see if they might be able to convince him to remove the display.

While all who have addressed this situation acknowledge the right to freedom of expression, the Board will continue to monitor the situation and work towards the ultimate goal of removal of the display. (At the time this article was sent to the printer, the display at 3805 Moddison had been removed, with the exception of the Palestinian flag). ■

As they were nearing the end of their journey, they were pondering how to get across the forty-mile desert in western Nevada. An old Indian name Truckee, gesturing and speaking in his native tongue, walked up to the group. By using sign language and drawing in the sand, Caleb was able to understand him.

He was telling them about a route that would lead them to a river that flowed from a great lake to the west. The party took his advice, crossed the hot dry desert, and found the river that lead toward California. They were so happy about finding this route that they named it the Truckee River after the old Indian.

The party hit snow at what is now called Donner Lake. They built a cabin and left some of their gear there. Eighteen-year-old Moses Schallenger became ill and elected to stay behind and guard the gear. By lightening their loads, they were able to get over the pass (Donner Summit near Sugar Bowl ski area) and progress down the western slopes to Sutter’s Fort. Two years later another immigrant party would become snowbound at that same lake and some of its members would stay in that same cabin. This forlorn party would give its name to the lake and perpetuate one of the most significant events in western American history. And old Caleb would play a big role in this snowbound event. ■

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**First Tree Planting Event:** On Saturday, February 28th, more than 30 volunteers gathered at Glenn Hall Park. Small planting groups were assembled and dispersed throughout the neighborhood. By the end of the day, 13 new trees were planted. In addition, 15 other homeowners planted their own new trees. Including a new tree planted at Glenn Hall Park, and the one used in a planting demonstration, a total of 30 new trees now reside in River Park. The first River Park tree planting was a tremendous success! These new trees will beautify the neighborhood and provide shade for generations to come.

**Tree Canopy Project at the April RPNA Meeting:**

At the upcoming RPNA Spring Meeting, there will be information and resources for homeowners to help maintain our existing tree canopy. The meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 18th from 10 AM to noon in the Multi-Purpose Room at Caleb Greenwood. We are inviting experts



from the Tree Foundation (who is also providing trees and expertise to the RPTCP organizers), the City (neighborhood services/parks department) and others.

**Next Tree Planting:**

The next tree planting will be on Saturday, November 14. We hope to expand the program and invite even more homeowners to participate. Check the RPNA website for upcoming information regarding the application process and August deadline.

New Trees and Caleb Greenwood and Glenn Hall Park: Thanks to the Sacramento Tree Foundation, Principal Hanson, SCUSD, and community volunteers, several new trees are also being planted at Caleb Greenwood and Glenn Hall Park.

We are looking for energy and ideas. For more information, go the RPNA website and watch for updates on social media. Thanks again, River Park!

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## TRAFFIC CONCERNS

by Todd Damiano

As a morning crossing guard at Caleb Greenwood, I probably see more of what happens in front of the school each morning than anyone else on a daily basis. Every day I see drivers on their cell phones or simply not paying attention to what they are doing. With that in mind I'd like to share a fairly recent experience of mine.

*One morning last year as the crossing guard at Caleb, I was standing at the cross walk on the corner of Carlson & Shepard, facing the school, helping kids cross Carlson on the way to school. At roughly 7:50 AM, "Caleb rush hour" so to speak, a Caleb parent's car passes me slowly, then turns right around the corner onto Shepard, and parks in the first space just behind me. My back is turned to that car as I'm watching the crosswalk in front of me. Behind me I hear a car door slam closed, and the sound of small footsteps charging towards me. Knowing a young student is rapidly headed my way, my first inclination was to turn around, but I feared he or she would pass by me on the opposite side and continue straight onto Carlson. So I quickly bent my knees and held both arms straight out, hoping to provide a barrier. Luckily my left hand grabbed a handful of the running kinder's jacket as he tried to run around me. Had I missed, he would've charged straight into moving traffic. This happened in the span of a few seconds... and I won't forget it anytime soon.*

While driving through a school zone, even a safe driver may need to make a quick decision to avoid an accident. The distraction of a cell phone or lack of a needed turn signal may be all that is needed to produce a tragic and avoidable accident.

It's easy to point at the Caleb parent drivers who think inattentive driving is the result of "outsiders" bringing their bad driving habits into our peaceful community. But if that were true, the streets of River Park would be very quiet on weekends, and we all know that isn't the case. We have our share of careless drivers and there really is no "bad driver profile." I used to believe young adults were the prime speeding offenders, and according to statistics that tends to hold true. However, I have friends and neighbors well into their 50's or 60's who ignore the speed limit on a regular basis.

Rather than singling out each one of the speeders and having them flogged in public, I would prefer to simply stress the point that when you get behind the wheel, you control the car. You are responsible for operating that vehicle safely. Here's your chance to demonstrate to others how you would like them to operate their vehicles. Maybe by bringing this issue to the collective attention of all River Park residents, some of us will choose to make a conscious decision to simply slow down and pay attention when driving. If slowing traffic speeds throughout the neighborhood seems unachievable, remember that when you choose to obey the speed limit, the traffic behind you will do the same. That is exactly why Carlson, the street with the highest volume of traffic in the neighborhood, was determined by the city last summer to have lower overall traffic speeds than Moddison, which has speed bumps. Obeying the speed limit might rub some people the wrong way, but it does little good to complain about speeders and then ignore the speed limit when you are the driver.

## River Park Mothers' Club Update

by Jennifer Judy

The River Park Mothers' Club has started off the new year with a bang. Our kick-off dinner was a huge success. Hosted by member Amy McGoldrick, past presidents and more than 40 current members of the club, came together to mingle and make plans for 2015.

### Upcoming events include:

*Spa Night in March*

*Backyard Movie Night*

*Mom's Brunch*

*Summer Pool Party at Glenn Hall  
and more....*

Infant playgroup meets weekly at the park or at a River Park home. A toddler group is getting started. New moms can sign up to receive meals from the club for a few weeks anytime in the first few months of baby's life: it is a lifesaver and a great way to meet other members. As a club member you'll make great friends, receive helpful support, and make neighborhood connections for your little one. Many current club members joined when their kids were babies, and now those babies are students and friends together at Caleb Greenwood. It's a wonderful way to be connected to this great community for years to come.

Interested in joining the RPMC? Check us out at [www.riverparkmothersclub.com](http://www.riverparkmothersclub.com) and click "join." You can pay dues online with PayPal and start enjoying this 60 year-old River Park tradition today!

## Advertise in the Review

The River Park Review is published by the RPNA, which is responsible for its content. RPNA reserves the right to edit and/or reject submissions.

### ADVERTISING RATES PER ISSUE

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# Caleb Corner

## PTSO News



by Jill Jones - PTSO President

### Spring Auction- April 10th!

Big "Thank you" to Brett Jones and countless other dads for making the Daughters' Dance a huge success!

There's no shortage of activity at Caleb Greenwood these days. On March 23rd & 24th, representatives from the IB organization toured the school to complete the authorization process. It is expected that some time in June, teachers and staff will receive confirmation that next fall Caleb Greenwood will begin its first school year as an officially authorized IB World School.

As if that weren't creating enough of a buzz, the school has also seen the completion of phase 1 of the Habitats project. Newly planted woodlands, grasslands, and butterfly garden, along with the Kenji memorial, have made a tremendous improvement to the campus surroundings. And by the time this newsletter is delivered, 4 new Chinese Pistache trees will have been planted near the primary classrooms. The Sacramento Tree Foundation donated the trees and helped coordinate with the teachers and parent volunteers to help students with the planting of each of the trees.

Another welcome addition to the Caleb Greenwood campus is a long overdue Little Library. It was a time consuming endeavor, but with the help of several Caleb parents and River Park residents, Principal Hanson helped get the pieces in place to make it happen. But remember, it is a community library; Caleb Greenwood books are not to be used.

Also, earlier this year Caleb Greenwood experienced a few incidents of minor vandalism. Shortly thereafter a visit from SCUSD's facilities manager Berry Evpak was arranged. He toured the campus to find ways in which the school could be better secured. Several lengths of fencing at the school were modified, making access to the roof a bit more of a challenge for neighborhood kids seeking a cheap thrill. Security cameras were also realigned to provide better coverage. If trespassers are seen on the roof of the school, Principal Hanson is requesting nearby residents to contact the school, or post on Riverpark websites the time and day they are seen. Digital images of those involved will be acquired from the security system, and parents will be contacted.

Lastly, there is big news for the students and neighborhood kids: While school is out on spring break, the play structure will receive a much-needed upgrade. At the January PTSO meeting a vote was passed to spend \$35,000 on additional equipment for the play structure. Students will return from spring break to find additional monkey bars and other equipment upon which to burn extra energy at recess times and on weekends.

There's plenty going on at Caleb Greenwood. Our wonderful neighborhood school just keeps getting better.

## RPNA Membership

by Tamis Reed

Thank You to Our Members!

RPNA sends sincere thanks to everyone who joined, renewed or extended their RPNA membership during our annual membership drive. We are truly appreciative of your generous support. We are pleased to announce that RPNA's membership is strong with 622 members. Our membership drive brought memberships from over 106 households in River Park, as well as many generous donations to RPNA.

RPNA also warmly welcomes the following new members – thank you and welcome aboard! If you are not a member yet, please join these wonderful neighbors today!

**Ashrith Amarnath & Anna Lee Desista**

**Claire Blocker-Lewis & Andrew Lewis**

**Tom DeMarois**

**Judith & Merrill Domondon**

**Erika Giorgi & Scott Wood**

**Donald Headrick & Barbara Worthington**

**John Pappas**

**Caroline Peretti**

**Allison Hickman & River Park Laundry**

**Jon Wiest**

If you would like to see if your RPNA membership needs to be renewed, please contact Tamis Reed, RPNA Membership Database Manager, at 804.5168 or email membership@riverparksacramento.net. We will be delivering membership renewal requests to lapsed members in the next month.

We encourage our neighbors to please join RPNA today. Membership dues are \$10.00 for one year, \$18.00 for two years, and \$25.00 for three years. Your support is vital in ensuring that RPNA can continue to do its amazing work and support our community in a myriad of ways. Membership dues may be mailed to: RPNA, P.O. Box 19866, Sacramento, CA 95819. You help to make all that we do possible. Thank you for your support.

## Army Corps of Engineers Levee Update

Since 2000, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District has worked steadily at improving levees along the American River - building seepage cutoff walls into 12 miles of levee along both banks to strengthen them and help inhibit seepage. While most of the major construction was completed by the end of the decade, around 30 sites were set aside for later-leaving gaps where construction has been complicated by utilities, power lines, or bridges. The district began construction on the last of these gaps in 2014 and is on schedule to complete the last of them in 2015.

The remaining bridge projects (Howe Avenue and H Street) are still on track to be completed this year, albeit a little later than initially planned. All levee work at Howe Avenue Bridge and the west (River Park) side of H Street Bridge should be done by the end of May, while work continues on the eastern side of H Street Bridge. Construction crews have uncovered all kinds of things inside Sacramento's sandy levees. There are ancient redwood trees, random cobble chunks, cement slabs,

unmarked gas lines and other utilities, and even abandoned irrigation pipes that weren't in the plans. These issues can only be handled when they're discovered. Engineering during construction adds time and expense to these vital flood risk reduction projects.

Finishing the levee work on the lower American River this year is a major milestone in a decades-long collaboration of the Corps, state of California and the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency to modernize Sacramento's flood infrastructure. But before comprehensive and sustainable improvements in the system can be considered complete, other tasks remain, such as finishing the new auxiliary spillway and other upgrades at Folsom Dam. Upon completion, a major study proposing additional levee improvements throughout the city will be initiated.

*Todd Plain - public affairs specialist*

*U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District*

*(916) 557-5100 Main*

### Christian Brothers High School Celebrates New Theater With Big Musical

***"How to Succeed in Business"*** to be third production!

Christian Brothers High School has hired Michael D. Jackson as the new Artistic Director for the school's theatre program occupying the new George Cunningham '40 Performing Arts Center, which includes the state-of-the-art, Thea Stidum Theatre. Jackson will direct the musical comedy "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" for the annual spring production opening April 17th.

Based on Shepherd Mead's 1952 satirical "How To" manual, Frank Loesser (music and lyrics), Abe Borrows, Jack Weinstock and Willie Gilbert (book) had the brilliant idea to create a musical about a guy who actually uses the book to get ahead in the business world. "How to Succeed" opened on Broadway in 1961 to rave reviews and audiences kept the show open for 1417 performances. The show was honored with the Tony Award for Best Musical and the Pulitzer Prize. The show has been revived twice on Broadway: in 1995 with Matthew Broderick and in 2011 with Daniel Radcliffe.

Jackson graduated from CSUS with a Masters in Theatre Arts, worked extensively with the California Musical Theatre and has just recently relocated back

to Sacramento after 14 years in New York City where he worked as director, playwright, theatre critic and licensing agent for Music Theatre International.

The George Cunningham '40 Performing Arts Center is an exciting new edition to the CBHS campus—including a comfortable, state of the art theatre with adjacent band and choir classrooms. The building opened last April with the inaugural production of "The Drowsy Chaperone". To showcase the abundant student talent and the capacities of the theater, Jackson directed Elmer Rice's "Street Scene" this past November, which featured a cast of 30 and a fully realized New York brownstone apartment building on stage. Now CBHS will open up the orchestra pit for the first time to present the classic "How to Succeed" with a live orchestra and all the fun of the Frank Loesser score, which includes the familiar songs, "I Believe in You", "Company Way" and "Brotherhood of Man".

The production runs April 17, 18, 24, 25 at 7 PM and matinees on April 19 and 26 at 2 PM. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and can be purchased at the door or online at: [www.cbhs-sacramento.org](http://www.cbhs-sacramento.org). CBHS is located at 4315 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd.

# Park Pets



Samantha came to us via a neighbor who found her and a sibling thrown away by the side of the road near the Power Inn Road dump. She was tiny and to this day the sound of a garbage truck backing up sends her running under the bed. She has been appropriately spoiled by her owners, Mike, Janet and Ellyn. We've made sure she's safe from trucks and has a soft bed available at all times.

Janet Mason



## Join River Park Computer Networks Now!

The best way to stay informed and up to date about what's happening in River Park is by using the neighborhood computer "listservs" and websites. Lost a dog? See something suspicious? Got something to sell? These interactive computer networks are already used by hundreds of River Park residents.

*River Park Blog Yahoo Group*—just send an email to the moderator at:

**riverparkblog-subscribe@yahoogroups.com** – or at –  
**http://groups.yahoo.com/group/riverparkblog/** then,  
"Join this group!"

Send RPList mailing list submissions to: [rplist@lists.mcn.org](mailto:rplist@lists.mcn.org)

To subscribe or unsubscribe via the World Wide Web, visit

<http://lists.mcn.org/mailman/listinfo/rplist> or, via email, send a message with subject or body 'help' to: [rplist-request@lists.mcn.org](mailto:rplist-request@lists.mcn.org);

You can reach the person managing the list at: [rplist-owner@lists.mcn.org](mailto:rplist-owner@lists.mcn.org)

River Park is also listed on **nextdoor.com** and **Facebook.com**

The RPNA board has determined that instructions on how to join the two River Park computer networks be printed in each issue of the River Park Review.

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## Garden Club News

River Park Garden Club member Pat Smith will make a presentation on gardens she has visited during her travels in Europe. The meeting will be held Thursday, April 9th, 2015 beginning at 6:30 p.m. with potluck dinner in Ferguson Hall at Fremont Presbyterian Church. Members of the public are welcome. Contact Ron McCormack at 451-7246.

## Spring/Summer Watering Rules Began March 8, 2015

As per City Code, watering times will change at the beginning of Daylight Savings Time to two days per week, based on street address.

The City of Sacramento has adopted a Stage 2 Water Shortage Contingency Plan, which limits spring/summer watering to two days per week based on address.

Properties ending in an ODD number (1, 3, 5, 7, or 9) may water on Tuesdays and Saturdays ONLY.

Properties ending in an EVEN number (0, 2, 4, 6, or 8) may water on Wednesdays and Sundays ONLY.

No watering is permitted on Mondays, Thursdays or Fridays.  
No overwatering is permitted on any day.

## Living and Working in *River Park*



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## Neighbor Profile: The Vanderfords

by Kimberly Teague

Ken & Debbie Vanderford have lived on Clyde Ct. for 19 years. They have two daughters, Katherine (26) and Meghan (22). Katherine works for Lyft in Oakland, and Meghan works for a winery near Petaluma.

Ken works at Natomas Unified School District as a principal for an adult education school and also as a teacher at Discovery High School. He is a current RPNA Block Captain and has served on the RPNA Board. Debbie works as an interpreter for the deaf at Sutter Middle School.

They met almost 30 years ago. While out for a walk, Debbie's Cockapoo chose to attack Ken's Golden Retriever. This fortuitous event not only led to a wonderful, loving marriage and family, but also a shared lifelong passion for dogs.

Debbie also volunteers as a "puppy raiser" for Canine Companions for Independence, a non-profit organization that breeds, raises, and trains service dogs.

Being a "puppy raiser" means she is provided an 8 week-old puppy, the next 18 - 20 months are spent teaching the pup about 30 commands during the weekly training sessions. The puppies accompany their raisers everywhere they go (work, church, theater, public transit, libraries, medical appointments, etc.). When the puppy raisers training session concludes, the puppies are then delivered to the CCI where they undergo another six months of advanced training. This is hard work, only 40% of the dogs pass, the remaining 60% of the dogs are released back to the public.

Debbie's first dog, Daphne, was released from the program. However, Daphne was happily welcomed into the Vanderford's home. She has since become a certified therapy dog. The two of them visit children at Shriner's Hospital, and the "Read to

Rover" program at Carmichael Library.

Following the rigorous training, the dogs are given physical exams, tests, and assessments. They are then assigned to one of the four service dog categories or chosen to become breeders.



The four categories of Service Dogs are:

1. Service Dogs: Matched to people with disabilities for one-on-one assistance. One of Debbie's dogs is living with a man in Modesto who has spina bifida. People who are provided a service dog attend a two-week training with their dog to ensure it's a good match.

2. Skilled Companions: Matched to children with disabilities and their families.

3. Facility Dogs: Matched to therapists, teachers, etc. who work with disabled people.

4. Hearing Dogs: Matched to those who are hard of hearing.

A fifth category is being developed to assist individuals with PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder).

The Northern California CCI office is located in Santa Rosa, on property that was donated by Charles Schultz, the famed Peanuts cartoonist.

Ken & Debbie's love of dogs and service to others will continue into their retirement. They are currently raising her fifth dog, Daze. When they aren't busy working or attending dog-training sessions, the Vanderfords enjoy spending time with their daughters, photography, and brewing beer (which we neighbors appreciate...).

For more information about Canine Companions for Independence, visit their website [www.cci.org](http://www.cci.org).

**Letters to the Editor...If you'd like to contribute,**  
contact: Todd Damiano: 402-4641 ([toddamiano@surewest.net](mailto:toddamiano@surewest.net))  
Please put "letter to the editor" in the subject line of your email

Date	Time	Block Location	Activity
1/15/2015	1:12 pm	Carlson Dr./Callister Ave.	Burglary Vehicle
1/23/2015	2:40 pm	43XX Breuner Ave.	Vandalism
1/29/2015	5:50 pm	Carlson Dr./Callister Ave.	Burglary Vehicle
2/2/2015	10:30 am	55XX Camelia Ave.	Battery Civilian
2/7/2015	4:50 pm	48XX Moddison Ave.	Vandalism
2/11/2015	10:30 pm	57XX Carlson Dr.	Vandalism
2/18/2015	6:21 am	38XX Moddison Ave.	Grand Theft Recycle Metal
2/22/2015	7:19 am	1XX Ruth Court	VC DUI BA .08 or more
2/23/2015	8:00 pm	5XX Sandburg Drive	VC Vehicle taken w/o owner consent

Source: <http://www.raidsonline.com>

## River Park Neighborhood Watch Report: Courtesy and Civility in the Community

by Serge Stanich

Recently, as many people are aware, a resident of River Park decided to take advantage of his civil rights to make a display that made national and international news. While the individual chose not to articulate the thoughts or intentions of the display, the content was shocking to most and offensive to many. Many people did choose to comment on the display in the public forums including Facebook, Nextdoor, Sacramento Bee, on the televised news, etc. Most people articulated confusion, frustration, annoyance, and many people debated the limits of free speech and what is appropriate speech. Occasionally, similar to the display, the language departed from civil discourse to critical, antagonistic, and even insulting. As many people noted, the Constitution does not guarantee the right to “not be offended.” However, with freedom of speech, one can still present an opinion or position without insult or offense.

Most residents of River Park were mostly annoyed at the negative attention brought to the community and the activities of the news media capitalizing



on the opportunity for a story. The event brought protesters and even resulted in a petty crime with the materials being torn down. The display is now gone and hopefully, the community returns to its quiet state of normal.

In every issue, this section of the newsletter is dedicated to crime and safety. However, if we would like to see River Park not only a safer but more pleasant community to live in, we could all simply approach our neighbors in all of our public interactions with a greater effort towards simple respect and courtesy.

Finally, if you see any suspicious or criminal activity, please call the Sacramento Police Department by calling either the non-emergency number at (916) 264-5471 or the emergency number (916) 732-0100.

For more information on how to support the Neighborhood Watch please contact Serge Stanich at [sergestanich@gmail.com](mailto:sergestanich@gmail.com).

### CALL FOR BLOCK CAPTAINS!

**Block Captains serve as liaison between their immediate neighbors and RPNA, and deliver the River Park Review! Contact: Eric Schranz, 916-207-2038, [ericrs@surewest.net](mailto:ericrs@surewest.net)**