



# RIVER PARK REVIEW

*It's a great place to live!*

riverparksacramento.org

**Vol. 23 No. 1**

**February 2025**

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## River Park Holiday Lights Contest

*by Elise Drakes*

### Happy New Year, River Park!

The event had an incredible turnout, including 17 contestants (all of whom are RPNA members!). Our Cocoa Station easily received 250 visitors – we lost count. We were delighted to meet so many of our neighbors and hear some of your stories of growing up here, returning here, or living here for so many years.



We received your feedback from the 2023 Holiday Lights event and endeavored to improve the voting process. We handed out paper ballots at the Cocoa Station, which included maps. We distributed at least 200 ballots and received 136 completed ballots – not a bad turnaround! We also revamped the winning categories and received positive feedback on these categories.

The winners of this year's three categories are listed below:

- Most Traditional: 5713 Shepard
- Most Unique: 3791 Erlewine
- Best Theme: 4151 Clyde Ct.

We are thankful for all of the help with this year's event, including:

- The RPNA Board for help in a variety of ways, including printing

*(con't on page 2)*

## Upcoming Events...

RPNA Board meetings are back IN PERSON! On the third Thursday of every month, starting at 7:30 pm., at the Fremont Presbyterian Church. Meetings are held year round (excluding December).

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

River Park Holiday Lights Contest

(con't from page 1)

ballots, taking photos, obtaining sponsors, and visiting us at the Cocoa Station.

- The Riehl family on Huston Court for hosting the Santa Station for the second consecutive year. We've heard that this feature has added so much to the event.
- The Law family on Callister Avenue for tremendous help in printing ballots and running our Cocoa Station. The Laws also helped us create and deploy 17 numbered/illuminated bags, which made it easier for voters to identify the participating houses.
- The Hall family on Callister for baking delicious brownies and cookies for the Cocoa Station and for loaning clipboards to our voters.
- Our two (new) sponsors this year, Attic Man and Advanced. Our sponsors made it possible to fund this event.



How can we improve next year? Here are a few ideas to start:

- We'd love to make house-viewing and voting more accessible to our elderly and homebound neighbors. Whether that's through a video slideshow of the participating houses or special help from neighborhood volunteers, we're open to ideas!
- We've received a couple of offers for musical performances for next year's Holiday Lights. How should we incorporate music into our event?



- The Cocoa Station has exploded in growth! We are open to neighbor volunteers who want to help us next year.

- We'd also like to make the Cocoa Station a place where people can sit by the fire for a while and meet other neighbors, if they choose.

Have any ideas to support the initiatives above, or new ideas? Please contact Elise Drakes, RPNA Board Secretary, at [elisedrakes@gmail.com](mailto:elisedrakes@gmail.com).

Many of you who visited the Cocoa Station said something to the effect of "This is why I live here!" or "This is one of the reasons why I love this neighborhood!" We could not agree more. What a special tradition our neighborhood has created. Until next year! ■

The 2024 RPSC soccer season is in the books, and what a record-breaking season it has been! We hope everyone involved had a fantastic time being in and around the beautiful game.

We had over half of our board change in 2024. They and 60+ volunteer coaches continued the energetic and positive spirit for our club. Thank you to everyone for your dedication and passion to help make soccer as best as it can be for River Park.

We had a year of records and firsts for the club:

- Record 392 players registered this year
- First Sac Republic FC Summer Camp
- First Club Night at Sac Republic FC, with over 180 club members in attendance
- A mighty new crew of 13 volunteer parent field-lining experts to keep our fields looking sharp for game days
- First consistent goalkeeper training on offer throughout the season for our U10 and older teams and our Foot Skills sessions for the younger ages, too, in August.

Our Spirit wear this year is on fire. It's so amazing to see so many kids at Caleb and families walking the neighborhood and at games supporting the club and wearing the hoodies, t-shirts, and hats with pride! We are looking to expand our Spirit wear offerings for 2025 and already have some great ideas to have available.

It has been great to see so many kids playing soccer at practice and games in the neighborhood this season, but none more so than at the U10-U14 Super Rec Cup held on Dec 7-8 in Davis. This was a huge soccer tournament for all Rec teams in Northern California, and we had a record number of 10 teams from River Park. Congrats to all of our teams in attendance and to the players' and coaches' efforts through the weekend. You all represented the club and yourselves with great sporting integrity and should take great pride in that, regardless of results.

I'm also delighted to say we had four of our teams make the Championship game, and two of those, U12B Tiger Sharks and U10B Jack Jumpers, won and took home the trophy! Great job representing River Park Soccer!

Registration for the 2025 season will open early May. We are excited to offer more activities to continue to grow the love for the game and passion for soccer in these kids.

For 2025, we need volunteers to help with Registration, the Kickoff Event, Field Lining, and Picture Day Coordination. We encourage you to attend our upcoming Annual General Meeting as every club member has a vote as we outline plans for the year. Details about this meeting and more can be found on our Facebook, Instagram and website at <https://riverparksoccer.com>

It's been really enjoyable being Club Manager this year. I thank everyone for your help throughout and I'm greatly looking forward to another awesome soccer season in 2025!

*Jamie Kent, RPSC Club Manager*



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# Jerry Jahnsen, the Restorer

by Inna Tysoe

You have probably seen Jerry Jahnsen cycling around the neighborhood or in the Fourth of July Parade. Perhaps you, like me, were struck by his crinkly smile that reaches his eyes. I get the feeling he smiles a lot and not just when he is talking about his passion: cars.



We spoke in his spacious garage, next to two cars he is working on and surrounded by the tools of his trade as well as car memorabilia. Clearly, Chevys hold a special place in his heart. My eye is drawn to the red and white 1955 Chevy Bel Air. It is beautiful. Hard to believe that when Jerry got it, it was little more than junk—a car that had been stolen and stripped.

Jerry spent more than five years restoring it. It was a work of love, he says. “It’s a kind of puzzle to do it right.” The things he does with the car are ingenious. He shows us a back light that opens to a filler cap. He had removed the filler cap from the side of the car and hid it behind the light, Q-style.



And then, as if to reinforce what a true artist he is, Jerry adds that he needs to be in the right mood to work on autos. It is why he needs such a large garage. He tells me that he will

work on a car for eight hours per day for several weeks and then there will be weeks when he doesn’t want to touch it. If he’s going to come back to it, he needs the whole situation to be as he left it, and that means having a place where he can just drop his tools. To come back to his work of art, he needs everything to be just as it was when he stopped.

Of course it’s not pure art; Jerry sells his restorations. That’s why he likes working on convertibles. It costs about as much to restore them as other models, but the value is two to three times more when you sell them. It’s also why he paints them red (and why my eye was immediately drawn to the 1955 Chevy). He calls red “resale red” since the lady of the house will most likely be the one to decide whether to buy the car.

I wouldn’t have thought women decide whether to buy a car. I suspect Jerry has probably forgotten more about cars than I ever knew. He tells me in the 1960s, auto manufacturers each brought out one basic model. In 1955, you could get a Chevy Bel Air or a Chevy station wagon. They were basically the same car with interchangeable parts. And since the Chevrolet was a General Motors car, its parts are also interchangeable with other General Motors cars of the same year, such as the Buick. He also shares that black license plates came out in the



1960s, and that if you see a car with such plates, it's a little more special.

He effortlessly lists the many car activities in our area. There's the local Cars and Coffee, Hot August Nights in Reno, and various auto clubs, although some of them are getting smaller and smaller. The way he describes Hot August Nights makes me want to just pick up and go. His enthusiasm for cars is that contagious.



No wonder his son followed in his footsteps. His son is a sheet metal worker who restores cars and used to race. I look at the plethora of trophies behind me and wonder that there are so many. Jerry smiles. They are not the only ones he has. He has attics filled with his son's memorabilia. They raced the entire West Coast and his boy won a few championships. "He's a good driver," Jerry tells me.

In a way, the life Jerry describes could almost be from another era. He never mentions computers, AI or any of the accoutrements of the modern era. But then that's what River Park is like.

Jerry lived here for the past fifty years. He moved to our neighborhood shortly after getting discharged from the Army. In all this time, he tells me River Park has changed very little. There were two empty lots here when he moved in, and there is still one now.

Some of the retirees on his street were children when he moved in and that makes him feel old. But then he tells me a story that makes me smile.

Two of his neighbors got married. The groom was ninety-three and the bride was seventy-eight; and of course, everyone called the groom a cradle robber. Because that's just the kind of place River Park is. People are comfortable enough with one another to kid each other. It's a place out of time.

And Jerry, with his love of cars and his cats (he never adopts them; they adopt him) and his dog, seems an integral part of our little community. He is one of the many people who make River Park so special.

I am grateful he took the time to talk to me.



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# River Park's Car Culture

by Inna Tysoe

Many of our neighbors, like the Sacramentans they are, restore cars and create hot rods. As John V. Callahan put it in *Hot Rods and Custom Cars of the Sacramento Delta*, “the Delta is as flat as a pancake, with roads elevated a bit to keep the farms from the river. The roads are dangerous, twisting every which way. Teenagers were pretty much sequestered at home unless they had driver’s licenses.”

These were farm kids. They knew how to fix things and if they couldn’t fix it, they knew how to make it. Add to this, the fact that California has more veterans than any other state and that (at last count) 84,000 of our veterans live in Sacramento County. As you can see, we have a lot of people who know how to work with their hands. And cars are plentiful here. Even with the many environmental rules, there are many car parts in the junk yards. The cars themselves


are likely rusting away in someone’s shed or garage.

If you know how to bring a rust-bucket back to life, then why not? It’s a great hobby, and it can be a lucrative one. Small wonder that it’s a traditional Sacramento pastime. And restorers, like our neighbors, who engage in it are preserving a bit of our history. Take the 1955 Bel Air Sport Coupe that Jerry Jahnsen is restoring, for example. That is a very special car. One such auto was the fifty-millionth car General Motors produced.

To celebrate that occasion, General Motors painted the fifty-millionth car gold and held a parade through downtown Flint, Michigan for it. Thousands of people lined the streets to watch it pass in what has to be one of the penultimate expressions of Americans’ love affair with the automobile.

I am glad we have so many neighbors who are keeping our car history alive.



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### Programs are half day 9am - 12pm

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For program details  
or to apply visit our  
website



### Have questions or want a tour?


Please feel free to contact our Nursery School Director, Julie Heinz at [jheinz@fremontpres.org](mailto:jheinz@fremontpres.org) with any questions, for tuition information, or to schedule a tour.



Crime is a perennial issue for everyone. However, we in River Park are fortunate because compared to the rest of the city, we don't experience as much of it. According to the Sacramento Police's Neighborhood watch group, this is how River Park compared to adjacent neighborhoods on crimes reported in November:

Neighborhood	Crimes Reported	Most Common
East Sacramento	77	theft
Encina	61	theft
Campus Commons	40	theft
Woodside	32	burglary
CSUS	29	theft
River Park	9	theft

Stay safe!



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by Inna Tysoe

### Scottish Rite Center

#### February-March Events

The River Park Review would like to extend our thanks to Jim Gray at the Scottish Rite Center for compiling this list of events in February, and March. Our neighborhood appreciates knowing all the events we have going on in our own back yard, as it were.

- Crab Feed Fundraiser**  
Feb 1, 2025.
- Comic Verse Convention**  
February 2, 2025
- Scottish Rite Crab Feed**  
February 22, 2025
- Camellia Society of Sacramento Show**  
March 1-2, 2025
- El Camino Crab Feed 2025**  
March 8, 2025
- Christian Science Lecture**  
March 8, 2025
- BOMA Taste of the Town**  
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# PARK PETS



**EVIE**



Our sweet Evie. She's 13, 11lbs, and is blind and toothless. ☺ We adopted her last May from a rescue organization in San Francisco. She's the sweetest girl.  
~ Kathy Ulm



## River Park Garden Club Update

by Ron McCormack



Spring awaits! We are anticipating the green shoots of spring with guest Greg Gayton, certified Nursery Professional from Green Acres Nursery presenting on "What's New for Spring."

Join the River Park Garden Club Thursday, February 20, at 6:30 PM at the Shepard Garden and Arts center in McKinley Park. Bring your own supper. Beverages and desserts will be provided. The night will wrap up about 8 PM.

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## River Park Mothers' Club

by Michelle Elise Early

The River Park Mother's Club is entering its 71st year. We welcome any mothers in the neighborhood who are interested to visit <https://riverparkmothersclub.com/> to learn more.

In December we had our annual ornament exchange and clothing swap. Soon, we will have our first meeting in which members will sign up for opportunities to participate in the year's events. The mother's group hosts parties, parades, a river cleanup, meal trains, and play dates and is an integral part of the community. The Mothers' Club also hosts a Facebook page in which gently used clothes, toys, and other items are exchanged.




We strive to support the busy mothers of our neighborhood. Please reach out if you would like to learn more.

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### Articles for the Review...

To contribute, contact: Richard Vincent at 916-228-4714 or [rcvincent01@gmail.com](mailto:rcvincent01@gmail.com)  
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# River Park—Personal Reflections

by Inna Tysoe

How time flies. I became River Park Review Coordinator a little over three years ago. I wasn't sure about applying for the role but am now grateful I did. For, as a result, I have met so many amazing people—our neighbors.

River Park is a family-oriented and eminently walkable community. You could almost call it a little peninsula in the city where kids play in the streets while the grown-ups make sure they come to no harm. The sort of place where folks have barbecues together and form life-long friendships. It even has its own little shopping center, complete with great restaurants, laundromat, and pet care shops. However, for proper grocery or clothes shopping, you still have to bike or drive outside of River Park. Folks who have lived here a long time often reminisce about the days when River Park was more self-contained than it is today.

But even today, it's a quiet little neighborhood. Maybe that's why several running events are held here. It's certainly why my husband and I decided to make it our home. But though those are all wonderful points, it isn't what ultimately sets River Park apart. It's the people.

So many of our neighbors give back to the community. Some are tireless advocates for those who are food insecure; others drive everywhere to give succor to those who need a helping hand after a disaster; still others work hard to make sure that the less fortunate have a roof over their heads. Many of our neighbors also work hard to improve our quality of life through their art, community engagement, work in the local museums, in the arboretum or in various clubs and associations.

The river is practically in our back yard and many in our neighborhood take the time to care for it and ensure its accessible—whether by picking up the trash that people leave thoughtlessly or even by making trails for adventurous hikers.

Everyone I have talked to has done their part to make our little corner of the world a special place. I am grateful so many of our neighbors entrusted me with their stories. For it's those stories and those people who make our little part of the world, our River Park, the special place it is.

I am glad my husband and I get to call this little gem of a neighborhood “home.”



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It is hard to believe that the first community tree planting in River Park was ten years ago. Over the years, dozens of River Park residents have worked together to plant over 230 trees in our neighborhood. That is nearly a forest!

Here is a brief look back at the River Park Tree Canopy Project from its start as a “Prospectus” in July 2014. It did not take long for folks to support the idea of a tree planting and stewardship program in River Park. The River Park Neighborhood Association and the Garden Club were early supporters. The Sacramento Tree Foundation supported our group with trees and technical support and assigned us our own Forester, Matt Buland, who had grown up in River Park. Jeff Harris was supportive too, as he became our City Council member.

Below is a summary of the trees planted under the Tree Foundation’s Neighborhoods umbrella. Trees planted by Lee Ruth and others in Glenn Hall Park and elsewhere add at least seven additional trees!

Everyone who helped plant and everyone who received a tree has provided such a service to River Park – now and in the future.

Year	# Trees Planted
2015 (February and November)	32
2016	39
2017	40
2018	17
2019	23
2021	19
2022	27
2023	12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>229</b>

Special thanks to Lee Ruth, our Tree Hero, and to Jan Wooley, who stepped up as co-chair in 2018. The other members of the Steering Committee played key roles too: Todd Damiano, Steve Harriman, Kim Teague, Rex Hescock, and emeritus members Steve Johns and Doug Leslie. River Park is so much better because of your work!

Look for the Project to continue service to River Park’s tree canopy.

Send us a picture of your River Park tree. Let us know why you love it. Is it big, is it historic, does it have flowers in the Spring or colors in the Fall?

Please email a good quality picture (it can be a phone camera pic, if it’s in focus) with your name and address. Send your picture and information to [kbriley@surewest.net](mailto:kbriley@surewest.net)

## Arboretum Ribbons by Dr. Mike Baad

Our neighbors have been noticing orange tape on some plants at the University Arboretum. The tape is there to help the plants.

After the dry weeks this fall, along with a general malfunctioning of the arboretum irrigation system during that period, the arboretum staff put orange tape on any tree or shrub that appeared to be under high stress, even as the water system came back on.

As spring returns, the tape system will allow the arboretum staff to monitor those plants that may still need added attention when warmer weather returns.

The trees and shrubs will thank everyone for not touching what could be life-saving tape.

## New Helvetia

In 1839, a charming, urbane, and maybe self-delusional Swiss adventurer, pursuing dreams of fame and fortune (and fleeing creditors on two continents), arrived in Monterey and petitioned the Governor of Mexican California for land in the Sacramento delta.

Gov. Juan Bautista Alvarado must have been delighted. The vast, fertile, and under-populated province of California was ripe for conquest, either military or political, by any power that might set its sights there. Already, there was a Russian outpost in the north, American trappers infiltrating from Oregon, and foreigners establishing commercial enterprises in the ports. There were even Americans coming over the desert and the Sierra Nevada to settle in the interior, which was devoid of Californios. The few hundred poorly armed Mexican troops available to Alvarado, mostly releases from Mexican prisons, could not hold California, and half of his fellow Californio gentry might as likely fight against Alvarado as side with him. So, this impressive visitor from a neutral country, “Captain” Johann Augustus Sutter, could build a buffer against the outsiders who threatened Mexican control of California.

Sutter chose the spot since known as “Sutter’s Fort” to found his “New Helvetia”. He became a Mexican citizen (as was required to get a land grant); and in 1841, he was granted 49,000 acres that he thought included his settlement but whose actual locale eventually proved uncertain. He also founded Sutterville, a village where Land Park is today.

Sutter was too hospitable to fill the door-slammng role expected by the Mexican authorities. Rather than being a buffer against non-Mexican intrusion into central California, New Helvetia became a magnet and haven for immigrants.

The arriving immigrants needed goods that the Californios could not provide, given that their economy was confined to the ranchos and consisted almost solely of raising cattle for the export of rawhide and growing vegetables for their own consumption. The vacuum of commercial activity was quickly filled by entrepreneurial gringos for whom business was second nature.

The most notable was Samuel Brannan, an ambitious and self-serving Mormon leader, who started a trading store at Sutter’s Fort in 1847.

## Gold and the Boom Town

These merchants were well situated when gold was discovered in January 1848 on the American River at Coloma. Their commercial opportunities began to grow exponentially. By mid-1848, almost every able-bodied man in California, including hundreds of de-mobilized American volunteers from the war with Mexico, abandoned all else for the mines. They were soon joined by Sonorans, Chileans, deserting sailors, and others from the Pacific Rim who got wind of the gold. Then, in 1849, began the great influx from the U.S. and all parts of the globe.

A steadily increasing stream of hopeful immigrants was arriving at the fort, all needing clothing, provisions, tools, and animals for life and work in the mines. A fortune was to be had by providing those goods, often at prices ten times what was charged back east. And the embarcadero was the place to do it; it was the best place to land goods shipped up the river from San Francisco for use in the mines in the northerly Sierra Nevada.

In August 1848, George McDougal got a lease from Captain Sutter to operate a ferry across the river at what is now the foot of I Street. He also docked a store ship there. A collection of tents appeared at that location, mostly temporary shelter for miners while they stocked up before heading up to the mines.

Then, in September, Captain Sutter’s family, including his eldest son, Johann August, Jr., arrived from Germany. Captain Sutter transferred ownership of his extensive property into the hands of his newly arrived son—a legal ploy to avoid an attachment by the Russian American Fur Company for Sutter’s long-standing debt of \$30,000 for the purchase of Fort Ross.

Sam Brannan and his business partners sensed a fortune to be had at the embarcadero (now Old Sacramento), and they knew that the Sutters could not keep the land to themselves. They persuaded Sutter, Jr. to sub-divide and sell the land between the fort and the embarcadero. Sutter, Jr., hired U.S. Army Captain William Warner and Lt. William

Tecumseh Sherman (later, the Civil War general) to survey the town lots in December of 1848. (This was the origin of today's street grid). He named the site "Sacramento City". Sutter, Jr.'s river-front lots sold well for \$500 apiece. Within a few months, speculation drove the price to \$5000 and higher.

George McDougal objected, claiming that his lease for the ferry entitled him to exclusive use of that land. Sutter, Jr. rejected this claim.

McDougal and partners then purchased a few lots at Sutterville and then collared Captain Sutter in Coloma. They argued to him that they were injured landowners of Sutterville lots and, further, that the Sutters had committed treason (!) by starting a new city in competition with Sutterville and changing the name of New Helvetia to Sacramento City. They plied the elder Sutter with brandy (not hard to do), keeping him drunk until he signed away a half-square mile of riverfront in Sutterville for free!

McDougal then made an offer to Sam Brannan and associates: If they would relocate their businesses to Sutterville, he would give them each 200 lots there. Brannan took a copy of this offer in writing to Sutter's Fort and showed it to Sutter, Jr., telling them that Sacramento City would die on the vine if he did not make the merchants the same kind of offer there as they had from McDougal. Desperate for success in his real estate venture, Sutter, Jr., gave them each 200 lots free of charge in Sacramento City!

At first, the merchants held forth at Sutter's Fort. But why limit themselves to just those cramped quarters when land was available at the embarcadero, where both all the trade goods and many of the immigrants were arriving? By February 1849, the merchants had erected commercial buildings along Front Street. Sacramento had begun! Soon buildings were being erected as fast as people could scrounge materials.

By December 1849, Sacramento City had as many as 6,000 residents, depending upon whom the counter called a "resident" in a highly transient society. The estimated population of buildings ranged up to 350, depending on what one called a "building."

Everything was at first constructed from salvaged materials, for absolutely nothing was produced locally. Material prices were sky high. For this and because everything was built quickly for profit with

no thought of permanence, most structures were flimsy affairs of scrap lumber frames, canvas sides, and even canvas roofs.

The usual source of building materials was abandoned ships. In 1849 and 1850, vessels that reached Sacramento rarely departed again. To a man, the crews deserted for the mines. Sacramento City's entrepreneurs stripped the superstructures for timbers and took the sails for siding. Many hulks then became floating stores, warehouses, flop houses, and the jail.

The 350 buildings included stores, warehouses, saloons, gambling parlors, and brothels but few places to live. For nobody came to California in 1849 to live; they came expecting to find quick riches and then return home. It was a mad rush for wealth, not city-building. Consequently, newcomers were challenged to find shelter while they procured their provisions.

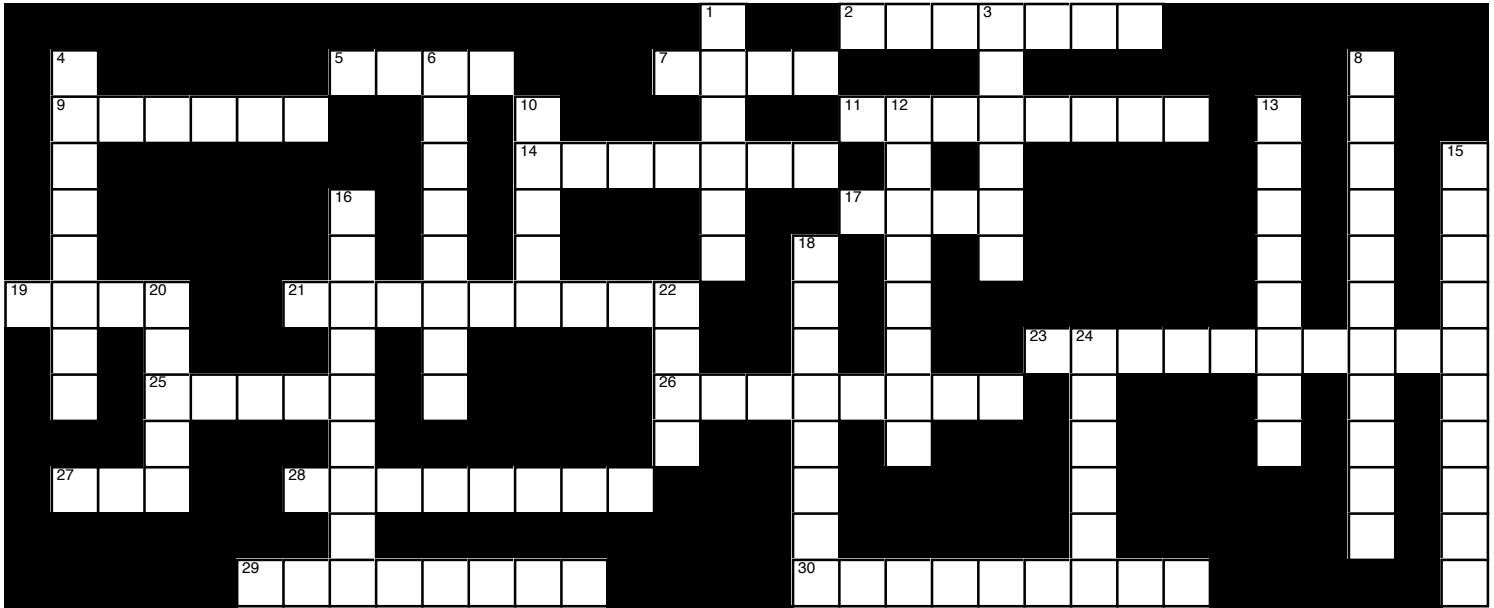
The entrepreneurs took advantage of the demand. At Sutter's Fort, even attic rooms of the two-story central building were turned into sleeping quarters. For \$1 a night, a miner got floor space, where he could wrap himself in his blanket, with his boots for a pillow. Sometimes 250 men jammed into the confined quarters.

A Forty-Niner recalled: "The men were packed in like sardines... They were dead tired, cross and cranky, they swore at each other and all swore at the late comer for disturbing them. Being sworn at wasn't so bad. It was the atmosphere that tried the stoutest stomach—the combined smell of boot leather, tobacco smoke, sweaty clothes, sweating bodies, garlic breaths. ... If you raised up on your elbow and looked around, it was just like looking over a rolling ocean of men—twisting, squirming, turning over, talking in their sleep, some mumbling prayers, others sobbing, others cussing, some all of these. And good Lord, how they snored!"■

**Follow RPNA on Facebook and Instagram!**



## River Park Crossword



### Across

2. During Winter months, the \_\_\_\_\_ Club which helps parents come together is even more important.
5. The Park \_\_\_\_\_ section welcomes your stories of all manner of animals living with you: dogs, cats, birds, turtles, and fish among many others.
7. Jerry restores these \_\_\_\_\_
9. We are fortunate to live near the American River Parkway. Frank \_\_\_\_\_ fought hard to preserve and enhance this wonderful ecosystem.
11. The Seventh Day Adventist and Fremont Presbyterian are \_\_\_\_\_ in River Park.
14. This year, there were three winners of this year's \_\_\_\_\_ Lights contest.
17. The food trucks come to \_\_\_\_\_ Hall Park every Friday, bearing delicious food.
19. Our neighbors encourage drivers to slow down by posting signs that read Drive Like Your \_\_\_\_\_ Live Here
21. Karla Mendoza is the \_\_\_\_\_ of RPNA.
23. Phil \_\_\_\_\_ represents River Park at the City Council.
25. River Park U16 \_\_\_\_\_ "Running Rhinos" won the NorCal Premier Soccer Super Rec Cup Championship
26. If you find an injured wild animal or bird, the \_\_\_\_\_ Care Association of 5211 Patrol Road can help.
27. Given how many people participate in the Fourth of July Car Parade, many \_\_\_\_\_ enthusiasts live in River Park.
28. The Taxidea taxus or \_\_\_\_\_ badger that is native to the American River looks like the European badger but isn't closely related to its European look-alike.
29. River Park Youth \_\_\_\_\_ happens in Civarella Field.
30. Bucephala clangula or the common \_\_\_\_\_ is a medium-sized duck with yellow eyes (hence the name) that is native to the American River Parkway.

### Down

1. In the 1850s, the land that is now River Park was a botanical oasis called Smith's Pomological \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The American River is justly famous for its Oncorhynchus tshawytscha or \_\_\_\_\_ Salmon.
4. In Every River Park issue, the \_\_\_\_\_ Rite Center lists the upcoming events it will be hosting in the next several months. Check them out!
6. Fatima \_\_\_\_\_ is the Vice-President of RPNA.
8. The elections were held but there are still 2 vacancies on the River Park Neighborhood \_\_\_\_\_ Board..
10. The RPNA Board meetings are held in person on the \_\_\_\_\_ Thursday of every month.
12. John Sutter called the City of Sacramento Nuevo \_\_\_\_\_
13. River Park \_\_\_\_\_ is a community that exchanges puzzles.
15. River Park \_\_\_\_\_ is meant to be a resource for our neighbors. It shares the services that our neighbors liked on social media.
16. Sparky Watts, Toys for Tots is also known as the Man who Brings \_\_\_\_\_
18. John \_\_\_\_\_, one of the initial developers of River Park, reportedly owned the first house here. A River Park drive is named after him.
20. As most trees shed their leaves, it's good to walk along the American River and see the massive Pinus lambertiana, commonly known as the \_\_\_\_\_ Pine.
22. Sacramento became wealthy because it was a boom \_\_\_\_\_, selling the miners whatever they needed (at exorbitant prices) during the Gold Rush.
24. Many of our neighbors love books and enjoy our neighbors which may be why so many host \_\_\_\_\_ Libraries.

**Crossword Key will be posted on the website**

## River Park Recommends Pet Sitters & Boarders

by Inna Tysoe

The recommendations below, collated from the Sacramento River ParkGroup on Facebook, do not represent River Park Review's endorsement of any company or individual. They are simply the businesses and individuals our neighbors have mentioned on Facebook.

If you would like to see a deserving business or individual mentioned in "River Park Recommends," please respond to a Facebook post thread and share your positive experiences.

Since we try to be impartial, we only post people and businesses that have been recommended by our neighbors. I know there are many more people who provide dog walking and pet sitting services, including the lady who helped me several times; but as her services were not mentioned on Facebook, she is not included here.

Given how many dogs reside in River Park, it is not the least bit surprising that our neighbors are forever asking one another for recommendations for dog walkers, pet sitters, and boarders.

### Pet Sitters

Our neighbors have recommended the following pet sitters:

- Hillary Fay will pet sit for you. She can be reached at 916.420.8940
- Rich Guerriero will pet sit at your house. He can be reached at 916.755.9170
- Isabel Palmatier may be available. She can be reached at 916.337.8030

Neighbors have recommended a pet-sitting club that is available after school and on weekends. The club members are nine and ten years old and can be reached at Sherman.piper@icloud.com

### Boarding

If you prefer to board your pet, our neighborhood has recommended the following businesses:

- Animal Den & Local Bark. They can be reached at 916.456.4620
- Cha Cha's Dog Daycare. They can be reached at 916.739.6303



## Garage Door problems? Garage Door Opener have a mind of it's own?

Your River Park neighbor still has you covered.

*"Amazing service!!! Russ came to our rescue on a Saturday night to fix our stuck open garage door. He had it fixed within 5 minutes (Amazing!) and then did a tune up on all the chains, springs, latches, and motor guide all within an hour. Never had our garage door work so well! He was very nice and explained the whole thing in process. Would definitely recommend and will use again. Thank you!"*

- Will S., Sacramento



**Call 916-764-8481**

Specializing in Garage Door Service  
30+ years experience | River Park Neighbor Since 2005