



Around the Pocket

SOUTH POCKET HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION | NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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Sac PD Emergency

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Sacramento, CA 95831

Winter 2025 Edition
Web: www.southpockethomeowners.org



MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2025

Start off the new year by renewing your membership or joining SPHA for the first time. Your all-volunteer neighborhood association needs your support to continue to make this a great place to live.

Why Join or Renew?

Marriott Park is truly a gem. While it one of the 235 parks in the City of Sacramento, it is unique because it is tucked into our neighborhood and includes two large nature areas filled with Valley Oaks. Following the January 2023 storms that took out several oaks, SPHA worked with the parks department to coordinate the Oaks Restoration Project, a multi-year effort entirely run by your neighbors.. Your membership provides funding for the equipment needed to water these young oaks for the benefit of future generations to come.

From boats docked to the levee, to camps, to a van dweller, to a distraught homeless person attempting to spend the night on a neighbor's porch, we were able to work with our city contacts to get these things solved and communicate immediately with all our email subscribers to give them advice on actions to take. Your membership provides funding for the software we use to email all of you. This newsletter, provided to every household, is also funded by those dues.

These are just two examples among many, in addition to our regular events we hold each year, that are provided because of our member households. What could we do if we had **MORE** members? We could have text alerts for urgent issues, more security measures, more community events, and other priorities of our members.

Please renew your membership or join us as new members. We do a lot now, but could do so much more.

Thank you, *Sue*



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

We continue to have mailbox theft in our neighborhood, so here are some reminders.

If you see a theft in progress or suspect illegal activity around a cluster box, call 911 immediately and then USPS (877) 876-2455 . SPD will work with USPS since the offense of mail theft is federal carrying up to 5 yrs. incarceration and a fine from \$ 25k-250k.

If not in progress and discovery of theft occurs after-the-fact, call SPD non-emergency and also notify the postal authorities. Do not hesitate to call in loiterers around the cluster box or unknown persons parking around the box. If you can do so SAFELY, get a license plate, person or vehicle description. Take a photo if you can SAFELY. The online SPD link is: <http://www.cityofsacramento.org/police/how-Do-I-file-a-police-Report>

If your CBU is extremely damaged by prying, Contact USPS immediately at (877) 876-2455.

If you locate a piece of mail that appears to be stolen while about in our neighborhood, you should report to the non-emergency line. Aside from junk mail, utility bills and business mail are usually discarded quickly by thieves. You may contact your neighborhood Watch lead at BagleyhG@yahoo.com if you come across such items.

Here are tips to help prevent all CBU the thefts:

- Always retrieve your daily mail before dark.
- Hand outgoing mail to your carrier directly or, take it to a blue mailbox/or the post office (5930 So Land Pk. Dr. = 916-262-3107).
- Place a hold on your mail if you are leaving the area at your neighborhood post office (www.usps.com).
- Sign up to learn what mail to expect for each day with *Informed Delivery* offered free by USPS.
- Arrange for a trusted neighbors to retrieve your mail if you can't reach your box
- Because our boxes are in public locations, neighbors can aim their security cameras at the box.

-Hillary Bagley Franzoia, Neighborhood Watch

MARRIOTT PARK OAK TREES: 2025

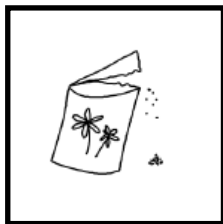
January 2025 marks the one-year anniversary of the 8 Valley Oaks planted in the park's nature area near Roman Oak and Grand River. They made it through the first summer and fall, the most critical period. Supplemental water will continue from our neighborhood volunteers this summer, and earlier if the lack of rain continues. If you stand back and observe the trees, they are obviously taller than when they were planted on that cold and rainy day in January 2024.

The six oaks in the nature area near El Rito/El Douro are also doing well and growing taller. Weeding will become a priority soon so we can reach them. Typically, the first weed eradication from the city happens in April and we will need to weed around them before that.

The City of Sacramento recognized our SPHA efforts on December 5th at a meeting of the Parks and Community Enrichment Commission. District 7 Commissioner Joe Flores nominated SPHA's Marriott Park Trees Project for a Volunteer Award and Recognition, citing the unprecedented nature of planting oaks in the nature area and the excellent collaboration between the city and our neighborhood association.

All this progress is only possible through the generosity of our neighborhood volunteers. It is a sustained effort over multiple years, whether it's watering or weeding or both. Thank you for the great progress!

-Pat Clark, Past President



SOUTH POCKET SPROUTS: CALLING ALL SOUTH POCKET FAMILIES

Happy Winter South Pocket residents! South Pocket Homeowners Association (SPHA)'s initiative for families with young children and babies, The South Pocket Sprouts, is in early phases- and we'd love to have you join! We currently have two families enrolled, and have a goal of bringing in at least three more families before starting our event program.

What is South Pocket Sprouts?

South Pocket Sprouts is a group dedicated to families in South Pocket, specifically those with infants, toddlers, and young children. Designed with both parents and children in mind, South Pocket Sprouts aims to create a welcoming space where families can meet, engage, and build lasting friendships.

Why South Pocket Sprouts?

Named to reflect the growth and potential of young children in the community, South Pocket Sprouts is rooted in the belief that strong connections within neighborhoods enhance quality of life for everyone. By encouraging families to come together, the group provides support and camaraderie, benefiting children as they grow up surrounded by familiar faces and helping parents connect with others on a similar journey.

Activities and Gatherings

South Pocket Sprouts will offer a wide range of activities designed to entertain, educate, and engage young families. These include:

Picnic Playdates in the Park: Casual, family-friendly meet-ups at Marriott Park where children can play safely, and parents can enjoy conversations and BYO refreshments.

Storytime & Songs by the River: Seasonal sessions with books, songs, or other activities that nurture young minds

Family Fitness Fun: Parent-and-child-friendly fitness events, from stroller walks to toddler yoga, that encourage active lifestyles and time outdoors.

Seasonal Celebrations: Festive gatherings that capture the spirit of the season.

Community Goals

South Pocket Sprouts isn't just about events; it's about creating a true support network. By bringing families together regularly, SPHA hopes to foster an inclusive, friendly atmosphere in which parents and children feel connected and supported. Through shared experiences, both children and parents can benefit from the diverse backgrounds and perspectives of South Pocket's residents.

Join South Pocket Sprouts

All SPHA members with young children are invited to join South Pocket Sprouts and participate in group events. New members are welcomed with open arms, and each gathering offers an opportunity to make friends and build connections.

If you're a South Pocket resident looking for a way to engage with the community, support your family's development, and enjoy the vibrant environment of Sacramento's riverfront neighborhood, South Pocket Sprouts invites you to join in and be part of this exciting new chapter.

Together, let's grow a thriving community—right here in South Pocket!

For more information on South Pocket Sprouts, feel free to email the author of this article, Hailey Yeager, at haileyreyerinyeager@gmail.com

-Hailey Erin Yeager, Director at Large

EVENTS FOR THE YEAR (SO FAR) - NOTE THEM IN YOUR CALENDARS!

- April 12 Easter Egg Hunt, 11am, Marriott Park
- May 17 Neighborhood Yard Sale
- June 4 General Membership Meeting, 7pm, Marriott Park (Elections)
- August 5 National Night Out, 6pm, Marriott Park
- December 12, Holiday Party, Cabrillo Civic Club (members only)



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HOLIDAY PARTY 2024 - This year's party was a hit with about 70 people attending. Many thanks to the committee: Paulo & Lisa Ferreira, Gary & Karen Fortney, Jake & Christie Garcia, Janette & Gustavo Casillas, Hilary Franzoia, Sabrina Pape, Hailey Yeager, Al Porter, Ray Mancini, & Sue Ruiz.

HOLIDAY LIGHTS CONTEST WINNERS - Congratulations to the winners! 1179 Grand River Dr, 7739 South Oak Way, 7554 River Ranch Way, and 1200 Cedarbrook Way. Honorable Mentions: 7647 Roman Oak Way, 7681 Greenhaven Dr, 7679 El Douro Dr, 7687 El Douro Dr, 7717 El Douro Dr, 7747 El Rito Way, 7722 Los Rancho Way, 7690 Grand River Dr, 7733 South Oak Way, 7736 South Oak Way, 5 El Morro Ct, 10 El Morro Ct, 1209 Cedarbrook Way, 7735 River Ranch Way, 7754 River Ranch Way, 7758 River Ranch Way, 7708 Sleepy River Way.

PHOTO SUBMISSION - We are looking for photo submissions for this year's membership roster cover, showcasing our neighborhood. Send all photo submissions to ruizsue@icloud.com no later than **March 1**.

CURB NUMBERS!! - Do you have your house number on your curb? If not, you should have one.. If so, does it need a refresh? Curb numbers help emergency vehicles find your home faster. We have a curb painting kit for all households to borrow. Please contact Hilary Bagley Franzoia to borrow the kit: bagleyhg@yahoo.com.

HELP WANTED: NEWSLETTER EDITOR!

The time has come for me to scale back on my responsibilities so I am looking for someone to take over for me as the newsletter editor. The job is not difficult, but does require someone who can help out 4 times per

year to get the articles from the contributors, construct the newsletter, and send to print. Please contact me if you might be interested.

-Sue Ruiz, Editor

HELP WANTED

THE SPHA IS LOOKING FOR A
VOLUNTEER IT PROFESSIONAL
TO MANAGE TECHNICAL ISSUES
FOR THE SPHA WEBSITE.



THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO
PROVIDE A FEW HOURS OF TIME TO HELP
SUPPORT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!

INTERESTED CANDIDATES
PLEASE CONTACT
SUE AT RUIZESUE@GMAIL.COM



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South Pocket Homeowners' Association

PO Box 22812, 5930 South Land Park Dr.,
Sacramento, CA 95822
2024 Membership Year

Happy New Year, South Pocket!

Kick off the year by joining the South Pocket Homeowners' Association (SPHA)! Whether you're a homeowner or renter, your membership helps support our amazing community.

Why Join?

Your \$50 annual membership funds the following:

- Events like the Easter Egg Hunt, National Night Out, and Holiday Party
- Neighborhood communications, including emails and our quarterly newsletter
- Local projects like Entrance Landscaping & the Neighborhood Yard Sale
- SPHA website maintenance
- **Plus**, your name in the exclusive printed SPHA Member Roster (it's helped reunite pets & lost items!)

What Makes Us Special?

We're a **completely volunteer-driven** organization! Our dedicated board does it all:

- Advocates for South Pocket on key issues
- Coordinates Neighborhood Watch for safety
- Works with the City to maintain Marriott Park
- Sends out email alerts on important updates

How to Join/Renew:

- By Mail: Send a \$50 check to SPHA, PO Box 22812, 5930 South Land Park Dr., Sacramento, CA 95822
- Online: Visit www.southpockethomeowners.org > Membership > Join

Deadline: April 1st – don't miss out on being listed in the roster! Membership dues received after the 1st will still be accepted but will miss the roster cutoff.

For questions, contact:

Sue Ruiz (916) 834-8761 | Pat Clark (916) 601-7338



South Pocket Homeowners' Association

www.southpockethomeowners.org

2025 Membership Dues Invoice**

Name: _____
 Home Address _____
Sacramento, CA 95831
 Home Phone: (____) _____
 Work Phone: (____) _____
 Mobile Phone: (____) _____
 E-mail: _____
 Please add me to the email distribution for neighborhood alerts!
 I have looked at last year's roster and nothing has changed!

Date: _____

Due date for inclusion in the SPHA Roster: April 1, 2025

****Apply and pay online! See our website for details.**

2025 SPHA Membership	Amount Due
2025 Annual Dues (January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025)	\$50.00/ year
Total Due:	\$50.00

Other persons in Household and any Pets (Police/ Fire can use this info)

Emergency Contact Information:

Name: _____
 Phone: (____) _____

Would you like to receive the Membership Roster via e-mail? Yes No
 Are you a local business owner? Yes No
 If yes, what is the name of your business? _____

Would you like to volunteer? We could use help from anyone in your household!

Please mark your area of interest below:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Delivering Newsletters in the Neighborhood | <input type="radio"/> Helping with the Annual Easter Egg Hunt |
| <input type="radio"/> Participating in Neighborhood Watch | <input type="radio"/> Helping with National Night Out |
| <input type="radio"/> Serve on SPHA Board | <input type="radio"/> Helping with the Holiday Events |
| <input type="radio"/> Marriott Park/City Liaison | <input type="radio"/> Teens interested in service work with SPHA |
| <input type="radio"/> Help whenever necessary | <input type="radio"/> Other: _____ |

Please make checks payable to: South Pocket Homeowners' Association
Please remit your \$50 payment to PO Box 22812 | Sacramento, CA 95822
 For questions, please contact Sue Ruiz ruizsue@icloud.com (916)834-8761 or
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- July 2024, Jim & Terri P

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SOLD



761 Skylake — Pocket



1152 Rose Tree — Pocket

Downsizing & Going It Alone

Looking back at 2024, nearly 50% of my sellers were single or soon to be single women looking to downsizing their living space. In the beginning, they felt like the task was a "mission impossible," but necessary. This created feelings of stress, angst and concerns about how to get the job done and where to begin. All three were undaunted and plowed ahead while learning a thing or two about the process and flying solo. In the end, all wanted to share their stories, recommendations and outcomes in the hope those who read this will not feel alone in their journey or think the task is impossible.

Recommendations: Plan, Then Proceed

- 1. Identify & Recruit Help.** Immediately recruit help from friends, neighbors, relatives and professionals who are available and can provide a variety of moving services one might need. Also look to one's agent for help and guidance.
- 2. Identify What Features Your Replacement Property Should Have.** If you don't know already, make a list of the amenities your replacement home should have such as the # of stories and sq. ft. vs. your present home. Do be specific by noting the number of bedrooms, baths and other living spaces. How much space do you really need?
- 3. Identify Personal Property Items You Will Take.** Decide what of your current possessions including furnishings you will need to take to your new space as well as clothing, heirlooms, kitchenware...everything! Steel yourself to brutally assess what is essential to accommodate in your physical space and emotional needs. Chances are you will still want and need to purge more belongings after the move.
- 4. Disposal of Unneeded Possessions.** With this list in hand consider who would want the items you are not taking...family, friends, neighbors, a non-profit charitable organization, a consignment store or hauled to the dump or landfill? Garage sales are an option but know you are likely to get pennies on the dollar for each offered item and it takes a lot of time and effort to pull the sale together. Seldom, but sometimes, buyers are interested in furnishings, but you will likely not know that until you are well into the sales process. You may also find some takers on-line at sites like Facebook Marketplace.
- 5. Identify Vendors for Help.** Do ask your real estate agent about identifying resources to assist. Most will be vendors who charge fees for their services but tend to be very helpful and reduce the pressure on you to get the job done. All three sellers took advantage of professional assistance and were glad they did.
- 6. Storage Units.** A word to the wise, avoid renting a storage unit to park personal property items if possible. In the end, it generally costs more to use a storage unit because the rental fee often surpasses the value of the items stored. And after a time, the stored items become less important and disposed of in the end.

Happy Outcomes

All three ladies are now in their new homes and admit that they are glad the big effort is behind them, but happy with the outcome even though they are still finding things they don't want or need.

Was this a big job? Was it stressful? YES, but they are glad they pressed ahead to simplify their lives.



Your South Pocket Neighbor
916.508.5313 • sabra@sabrasanchez.com
www.sabrasanchez.com