

Around the Pocket

SOUTH POCKET HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION | NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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Web: www.southpockethomeowners.org



At the August 23rd General Membership Meeting in Marriott Park, the SPHA Board presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Eagle Scout Garrett Suggs and the membership heard presentations from Vice Mayor Rick Jennings and Caltrans Project Managers Wayne Lewis and Sutha Suthahar.

Garrett Suggs was recognized for his outstanding Eagle Scout project to replace the sign at Marriott Park. In addition to coordinating with the city to move the sign to a

new location and setting the frame in the new concrete base, Garrett took on the difficult task of reconstructing the original design including matching paint colors. Finally, the search for a strong sealer resulted in a protectant layer that should protect the sign from both weather and UV sunlight effects. Garrett received enthusiastic and sustained applause from the membership, as well as many handshakes from neighbors.

Vice Mayor Rick Jennings, our District 7 representative on the Sacramento City Council, provided an update on several items and then answered questions. Topics included the new replacement 'Welcome to Pocket-Greenhaven Neighborhood' sign on the Pocket Road median just east of Greenhaven Drive that his office worked to replace after the original sign was destroyed in a May 2016 traffic accident. SPHA strongly advocated for the sign replacement as the sign provides not only neighborhood identity but also a reminder to drivers that they are entering a neighborhood and should drive carefully. Vice Mayor Jennings stated that he will not support the current proposal for a 70-foot tall digital billboard to be placed at the base of the Freeport Water Tower, facing drivers northbound on I-5, but will continue to work with the Kings to find another suitable location in the vicinity. In February 2017, the SPHA Board unanimously opposed the digital billboard proposal based upon the impact it would have on neighbors on El Morro Court and El Rito Way and sent our comments to the city. Among the questions to the Vice Mayor was what to do about homeless camps that periodically appear on the levee and the answer was to call it into 311 or call the council office. The city will respond and attempt to provide access to services these people may need. Vice Mayor Jennings brought a large number of handouts for special events and encouraged everyone to attend the Public Safety Forum on September 6.

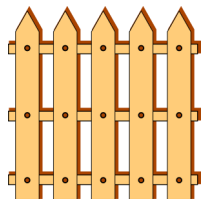
The update on the I-5 soundwall was presented by Sutha Suthahar and Wayne Lewis from Caltrans District 3, who brought maps and fact sheets on the project for the membership. After a recap of the 25-year advocacy effort by SPHA for a soundwall, the new project manager Sutha Suthahar provided a concise overview of the two related I-5 projects and their funding status. In short, the I-5 Rehabilitation Project is fully funded and will replace the pavement of the main roadway and

ramps/connectors with a 40-year service life pavement from north of Laguna Boulevard to the American River, whereas the I-5 HOV Project will construct new High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes for northbound and southbound traffic and construct two new soundwalls but is not fully funded for immediate construction in the fiscal years (continued page 2)(continued from page 1) needed to be on the same timeframe as the Rehabilitation project. The I-5 Rehabilitation project is ready to go to construction in 2018.

Mr. Suthahar next discussed the intricate details of the funding question for the HOV project, while emphasizing that Caltrans is attempting to secure the missing funding now because it would be preferable to construct the two projects at the same time. Compelling reasons to construct the two projects simultaneously include less construction impact to the public over time, bringing the benefits of traffic congestion relief sooner to the region, and less cost to administer one project rather than two. The acceleration of funding for the HOV project is being sought through Sacramento Transportation Authority (STA) and a decision is expected by December. The STA Board is composed of various city and county elected officials. As your representative, I have been accompanying the Caltrans project managers in meetings with city and county elected officials to explain this complicated situation and our neighborhood's urgent need for the soundwall.

In the big picture, the HOV project (and soundwall) is programmed and funded for construction eventually. The option to accelerate the HOV funding so the soundwall construction can take place in the near future is well worth the extra effort.

-Pat Clark, SPHA President



WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS

Kristy & Joel Whiteman, purchased their new home at 10 Oak Ranch Court in early August, just in time to enjoy the pool with their 9-year-old daughter and 5-year-old son before fall weather set in. By day, Kristy and Joel manage "Smile Art Dental," their family dental practice, located at 3171 Riverside Blvd next to Vic's Ice Cream. The Whiteman's met while they were both in dental school at UCLA but moved to Sacramento. Kristy grew up the Pocket and is glad to have her family now residing here. Joel is a cyclist during leisure time and the whole family is into playing and supporting the kids' soccer activities. Please WELCOME the Whiteman Family!

-Sabra Sanchez



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH: SACRAMENTO ALERT

The recent devastating fire storms that swept through the wine country is a call for responsible action to make sure we and our families are prepared. While a wild fire is not the greatest risk our neighborhood is likely to face a catastrophic flood is extremely possible. A levee breach in the Pocket would result in roads becoming impassable in 2 hours or less! Total flood depth would be 14-16 feet.

An important component of emergency preparedness is timely warnings. The Sacramento Police Department in partnership with all public safety agencies within Placer, Yolo and Sacramento counties manage a regional Emergency Notification System. This state-of-the-art system has been designed to notify community members within each of these counties of public safety emergencies and alerts. The Sacramento-Alert Emergency Notification System is capable of delivering notifications via telephone, text message and email.

Please register by going to www.sacramento-alert.org

Since wireless services, such as cell phones, are not automatically registered you are able to self-register your cell phone, text message and email addresses for up to five separate locations within the three counties. Note: The system automatically registers residents as long as they have traditional landline services, Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP/Digital Telephone Services).

Since natural and man-made disasters are a fact of life we strongly urge you to sign up for these alerts for you and your family's sake.

PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING

On Wednesday night, September 6th, our City Councilman, Rick Jennings hosted a Public Safety Meeting at the Robbie Waters Library. He introduced our new City Manager, Deputy City Manager and our new Police Chief Daniel Hahn. Here are highlights of the meeting.

Councilman Jennings let us know he had procured funding for the purchase and placement of four (4) new PODS

(Police Observation Devices) for the Pocket-Greenhaven area. They would be placed at major road intersections leading in and out of our area. Besides the cameras they will be also equipped with license plate readers. The PODS have proven to be effective crime fighting tools for our Sacramento PD. As you read this the new PODS should be in place.

Our Police follow a geographical policing model and we are in Patrol District 4C. District 4 is the Southern part of Sacramento including downtown. South Area Commander Captain Dave Peletta presented statistics on city crime and our District 7 enjoys the lowest crime rate in Sacramento. CPT Peletta urged all residents to support them by filing police reports for even the minor crimes like your lawnmower being stolen. Only by knowing where crimes occur can they know where to send Officers.

Some types of crimes buck the overall trend of a lowering rate. Those include vehicle burglary and domestic violence.

The Police Department has an Officer assigned to the 'Justice for Neighbors' program. They are tasked with tackling long-term issues such as repeated calls to the same address or household. The Officer makes use of specialized support resources tailored to the situation and coordinates with other agencies.

Captain Peletta let us know that the City has equipped the commercial parking lot at Fruitridge and Franklin with 24 hour camera surveillance. This was done to give residents a monitored space for buyers and sellers to meet for a safer transaction.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT (NNO)

We had another well-attended and successful National Night Out get together at Marriott Park on August 1st - our city's 34th. Our very own Sacramento PD Officers from our South Area Command spent quality time with us giving us feedback and answering questions. CPT Peletta, the South Area Commander and his Deputy were on hand personally to meet us and answer questions. We had requested a K-9 unit to visit and we got not one but two K-9 teams!

Our very own Station 11 was in attendance too from the Sacramento Fire Department with their engine parked on Grand River Drive at the park. They were happy to show off their equipment and let the kids climb in and around their fire truck.

Thanks to the folks who stopped by our Neighborhood Watch table and picked up good information and hand-outs to take home. Supporting your Neighborhood Watch is an important way to help our families enjoy a low crime environment. The orange and white "We are

Neighborhood Watch" window cling decals were very popular. If you did not get one please call Rick Beymer, (916) 642-5716 and he will make arrangements to deliver one to you for your home.

-Rick Beymer, Neighborhood Watch



HOLIDAY PARTY RETURNS TO BARTLEY CAVANAUGH

Same date, same time, same place...the South Pocket Homeowners Association (SPHA) Holiday party will return to Bartley

Cavanaugh. But mark your calendars for a Friday night event rather than the traditional Thursday! That's FRIDAY, December 8 from 6-9pm at Bartley Cavanaugh Golf Course clubhouse, 8301 Freeport Blvd. from 6-9pm.

During the summer, the Committee of dedicated homeowners e-mailed a survey to residents asking for their feedback on the 2016 party location and activities in order to tailor this year's event. Visiting with friends and neighbors and the "shopping" for preferred door prizes were activities high on the list of responses so that's what is in store for attendees this year.

Due to the limited seating, it is important to RSVP for this event! Complete the RSVP card attached to the invitation, hand delivered last week, along with a nominal fee of \$10.00 per person, if RSVP is received by 11/18. RSVPs received later than 11/18, the fee increases to \$12.00 per person. The non-member fee or fee for guest is \$30.00 per person. Please note that there is a limit of 2 adult member tickets per household.

Questions: Call or e-mail Sue Faist at (916) 616-3507, sfaist@sbcglobal.net, or Sabra Sanchez (916) 508-5313, sabra@sabrasanchez.com

GIFTS FROM THE HEART OR HAND

Do you have a talent or hobby you'd like to share? The Holiday Committee is searching for prizes for its annual Neighborhood Holiday Party to be held on the evening of December 8th. What better way to get to know your neighbors than by sharing your time or talents or expertise! Can you teach someone to knit? Do you brew your own beer? Would you donate the results of your hobby — hand made jewelry, fish flies, ceramics, cookies, cakes? Or maybe your passion for water color or gardening. Describe your gift (for example: one-hour beer brewing lesson) and send it to rblomster@gmail.com. The gifts and certificates will become raffle prizes at the holiday party. Deadline for donations is December 1st. Thank you so much for your interest!

-Sabra Sanchez & Sue Faist



REFRESH YOUR CURB HOUSE NUMBERS!

Legible house numbers are critical for emergency personnel to quickly locate your home.

Your SPHA organization has a **Curb Painting Kit Lending Program** for our neighborhood. The kit is fully stocked, complete with instructions, stencils, (including an optional American Flag stencil) tools, tape, newspaper, and spray paint.

Contact **Sue Ruiz** at ruisue@pacbell.net or (916)834-8761 to borrow the kit. Once you have refreshed your worn and faded curb number, return the materials for the next neighbor.



HOLIDAY LIGHTS CONTEST!!!

Judging for this year's Holiday Lights Contest will take place on **December 14**. Categories include Best Use of Lights, Best Overall, and Most creative.

SOUTH POCKET HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION



HOLIDAY PARTY

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2017
6PM - 9PM

BARTLEY CAVANAUGH GOLF COURSE CLUBHOUSE

MUSIC & DOOR PRIZES
FULL DINNER BUFFET WITH NO-HOST BAR

\$10 PER PERSON IF RECEIVED BY 11/18 OR \$12 AFTER 11/18

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- Gene Gonzales



897 Glide Ferry Way – Pocket

JUST LISTED



6793 Coachlite Way – Pocket

Whatever Your Reason To Buy or Sell, Call Sabra!



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JUST SOLD



2513 Marshalynn Way – Elk Grove



1548 Union Square – West Sacramento



7718 Dutra Bend Drive – Pocket



3400 Heron Lake Lane – Lakeside, E.G.



3790 Breuner Avenue – River Park

OUTDOOR LIVING SPACE IN HIGH DEMAND

Why would I discuss outdoor living space when the cold weather and rain are quickly approaching? To give you a head start on getting plans in place and contractors booked before the spring home shows begin and tradespeople get booked up.

Findings from an August 2017 survey done by Wakefield Research:

- Demand and desire for creating more usable exterior living space continues to rise.
- Blurring the lines between indoor-outdoor living space is one way to expand the perceived size of outdoor usable space.
- Floor to ceiling retractable glass walls that open to the backyard are the hottest trend. Using matching floor materials can also help the spaces flow from inside to outside expanding both the sense of the square footage of the home and a larger yard.
- Side yards can create valuable outdoor living space as can balconies and rooftop decks.
- 56% of homebuyers surveyed would be willing to sacrifice a large house to obtain a bigger yard.

If you're not a buyer but the owner, the modified space will enhance your enjoyment and use, and it could also very well make your home more desirable should you decide to sell sometime in the future.



**Sabra
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