



River Park Review

Vol. 11. No. 4

WWW.RIVERPARKSACRAMENTO.NET



Without a hitch

River Park's famous Fourth of July Festival was a marvelous success again this year. The weather, the early morning Fun Run, the kids parade, the music, the food, the games, even a fire truck - everything seemed perfect this year. Volunteers led by RPNA President Steve Harriman, Lupita Cortez Alcalá and Pam Slater made sure the portable toilets, generator, tables, and tents were all in place on time. RPNA's treasurer Barbara Debert reported that the event was perhaps the most financially successful yet, costing RPNA only a net \$1188. The Mere Mortals Band provided familiar danceable music. The biggest innovation this year was granting to Elvas Avenue's The Wienery the hot dog concession. Fears that their hot dogs

would be too big for kids or too expensive were unfounded. The River Park Mothers' Club provided the bounce house and sold ice cream. The Mothers' Club netted about \$200.

Above it all on the crest of the levee, a Sacramento police cruiser provided the prop for a "No Alcohol Allowed" sign. The state's policy of forbidding alcohol along the lower American River on major summer holidays was strictly enforced throughout the day. Predictably, a drunken revel upstream from River Park took place on the weekend following Independence Day. But on the Fourth of July in River Park, the atmosphere was wholesome, patriotic and fun.



UPCOMING RIVER PARK EVENTS

August 2011..... and beyond

Thursday August 18

RPNA Meetings

Block captains 6:30 p.m.
 RPNA Board 7:30 p.m.
 Fremont Presbyterian
 Church
 Geneva Room

Saturday August 27

Screen on the Green
 Glenn Hall Park
Toy Story
 Free movie for
 families and kids.
 Starts at dark

Saturday Sept. 17

Great American
 River Cleanup
 9:00 a.m - Noon
 Wear heavy shoes
 @Glenn Hall Park

Thursday Sept. 15

RPNA Meetings

Block captains 6:30 p.m.
 RPNA Board 7:30 p.m.
 Fremont Presbyterian
 Church
 Geneva Room

Park Pops

River Park's own Q-Balls band entertained a crowd of close to a thousand at Glenn Hall Park's annual Pops in the



Q-Balls Band

Park on June 11th. The city of Sacramento sponsors the free summertime concerts each year in several city parks. So far, the city has not announced plans to cancel Pops in the Park next year due to the bad budget situation. These kinds of events are not only pleasurable for city residents but they offer local elected officials the opportunity to see and be seen. The next such event in River Park is Screen on the Green, also in Glenn Hall Park. Disney-Pixar's "Toy Story" is the movie. It's Saturday evening August 27. See you there!

Saga of the Yermol Fountain

Around the first of May the River Park Garden Club asked the City of Sacramento Department of Parks and Recreation to repair the fountain at the entrance to River Park which had quit working. They checked it out and determined it needed a new pump. They put a work order in to take care of it. Two months went by and nothing happened.

In order to get some movement, the Garden Club contacted Ed Ayala, owner of Ayala Design Build, the contractor who put the fountain in, to see how much it would cost to get it fixed. He offered to install a new pump free of charge. Sue Brown in Councilman Cohn's office arranged purchase of the new pump. Ayala installed it on a Wednesday, but had to wait until the next day for the pump sealant to dry. When he came back the next day the pump was gone. It appeared vandals had struck and it had been stolen.

City trucks had been seen at the fountain the day it disappeared. In following up it was found that city workers, following up on the work order placed in May, had come in on Thursday and taken out the pump that had been put in the previous day. Once everyone figured out what the other guy was doing the pump was promptly replaced and the fountain is now in working order. Aren't happy endings to stories nice?



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RPNA Board of Directors Election It's that time again

Have you ever considered running for a seat on the RPNA Board? The River Park Neighborhood Association's Board Elections are coming up in October. This election will determine who occupies the 5 available positions this year, each with a 2 year term beginning January 2012. Being on the board is a great way to get involved in your neighborhood issues and events, make friends and help advocate for yours and your neighbors' best interests. Your attendance at board meetings held on the 3rd Thursday of every month is mandatory.

To apply:

- Submit your candidate statement no later than October 1st via email to membership@riverparksacramento.net. Statements are typically one paragraph and include information about you and your reasons for running for the board.
- Ballots will be mailed to all active RPNA members around October 12; completed ballots will be due in by November 1. Candidate statements will be printed in the fall issue of the River Park Review.
- Ballots will be tallied during the first week of November and the election results will be printed in the next issue of the River Park Review.

RPNA Membership update

The River Park Neighborhood Association currently has **721** members! Please join in extending a warm welcome to our newest members and thank them for their support:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Michael Baad | Lucy & Scott Godegast |
| Tim Griffiths & Jennifer Troia | Aaron & Sheila Peddy |
| James Seibert | John & Stacey Wigglesworth |

RPNA membership is one of the best bargains around at just \$10.00 per year or \$25.00 for a full 3-year membership. From the Fourth of July extravaganza to Pops in the Park, to River Park Youth Baseball, to our River Park Night Patrol that helps keep us all safe, the list of amenities our community offers to us goes on and on. So, if you're not a member yet, why wait?

To become an RPNA member Just send your check to:

RPNA
P.O. Box 19866
Sacramento, CA 95819

You can also join RPNA using a credit card via PayPal by visiting www.riverparksacramento.net

~ Living and Working in River Park ~ Call us with all your Real Estate needs



Nicole Pate
916.802.4697
nicole.pate@bhghome.com
 DRE# 01710266

"Rich Wilks did an awesome job selling our River Park home five years ago and now Rich and Nicole are navigating our children through the purchase of their first neighborhood home. They have the experience and knowledge base that equals "confidence". Working with Rich and Nicole makes what could be a very emotional situation comfortable and relaxed. They are the best!"

Ron and Heather

--River Park Resident for 25 years--



Rich Wilks
916.826.8449
rich.wilks@bhghome.com
 DRE# 01257104



Call us now for help with Buying or Selling in River Park.

Dogs of River Park

Little **Hula** is the Lee family's two-year old dog. The vet says she's a hybrid "Chiweenie," a mix of Dachshund and Chihuahua. If you've ever walked down Minerva, chances



are you've seen Hula barking at you from her parents' window! Although she may not seem like the friendliest dog, she's actually very loving, loyal and funny! The way to Hula's heart is definitely with a piece of chicken. She'll do just about anything for a treat, loves to play ball, go for car rides,

and brings lots of laughs to the Lee family – especially when she sleeps upside-down on the sofa!

Take a chance! Send a quality close-up digital photo of your River Park dog to:

editor@riverparksacramento.net

Turf War in River Park

River Park resident and RPNA board member Phil Pluckebaum struck it rich. He describes what happened:

"Bright and early on June 2nd and 3rd, TV crews descended on Callister Ave. Our neighbor, Joseph along with his roommates, competed against my wife Toni and me in a two-day sprint to see who could create the best back yard for the **DIY Network**'s reality TV show *Turf War*. We each had our own landscape contractor, designer and a limited budget. Our contractors and designers worked with each of us to come up with an idea of what we would consider our dream yard then created a secret design that was not revealed to us until the first day of work. After our crews worked straight through the night and the judging was done, Joseph and I both agreed that there is truly no loser. We both love our yards, but you'll have to wait till the show airs in September to see them and find out who won!"

NOTICE: River Park's Fall General Meeting will be held on Saturday October 22 at 10:00 a.m. Location To Be Announced.

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Preening the Park

On June 25 the Glenn Hall Volunteer Corp. met again to prune and preen the park for the 4th of July festivities. An enthusiastic 26 people offered their time, and were also joined by Julie Mier, the Adopt-a-Park Coordinator for the City of Sacramento. The new gardens by the entrance were enhanced by additional planting. The volunteers are doing a great job maintaining the park. Even the treats were exceptional this time (homemade muffins, Noah's Bagels and coffee)! The Volunteer Corps meets about five times a year, and all are welcome to help out. This effort will continue until the city is solvent.



June 25, 2011

The Glenn Hall Park swimming pool is open through August 21st due to the generosity of local residents who contributed to the recent fundraising campaign, and Councilman Steve Cohn's contribution from Pops in the Park funds. The community has now raised enough to pay for this year. The pool is open Wed., Fri. and Sun. from 1-5 p.m. Thanks to all who donated to save our pool!

River Park's Night Patrol is in full swing, and will continue through Labor Day. There are several new volunteers this year, but there is always a need for more to participate. Paradise Beach is getting a lot of party activity this year. Rangers have made several arrests and forced many folks to pour out their liquor. The police are doing extra patrols. The city horse patrol has been mobilized several times to keep the peace. Sac PD is appreciative of our night patrol for giving them actionable information. To sign up for Night Patrol contact Jeff Harris at cadence@surewest.net.

Michelle Hays and her husband Jeffrey and son Jeff Jr. on Ruth Court spotted an error in the last issue of the Review. A tiny, questionable error - more of an inconsistency. But it was the only fly reported in the otherwise soothing ointment. Michelle has not been shy about looking for errors in the Review, but Jeffrey Jr. obviously has a more balanced view. At any rate, the prize is theirs. Persistence, celerity, and a sharp eye are what's needed to play this game. But don't be shy. There is no downside and just look at the possible reward!



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 one or both of the two neighborhood computer listserves. Lost a dog? See something suspicious? Got something to sell? These interactive computer listserves are already used by hundreds of River Park residents. To sign up for the **River-Park Blog Yahoo Group** just email to the moderator of the listserv at:

RiverParkBlog-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

River Park's other electronic meeting place is the **River Park List** (RP List). To become a member of RP List, visit www.riverparklist.com and follow instructions you'll find there. Both listserves are free.

River Park Parents!

Need A Reliable, Local, And Trustworthy Babysitter?

16-year-old life-long River Park resident, soon to be senior at Rio Americano H.S., is available days, nights, weekdays and weekends. Please call Savannah to discuss how I can help make your summer more enjoyable for you and your children.



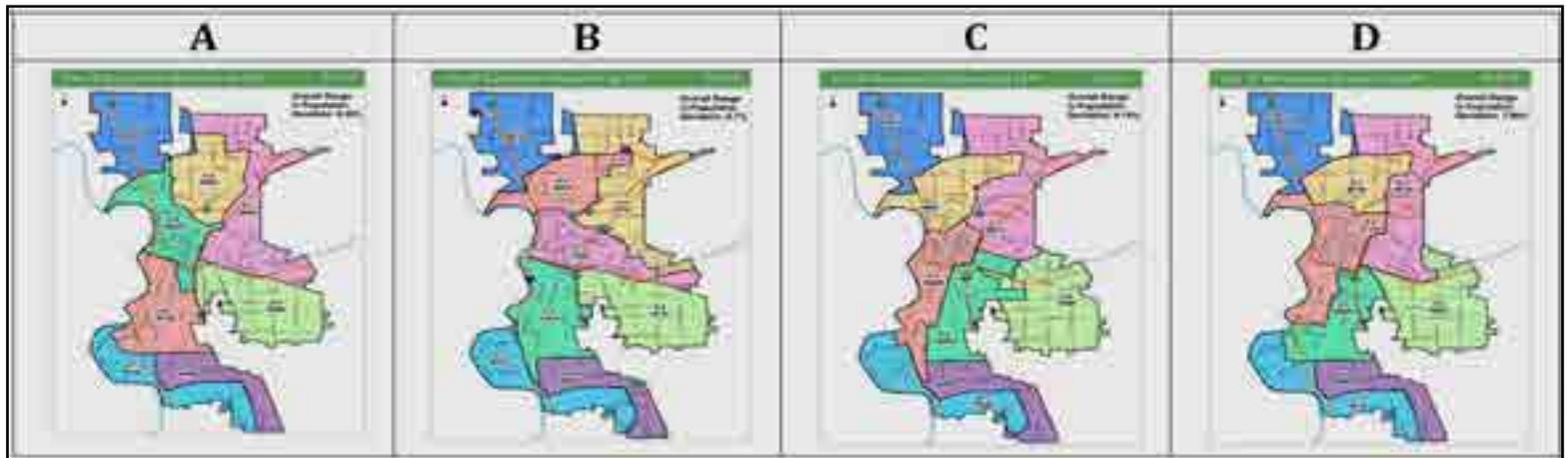
Savannah Sterpe-Mackey

821-1582

City council redistricting — Moment of truth approaches

On July 6th the Sacramento Redistricting Citizens Advisory Committee concluded its work by recommending four of the thirty-seven maps that were submitted. Next the city council will review and must adopt a new map by September 6th. The committee strove to balance population, communities of interest, neighborhoods and geography in its recommendation. A few consistent themes emerged including the desire to have one councilmember represent the Central City (defined as American River to Hwy 50 and Business 80 to the Sacramento River), to unite the Central City with one or more heavily LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) neighborhoods (Land Park, Curtis Park or East Sac), and to keep East Sac and River Park united. The committee’s recommendation of four maps presents the council with a variety of strengths, weaknesses and tradeoffs for their deliberations. Plan A draws District 5 into the Central City. Plan B draws District 3 into the Central City, but as currently drawn splits East Sac and River Park (River Park would be in District 2). Plans C & D both draw District 4 into the Central City, but Plan C splits East Sac and River Park into four different districts and places the Railyards in District 2. The city council has some difficult decisions to make in the coming months, but the committee has provided it with a solid foundation to build from.

At its July 21st meeting the RPNA board of directors approved the sending of a letter to the Sacramento city council expressing RPNA’s concern that River Park and East Sacramento be united within the same council district and that East Sacramento be undivided in the final redistricting.



Yard Waste Collection Program

Many folks in River Park have been asking for clarification on the yard waste collection program. City residents have a choice of 2 programs, including "containerized" and "loose in the street." According to the Department of Utilities, more than 100,000 city households currently participate in the containerized yard waste collection program. Containerized customers must use a 96-gallon yard waste container for weekly collection and may place yard waste loose-on-the street for collections 8 times per year during the following peak seasons.

- **January** - collection second week
- **February** - collection last week
- **May** - collection last week
- **October** - collection last week
- **November and December** - collection a minimum of every other week

After the May collection, containerized customers will not receive another loose in the street collection for 5 months. If you are a containerized customer, please help keep River Park clean by placing yard waste only in your container. Call 311 if you have questions or wish to switch programs.



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Police crime reports: May - June 2011

May 1	2:00 p.m.	001 block of Sandburg	Theft of mail
May 9	3:30 p.m.	5400 block of Carlson	Breaking and entering
May 19	2:30 p.m.	5100 block of Sandburg	Breaking and entering
May 23	10:00 a.m.	Glenn Hall lot	Theft of vehicle
June 2	2:00 p.m.	H and J Street merger	Grand theft
June 3	10:00 p.m.	5800 block of Callister	Petty theft
June 4	10:30 p.m.	5700 block of Moddison	Theft of vehicle
June 5	8:30 a.m.	3700 block of Moddison	Breaking and entering
June 10	11:00 a.m.	5800 block of Shepard	Breaking and entering
June 14	11:15 a.m.	5300 block of Moddison	Petty theft
June 18	5:15 p.m.	5600 block of Moddison	Breaking and entering
June 23	3:40 p.m.	5400 block of Sandburg	Minor in possession of alcohol
June 24	7:35 a.m.	5500 block of Caleb	Breaking and entering
June 25	1:00 a.m.	5000 block of Jennings	Breaking and entering
June 26	8:05 a.m.	5000 block of Moddison	Breaking and entering
June 26	7:20 p.m.	American River	Watercraft DUI
June 29	1:10 p.m.	6100 block of H St.	Indecent exposure

At 11 p.m. July 19, an assault suspect was arrested on the 5400 block of Carlson. An alert driver witnessed the incident in which an elderly woman was grabbed and dragged into the bushes. A quick call by the witness brought the police.

Watch the skies!

The last space shuttle mission is complete, but there's still a lot to see in the night sky. Here are two websites that will open your eyes.

<http://spaceweather.com/flybys/>

This site tells you exactly when and where to look to see the International Space Station and other bright orbiting satellites as they fly over Sacramento.

<http://www.astroviewer.com/index.php>

is a little more complicated, but it shows you the night sky and which constellations, stars, and planets are visible. Both websites are free.

Crime is no joke in Sacramento, River Park, or anyplace else. Displayed below are links to Sacramento Police Department and state Department of Justice websites that allow you to see where registered sex offenders live. The websites will allow you to see a map of any place in California and includes photos of the registrants, exact addresses, and the nature of their offenses. The websites' creation was authorized by California's "Megan's Law" which was passed by the legislature and signed by Governor Schwarzenegger in 2004.

Currently the Megan's Law listing shows one registered sex offender as living in River Park with many more listed in other parts of the city and county. Each offender is required to register their location once a year, every 90 days for the very violent offenders and every 30 days for transients. Thus the offender listed in River Park may have moved away.

Not all sex offenders are required to be on the list and offenders can petition to be removed or excluded. That would be part of the 25% of offenders who are known to law enforcement by location, but who are not required to be on the Megan's Law website because they petitioned to be omitted or removed. On the website, there is a written explanation of who is allowed to be left off the site's listing, as well as other helpful information about how the listing works, penalties for its misuse, and a summary of what must be listed for an offender, such as the address or just ZIP code, depending on offense.

Here are two places to look: Each website may have slightly more detailed information such as conviction dates or victim's age or more specific offenses, but both link to the same state list of registered sex offenders:

<http://sacpd.org/besafe/meganslaw>

<http://www.meganslaw.ca.gov/disclaimer.aspx?lang=ENGLISH>

In Brief:

- Sacramento Police Department has a blog that answers any and all law enforcement related enquiries. Check it out at: <http://blog.sacpd.org/category/answers-from-officer-michelle/>
- Carpool help needed - River Park to Rio Americano High School. Contact Jessica Edwards at **765-6427** or email at jsscedwards@yahoo.com
- Come One, Come All! The Mariners group at Fremont Presbyterian Church will hold a giant rummage sale on Saturday August 20 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Ferguson Hall. To donate an item call Bob Nosler **635-4452**.
- Free 10-minute international or domestic long distance phone calls. Just dial **244-4849**, listen to two short ads, then dial the long distance number. It works! See www.freephone2phone.com for more information.

Places to go (on the web) and people to call

Call the city anytime about anything **3-1-1**

Sacramento Police emergency **9-1-1** or **264-5151**
 Sacramento Police non-emergency **264-5471**
 Power's out? Call SMUD **1-888-456-7683**
 Fire! Call **9-1-1** or **264-5031**
 Mayor Kevin Johnson **808-5300**

City Councilman Steve Cohn
scohn@cityofsacramento.org or call **808-7003**

County Supervisor Susan Peters **874-5471**

City Animal Control **808-7387**

What's the weather?
www.wrh.noaa.gov/Sacramento

City of Sacramento Neighborhood Services Department:
<http://www.cityofsacramento.org:80/ns/>



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2011 RPNA Contacts/Membership information

RPNA membership is on a calendar year. If you would like to check or renew your membership, call Andrea Schroeder at **454-4200** or e-mail membership@riverparksacramento.net. If you would like to become a member, send \$10 (per household) to RPNA, PO Box 19866, Sacramento, CA 95819. Make check payable to RPNA.

NAME	ASSOCIATION	PHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Steve Harriman	RPNA President	208-5329	president@riverparksacramento.net
Billy & Eve Martinez	Block Captain Coordinators	457-7725	rvrpk3@surewest.net
Andrea Schroeder	RPNA Membership	454-4200	membership@riverparksacramento.net
Jeff Harris	Night Patrol Coordinator	455-0996	cadence@surewest.net
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To submit an article to the River Park Review, please email information to editor@riverparksacramento.net. The River Park Review is published by the RPNA, which is responsible for its content. It reserves the right to edit and/or reject submissions. Editor will pay five dollars to the first person who finds a typo. **ADVERTISING RATES PER ISSUE: Biz Card: \$50; Biz Card-Plus: \$75; Half-page \$150; Insert: \$205.** Thanks always to Silvio Suine and his army of block captains who deliver the River Park Review to your doorstep. Great job!