



# RIVER PARK REVIEW

*It's a great place to live!*

riverparksacramento.net

Vol. 13 No. 4

September 2013

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## A Fun Soccer Season: That's the Goal!

by Todd Damiano

September has arrived and that means River Park Soccer is underway. Back in July, coaches met to review rules, schedules, rosters, and pick up equipment needed for practices.



Teams were assembled and practices were arranged. The league needed an additional coach, so I'm in charge of a U8 boys team this year. Thankfully I was an assistant coach last year, so I'm not flying blind. The other coaches who jumped in without that year of assisting, they are the brave ones.

The exact date is unknown, but the River Park Soccer Club is believed to have been founded around 1975. Uniforms of royal blue, white and gold are a long time tradition too. RPSC is comprised of 250-300 players. East Sacramento, the nearest club neighbor, is much larger, serving 900-1200 players. They are both

part of the 15 team Sacramento Youth Soccer League. In all, the SYSL has a total of roughly 8000 players. What makes this such a remarkable event is the fact that the entire

SYSL league is a community-based organization. It is difficult to comprehend how many volunteers are needed to make it possible for so many children to play youth soccer. Referees are paid a stipend, but everyone else is a volunteer and does it for the pleasure of being part of long standing tradition.

Our club is organized in groups, each with a two year spread, from U6 to U19 ( "U" meaning "under"), so kids range in age from 4-18. The majority of the teams are U10 and under. At the U6 level, the teams are a mixed girls and boys program. The rules are minimal, coaches are the referees, and the game is all about having

*(continued on pg. 8)*

## Upcoming Events...

### Monthly RPNA Meetings Third Thursdays

Thursdays, Sept. 19 & Oct. 17  
Caleb Greenwood Cafeteria  
Block captains meet at  
7:00 p.m.  
RPNA Board meets at  
7:30 p.m.  
All residents are welcome.

### Glenn Hall Park Workday

Saturday, Sept. 14th  
9:00 a.m. - Noon  
Bring HAT & gloves.  
Tools and refreshments  
will be provided.  
Contact: Jeff Harris:  
455-0996  
cadence@surewest.net

### RPNA Fall General Meeting

Saturday, October 12th  
10:00 a.m.  
Caleb Greenwood Cafeteria  
**All residents are eagerly  
encouraged to attend!**  
*See page 11 for agenda  
and speakers.*

## Letters to the Editors...

If you'd like to contribute, contact:

**Jeff Harris: 455-0996**  
**cadence@surewest.net**

— or —

**Todd Damiano: 402-4641**  
**toddamiano@surewest.net**

*Please put "letter to the editor" in the  
subject line of your email for identification  
purposes.*

## RPNA OFFICERS & BOARD

### **Phil Pluckebaum**

*President*

956-8453

president@

riverparksacramento.net

### **Todd Damiano**

*VP/Newsletter Editor*

402-4641

toddamiano@surewest.net

### **Nick Cline**

*Secretary*

524-4836

cline.nicholas@gmail.com

### **Barbara Debert**

*Treasurer*

456-2243

barbara.debert@yahoo.com

### **Serge Stanich**

*Block Captain Coordinator*

320-0708

sergestanich@gmail.com

### **Jeff Harris**

*Neighborhood Watch*

*Coordinator/Newsletter Editor*

455-0996

cadence@surewest.net

### **Tamis Reed**

*RPNA Membership Director*

804-5168

membership@

riverparksacramento.net

### **Janet Mason**

*Graphic Design/Newsletter*

*Advertising Manager*

736-1132

ibd@surewest.net

### *Members at Large*

**Frank Cirill**

**Steve Harriman**

**Steve Johns**

**Rob Lechner**

**Kim Teague**

The River Park Review is published 6 times per year and is available to its members at no charge.

# McKinley Playground is OPEN for PLAY!

by Jeff Harris



Photos courtesy of Jeff Harris

The opening of McKinley playground turned into a major celebration! With a brass band at the entrance, President McKinley (an actor) delivered a stellar oratory recognizing the history of the park. Council Member Cohn then led a countdown to the banner breaking and subsequent rush of children into the playground. Within two minutes, every apparatus was populated with numerous kids, and the smiles were abundant. Food trucks were parked in a Conestoga type circle, speeches were made, and well over a thousand people had a great time. Since the opening, the new playground has been very busy, with between 50-100 visitors at any given moment. This will be a well-used playground for many years to come. And don't forget, the Quad Pod spinner will be installed soon. My favorite comment so far came from a parent: "I can't believe that you can get in here without paying admission!" If you haven't visited yet, give it a try. I'd bet you've never seen a playground quite like it. ■

## 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

Business Card:	\$50	2" h x 3.5" w
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For advertising, contact Janet Mason at 736-1132 or ibd@surewest.net, for article submissions, contact Jeff Harris at 455-0996 or cadence@surewest.net or Todd Damiano at 402-4641 or todddamiano@surewest.net





According to a recent statistic, the number of “bicycle commuters” increased 40% in the decade ending 2010. Here in River Park, as well as the Sacramento community, bike riding and bicycle commuting appear to be robust.

I find this refreshing and extremely positive, as the more use of bicycles improves one’s own health, while contributing to a better environment for all of us.

Unfortunately, not all bicyclists – like many drivers of automobiles – obey the proverbial “rules of the road.” The California Department of Motor Vehicles reports that over 100 people are killed annually, while thousands more are injured, in bicycle accidents. For many years, I commuted to my job by bicycle, and I must confess, I failed on many occasions to obey said rules. However, I chose to break my bad habits, after nearly colliding with a vehicle on the way home from work one day (had the collision occurred, I would not be sharing this column in the River Park newsletter with you today).



To this end, I thought it high-time to reinforce the basic rules of the road, as developed by the California Department of Motor Vehicles. For example:

Bicyclists must obey all STOP signs and red signal lights. Countless times, however, I observe bicyclists performing an exaggerated version of the infamous “California roll” (where the rider fails to make a complete stop, looking both directions of the intersection before proceeding through the intersection)

California Vehicle Code – **CVC section 21200.5** states that it is ‘unlawful to operate a bicycle while under the influence of an alcoholic beverage or drug.

**CVC section 21212** states ‘bicycle riders under the age of 18 must wear a bicycle helmet while riding on a public road (and frankly, for all bicyclists – regardless of age – wearing a helmet while riding a bike is the prudent thing to do).

**CVC section 21201** requires bicyclists to use ‘lights and reflectors at night. Furthermore, the law states that a front lamp must emit a white light from a distance of 300 feet, a rear red reflector must be visible from a distance of 500 feet, and a white or yellow reflector on each pedal or the bicyclist’s shoes or ankles must be visible from a distance of 200 feet.

In addition, the California Department of Motor Vehicles provides a host of basic, common sense safety tips for bicyclists, including:

- *Ride your bike in the same direction of traffic, thus making you more visible to drivers entering roads or changing lanes.*
- *Wear light or bright-colored clothing (such as yellow or lime green) to enhance your visibility to motorists.*

- *Always keep your eyes on the road ahead of you, and use proper hand signals when changing lanes or making a right or left turn.*
- *Ensure that your bicycle is in good working condition; every time, before climbing up in the saddle for a bike ride, give your chariot a once over – checking brakes, wheels, seat, and handle bar.*
- *If “stuck” in traffic, be patient – don’t weave between automobiles and in and out of driveways and sidewalks (many motorists may not see you).*

In closing, I would like to commend the numerous bicyclists in our community that ride safely and alertly each day. They are a true credit to the overall cycling community in our neighborhood, and in the greater Sacramento region. I would also like to commend the large number of safe motorists – those folks that drive alert (or as I like to tell my son: ‘drive with your head on a swivel... always looking about for a potential danger spot’), and are respectful in sharing the road with other motorists and bicyclists. By working together, we can strengthen our neighborhood, and make a safer place to call “home.” ■

## A Local Community Resource: The Friends of the CSUS Library

By Nadeen Ruiz and Jerry McDaniel

One of the highlights of living in River Park is our proximity to Sacramento State University and its many resources, especially an excellent library. As River Park residents and Sac State emeriti professors, we would like to help our neighbors enjoy the university library and its collections by inviting you to become a member of the Friends of the CSUS Library. We both serve on the Friends of the CSUS Library Advisory Board. Annual membership in Friends ranges from \$25 and up, with levels at \$75 and higher providing library borrowing privileges. All members receive advance notice to the Friends-sponsored "Author Lecture Series" (free and open to the public), and university parking permits for the event. For example, on September 26, Professor Robin Fisher will speak about "American Art, Song and Poetry", while on November 12, Professor Tony Platt will discuss his work *Bitter Legacies: Genocide, Grave Looting and Culture Wars in America*. In addition, in the spring, two local authors will speak about their fiction works. These gatherings take place in the Library Galleria which also features art exhibitions for your

enjoyment. In addition, the Friends sponsor "The Book Bin" in the library basement selling a large variety of used books and other media in good condition at very reasonable prices. Money coming into the Friends is primarily used to provide funds for supplementing library collections, this fall by as much as \$10,000. At a time when public funds have been drastically curtailed, especially for libraries, such help has been important and one in which Friends members play a crucial part.

If you would like to join the Friends of the CSUS Library, please visit the website at [www.folcsuslibrary.com](http://www.folcsuslibrary.com) for a membership form, or call Sally Hitchcock, CSUS Library Coordinator for Community Outreach at 278-5954.

**Nadeen T. Ruiz, Ph.D.**

*California State University Sacramento*

*Director, California Bi-National Teacher Education Project (Bi-TEP)*

*Professor Emerita, Bilingual Multicultural Education Department*

*[ntruiz@csus.edu](mailto:ntruiz@csus.edu) ■*

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## Parks Update:

# Sutter's Landing Park, McKinley Village and CalTrans

by Jeff Harris

In the last issue of the Review, I discussed various groups and their visions for the future of Sutter's Landing Park, and a rather robust meeting held at the park at which the passion with which the groups hold their points of view became clear. At that time, a plan was laid to start a city website blog on the subject to give people an open forum to discuss their ideas, and Council Member Cohn had indicated that he would conduct a Town Hall meeting to further the discussion.

Shortly thereafter, CalTrans went public with a plan to create a Washing/Maintenance yard for Capitol Corridor trains and indicated two possible sites for their project- a portion of Sutter's Landing Park with the land to the west of it, or the proposed McKinley Village (former Centrage) site adjacent River Park.

Articles in the Sacramento Bee have suggested that the SLP site is favorable due to the existing grade and ease of laying track, while the MV site offers noise attenuation due to its elevation below the existing train levee. At this time everything is in flux, negotiations with CalTrans are in progress, and the futures of both SLP and MV are

uncertain. There are many possible outcomes, and some have great potential to address most of the contentious issues regarding SLP and MV, but all is speculation at this point. For now we wait and see how serious CalTrans is in pursuing their project. To further complicate the issue, it has come to light that there are several more long-range plans that would directly affect the MV site:

A widening of HWY 80 would encroach upon the Northern boundary of MV.

An expansion of Capitol Commuter service to Roseville/Auburn would require extra track parallel to the existing Union Pacific track, encroaching on the southern boundary of MV.

California High Speed Rail (far into the future) could affect the entire RR levee along Elvas Ave with the width potentially tripling along the southern boundary of McKinley Village adjacent to the Lanatt curve. See the article below for more information:

[http://www.sacramentoexpress.com/headline/85542/Will\\_McKinley\\_Village\\_Obstruct\\_Essential\\_State\\_Highway\\_and\\_Rail\\_Projects](http://www.sacramentoexpress.com/headline/85542/Will_McKinley_Village_Obstruct_Essential_State_Highway_and_Rail_Projects)

The RP Review will monitor the process and we will report on the progress in future issues. ■

## UPDATE: Gymnast Ryley Trumble

by Jeff Harris



Local Gymnast Ryley Trumble, has returned from Louisville, Kentucky. Her team placed 7th out of 13 (in her age group) in the National Acrobatic Gymnastic competition. That's a remarkable achievement on its own, but even more amazing is that Ryley only started her gymnastics program last December. Going from beginner to nationals in eight months says a lot about her character and interest. While in Kentucky, Ryley and her mom were able to visit the Mammoth Caves, Churchill Downs and Lincoln's birthplace. That's great experience for an eight year old. Ryley plans to continue on in gymnastics, perhaps performing in a mixed pair team. With third grade starting up at Caleb Greenwood in September, she'll be a busy girl indeed!



# RPNA Board Candidate Statements Due October 15

It's time once again for River Park to elect its neighbor-hood leaders. Membership on the RPNA board entails hard work but is also fun and rewarding. Board members take responsibility for planning and implementing RPNA activities such as the Fourth of July Festival, neighbor-hood general meetings, liaison activity with local governments and attendance at monthly board meetings, to name a few. The RPNA Board of Directors has eleven members who serve two-year terms. There are six seats up for grabs for the 2013 RPNA election.

Here's the schedule for board terms that begin in January 2014:

Submit your candidate statement of qualifications no later than October 15th. You are free to submit anything you wish, however candidate statements must be limited to 150 words and all candidates must be members in good standing in the RPNA. Submit your

candidate statement by email to [membership@riverparksacramento.net](mailto:membership@riverparksacramento.net) or by snail mail to RPNA, P.O. Box 19866, Sacramento, CA 95819.

Ballots will be sent to all active RPNA members on November 1st, and completed ballots are due by November 15th. Ballots will include candidate statements and a stamped return envelope.

Ballots will be tallied in late November and the election results will be printed in the subsequent issue of the River Park Review.



## **RPNA Membership Update**

RPNA sincerely thanks all of our wonderful neighbors who support us and our endeavors by becoming members of RPNA or by renewing their membership year after year.

Membership helps to preserve and enhance our River Park Neighborhood. It also helps to support RPNA community activities (such as the July 4th festivities) and improvement projects. If you are not yet a member of RPNA, we strongly encourage you to consider becoming a member of RPNA today. RPNA membership dues are the lowest of any Sacramento neighborhood association. Please join RPNA today:

If you aren't sure if your membership needs to be renewed, please contact Tamis Reed, RPNA Membership Database Manager, at 804.5168 or [membership@riverparksacramento.net](mailto:membership@riverparksacramento.net). You help to make all that we do possible. We are truly appreciative of your generous support.

membership for one year is \$10.00, two years is \$18.00 and three years is \$25.00. Membership dues may be mailed to: RPNA, P.O. Box 19866, Sacramento, CA 95819. We need your support to continue RPNA's efforts to make River Park a great place to live.

We are pleased to announce that RPNA's membership is strong with 632 members.

RPNA warmly welcomes the following new members -- thank you and welcome aboard!

**Michael Grebac**  
**Kara & Peter Pryor**  
**Katelyn Sullivan**  
**Rich & Ruby Thompson**  
**Richard Vincent**

# Caleb Corner

## Friday, September 13th at 6pm in the Cafeteria Back to School Spaghetti Dinner!

Please come and enjoy an evening of pasta and catching up with our Caleb Community.

## Wednesday, September 18th at 5pm

**Back to School Night!** Caleb Families please come to our PTSO Community Fair in the Cafeteria prior to visiting your children's classrooms.

## Friday, October 4th

**Caleb's Annual Jog-a-Thon!** Please come and support your Cougars! Our annual jog-a-thon goals include supporting literacy by providing books for each classroom, building classroom libraries rich with both fiction and non-fiction selections that will excite our students about reading. As our state continues to struggle financially resulting in numerous cuts to public education, we are looking to local businesses and River Park families to partner with our school and help us raise funds. Our students will be coming to your door starting in September!

## Friday, October 25th at 5pm

**Caleb's Annual Fall Festival!!!!** Please come and enjoy food trucks, pop cycle, face painting, pumpkins, cake walks, and more. Families of all ages in River Park are welcome to come and dress up those little ones!!!

## School Safety

by Todd Damiano

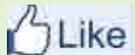
The school year has arrived, so as a community, let's respect the safety of others and avoid making U-turns in front of the school during pick up and drop off.

There are a number of safe approaches to the school, by car, that allow parents to pick up and drop off kids without making a U-turn, let's use them. The more often U-turns occur, the more likely an accident or injury will result. In addition, U-turns create traffic flow problems at a time when everyone has somewhere to go. Let's not jeopardize the safety of others in an effort to gain 10 or 15 seconds of driving time, it's not worth it.



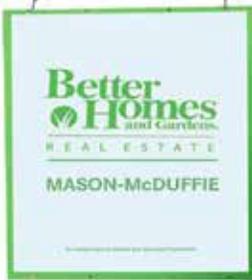
Caleb's PTSO (Parent Teacher Student Organization) meets every month on the first Tuesday in the Cafeteria at 7:00 pm. Please join us and hear about all the great things going on at Caleb and our upcoming events for the year.

Caleb Greenwood Elementary IB K-6 School



## Living and Working in River Park

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Rich Wilkes

916.826.8449  
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*Attention Buyers:* We are currently working with a number of sellers who are preparing their properties to be listed soon. If you're looking to move into the neighborhood and need a local realtor then please give us a call.

## Soccer

(continued from pg. 1)

fun. To make it easy for parents, all practices and games are held at Caleb Greenwood.

At the U8 level, the teams branch out into gender-specific teams and on game day, face teams from other clubs. RPSC is affiliated with US Youth Soccer through Cal-North and thus follow their age guidelines. The focus is on "Rec" or recreational teams, meaning there are no try-outs and the team placements are age-based. Most players remain in the River Park club all the way through their soccer playing days, but there are some families who choose to go the "Select" route. The difference here is it becomes a year-round, time and money commitment to a club with a paid staff.



The annual registration fee for RPSC (this year was \$100 including a new jersey priced at \$18) pays for the rental and maintenance fees for the fields, the purchase of goals and nets and all other gear, as well as coaches training.

This year the season starts on September 7th, games are played at Glen Hall Park and Caleb Greenwood each Saturday, until November 16th. The season is just starting, and already I'm hoping it doesn't end too soon.

[http://www.calnorth.org/programs/registration/age\\_matrix/](http://www.calnorth.org/programs/registration/age_matrix/) ■

## River Park Mothers' Club Presents

### *Black & White Ball!*

River Park Mothers' Club is hosting an end-of-summer party September 21. The Black and White Ball will be held at Turn Verein from 7:30-10:30 p.m. and is open to the public. Tickets are \$30 for singles and \$50 for a pair. Cost includes shuttle rides to and from event (route planned up J Street and throughout River Park), two drink tickets per person (with cash accepted for additional drinks), light appetizers and all night dancing to live music by **The Diva Kings**.

To purchase tickets and for more information, go to <http://riverparkdance-es2.eventbrite.com/?rank=1>

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# Park Pets

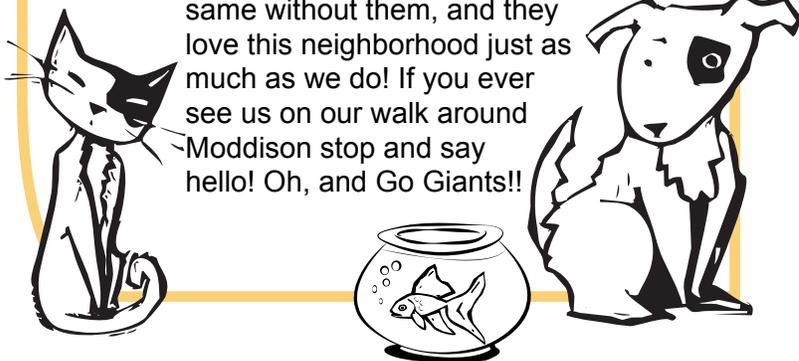
Meow. My name is Misha. I'm very lucky to live in River Park with my family on Sandburg Drive. I was rescued by my dad from a busy street in Mexico when I was just three weeks old. Now I spend my days lounging in the sun by the pool or on the front porch. I also love to visit all our neighbors. Some of them call me Ditmar. If you see me lounging on the sidewalk, please say hi and pet me!



We are an odd couple, but we sure do love each other! Meet two year old Lucy, a black Labrador/Pit mix and Lola, an eight year old pug. We are quite the pair; one of us likes to sleep most of the day, and the other wants to play with all the

people and other dogs in the neighborhood who walk by our house! Lola was rescued from her previous owner, and Lucy was found as a puppy surviving the streets of Arden. We love having these two in our lives. Life just wouldn't be the

same without them, and they love this neighborhood just as much as we do! If you ever see us on our walk around Moddison stop and say hello! Oh, and Go Giants!!



Send a quality close-up digital photo of your River Park pet to: [ibd@surewest.net](mailto:ibd@surewest.net)



## Garden Club News

### River Park Garden Club Welcomes You!

River Park Garden Club would like to invite those interested in gardening and/or the beautification of River Park to join them at upcoming potluck dinner/speaker meetings.

**September 12** – Jeff Harris, Chair,  
Sacramento Parks and Recreation Commission  
*“An Overview of Sacramento’s Parks.”*

**November 14** – Bill Maynard, City of  
Sacramento Community Gardens  
*“Community Gardens Program.”*

**February 13**– Soleil Tranquilli owner of  
Tranquill Gardens  
*“River Friendly Gardens.”*

**April 10** – Anita Clevenger, Sacramento  
Historic Rose Garden  
*“Cemetery Roses.”*

**June 12** – Julie Serences, member of the  
Native Plant Society, Audubon Society  
*“What’s the Buzz about? – Native Bees in  
Our Gardens.”*

In addition to the five potluck dinners, the Club has a catered Holiday Luncheon scheduled for Sunday, December 8 at the Sacramento Garden & Art Center

All meetings take place beginning at 6:30 PM in Ferguson Hall at the Fremont Presbyterian Church. Please bring a dish to share and your own plate and silverware. These are casual events that usually end by 8:30 PM. For further information on the River Park Garden Club or the above events contact, President Ron McCormack at 451-7246 or email him at [rjmcormack@hotmail.com](mailto:rjmcormack@hotmail.com).

The River Park Garden Club has been involved in projects resulting in the beautification of River Park since 1951. Dues are \$10 a year per household. The dues are used to support the Club’s plantings at the entrance to River Park and at Glenn Hall Park. To join send a check made out to the River Park Garden Club and mail to Jim Hathaway, Treasurer, RPGC, 441 Hartnell Place, Sacramento, CA 95825.

Lee Ruth, Vice President, RPGC



Over the past 5 years, River Park residents have had to deal with the possibility of facing a summer with a closed public swimming pool. More often than not, the arrival of spring meant it was time to strategize on ways to keep the pool open. Hiring a third party to operate the pool, or perhaps privatizing the pool were possible long-term solutions discussed each year. Fundraising became an annual task. Then came a welcome surprise. The passage of measure U meant that the City had funds to open more public pools!

In 2012 the YMCA began a partnership with the City of Sacramento to manage the Southside Pool located at 6th and U Street. The arrangement meant the city would subsidize the program and maintain the pool facility, while the YMCA would provide staff for the scheduled swimming programs. The availability and flexibility of YMCA staff meant the city could save about \$50,000 for the summer at that one swimming pool alone. Although a new program, the YMCA was encouraged by the support it received at Southside. In 2013, the YMCA expanded the program to include both the Tahoe Park and Glenn Hall swimming pools.

With a fully operational public pool in River Park, we decided to enroll our 7-year-old son for swim lessons. Paying \$45 for eight half hour lessons with a certified swim instructor is a great bargain, but the classes were not full. Because the main

source of revenue for the program comes from swimming lessons, sparsely populated classes could impact the chances of having the YMCA continue at Glenn Hall next summer.

This fall, the YMCA will evaluate the summer program at Glenn Hall to determine its total cost. The city provided a \$40,000 subsidy, and President & CEO at YMCA of Superior California, Jay Lowden, and Aquatics Director Maddy Hoe are



hopeful that the total expense falls below that number. Next spring the city will determine if that subsidy is to be made available again, thus ensuring the return of the YMCA to Glenn Hall Pool.

Jay and Maddy are excited with the direction and potential of this partnership. They recognize Glenn Hall is fairly isolated and the program is in its infancy, so the numbers are not necessarily considered discouraging. On a larger front they see a nationwide trend towards public/private partnerships, as municipalities are desperately searching for ways to reduce expenses. The YMCA is well positioned to alleviate a great deal of the red ink found on city budgets.

Our swim lesson experience with the YMCA this summer was nothing short of exceptional, so I'm eager to sign up with them next year. I'm just hoping the community recognizes the value of keeping the YMCA at Glenn Hall Pool and fully supports the program next summer. ■

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## 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!"

*RP Listserv*—send an email to: **admin@riverparklist.com**, the administrator will then allow you access.

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.

## RPNA Fall General Meeting

Saturday, October 12, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

Caleb Greenwood Elementary School – Cafeteria

### Topics of Discussion:

- Membership and Financial Update
- Sacramento City Police Department Update – Sergeant Marc Coopwood
- Presentation from NextDoor.com – Partnership with City, Police, PIO, etc.
- Sacramento County Park Rangers Update – Sergeant Randy Lewis
- Progress report on the H & J St. Corridor – Sacramento DOT
- Lifetime achievement award for Frank Ciril
- Legislative Update – Assembly member Roger Dickinson & District Director Kula Koenig
- Sacramento County Update – Supervisor Phil Serna's Chief of Staff, Celia Coronado (American River Parkway – Homelessness)
- Sacramento City Update – Council member Steve Cohn (Carlson Corridor, Arena, Big Box Stores)
- Parks Update – Sacramento City Parks Commissioner Jeff Harris (McKinley Playground)
- Capital City Freeway Transition Lane from E Street to the American River Bridge as a congestion relief strategy to reduce delay and eliminate the bottleneck
- McKinley Village Presentation from Stonebridge Properties
- Sacramento Tomorrow City Charter Reform Presentation
- Updates from River Park Community (River Park Mothers' Club, River Park Garden Club, River Park Youth, Baseball League, River Park Soccer League, Caleb Greenwood PTSO, Caleb Greenwood Principal Amy Whitten)



RIVER PARK  
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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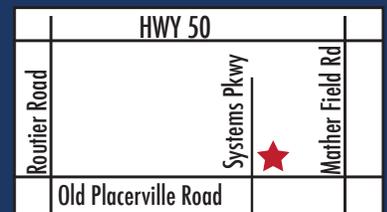
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Date	Time	Block Location	Activity
6/3/13	12:55 am	5400 Sandburg	Petty Theft
6/6/13	9:55 pm	5700 Moddison	Petty Theft, License Plate
6/6/13	9:00 am	5200 Moddison	Burglary Residence Force
6/14/13	9:00 am	5400 Sandburg	Assault w/deadly weapon, non-firearm
6/19/13	9:30 pm	5400 Carlson	Burglary, Business-Force
6/22/13	2:00 pm	Carlson and Sandburg	Petty Theft
6/26/13	12:00 am	5300 Monalee	Petty Theft
7/2/13	6:45 am	5600 Carlson	Traffic Accident Injury
7/4/13	11:30 pm	1 Sandburg	Burglary Residence – No Force
7/5/13	3:00 pm	5800 Shephard	Petty Theft
7/6/13	12:09 am	5400 Carlson	Possession Amphetamines
7/7/13	2:00 am	Camelia & H St.	Vehicle Taken w/o Owner
7/26/13	7:00 pm	5400 State	Vehicle Taken w/o Owner
7/31/13	6:20 am	5400 Sandburg	Burglary Residence – No Force
8/10/13	9:15 am	5200 Moddison	Traffic Accident Non-Injury
8/11/13	2:23 am	5700 Carlson	P.C. Vandalism
8/17/13	2:23 am	5700 Carlson	Possession Fire Works

Source: <https://www.crimereports.com>

## Property Crimes and Petty Thefts - The Good & The Bad

by Serge Stanich



Every edition of the RPNA Newsletter includes a summary of crimes that have occurred in River Park since the last edition. While a review of the summary would seem to indicate that we have

a persistent crime problem, the reality is that River Park is among the safest neighborhoods in Sacramento. Just as the American River limits access to River Park, the I-80 freeway and the Union Pacific Railroad further insulate the community from other access points. The occasional crimes that do occur are generally opportunistic property crimes involving petty thefts of valuables left in car or accessed from an open garage. Occasionally, a significant burglary occurs or a car is stolen that is stripped and abandoned. However, a comparison of crime densities occurring in Sacramento reveals that River Park has some of the least crime activity (<http://www.sacpd.org/crime/>).

There are several things that we can do as

homeowners and residents to protect ourselves even more and reduce crime. First, it is critically important to prevent opportunistic crime by not leaving valuables in your car. Secondly, always lock your car, and the windows and doors of your home if you leave. Finally, always be on the lookout for suspicious activity and call the Sacramento Police Department's non-emergency number (264-5471). For a crime or dangerous situation in progress call either 911 or the cell phone emergency number (264-5151). Suspicious activity includes individuals or small groups walking, riding or driving slowly through the neighborhood surveilling homes. Commonly, individuals will go home to home pretending to solicit contributions or selling candy for charities as a front for checking if people are home. While some of these solicitors are genuine, many are not. If for any reason, something seems suspicious, contact the Police, so they can investigate.

For more information on how to support the Neighborhood Watch please contact Jeff Harris at [cadence@surewest.net](mailto:cadence@surewest.net) or Serge Stanich at [sergestanich@gmail.com](mailto:sergestanich@gmail.com). ■