



# River Park Review

Vol. 8, No. 3

[www.riverparksacramento.net](http://www.riverparksacramento.net)  
[www.groups.yahoo.com/group/rpna](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/rpna)

## Housing market solid in River Park

If you can't pay your mortgage or your taxes, be nervous. But if you're concerned that your home will lose substantial value, fear not. Realtors who specialize in the buying and selling of houses in River Park say the national housing slump is very real, but it will pass, and it's not hitting River Park nearly as hard as many other areas in the Sacramento region.

Bill Vogel, owner of Bill Vogel Realty, described the current River Park scene as "excellent," with six pending sales just since Jan. 1. But he expects sales to be a bit slower than usual this spring. Dick Plageman with Lyon Real Estate says home values here are down perhaps ten per cent from their peak two years ago. Plageman says the slight slump won't last long and that River Park conditions are "not that bad." Nicole Pate with Prudential says "sales are

happening," even if prices are down a little and some houses are staying on the market longer. Pate says she knows of one bank repossession in River Park so far this year and three short sales where a home is being listed at current market value but at less than what the current owner owes.. Perry Georgallis, the dean of River Park realtors with over 50 years experience in our neighborhood, says this is the worst national housing downturn he's ever seen, but that the market in River Park is

"good." Georgallis expects the housing slump to end soon, but acknowledges that he won't sell as many houses this year as two years ago..

It's good to remember that we live in the metro area with the sixth most expensive housing in the country. River Park's location in relation to downtown Sacramento and the close-in suburbs is unmatched. Combine that with its relative isolation, almost a peninsula with no cross traffic and only two ways in or out. The result is a near perfect location. And "location" trumps all other values when it comes to houses.

So relax. For River Park, it's a speed bump on a gentle road.

Time was...

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*Sac Bee 1952*



### UPCOMING RIVER PARK EVENTS April 2008... and beyond

**Thursday April 17**  
**RPNA Meetings**  
 Block Captains 6:30 p.m.  
 RPNA Board 7:30 p.m.  
 Geneva Room  
 Fremont Presbyterian Church

**\*\*\*Saturday April 19\*\*\***  
**River Park General Meeting**  
 10 a.m. to noon  
 Caleb Greenwood School  
 School issues - Bike lanes  
 Night Patrol  
 Listen - Speak your piece

**Saturday April 26**  
**Candidates Forum**  
 Mayor of Sacramento  
 County Supervisor  
 9 a.m.—noon  
 Fremont Presbyterian Church  
 Ferguson Hall  
**Bring your questions**

**Saturday May 10**  
**Arts in River Park**  
 10 a.m.—5 p.m.  
 Scottish Rite Masonic Center  
 6151 H Street  
 Live entertainment all day!  
 Art - Food - Kids' activities  
**No charge** for admission

## Fargo, KJ expected at April 26 Forum

Bring your questions Saturday April 26 to a candidates forum at Fremont Presbyterian Church's Ferguson Hall.

The Sacramento chapter of the League of Women Voters will conduct the forum beginning at 9 a.m. with candidates for mayor of Sacramento. At 11 a.m. incumbent County Supervisor Susan Peters and her challenger Warren Harding will take questions for an hour. Although much of the emphasis so far in the mayor's race has been on two-term incumbent Heather Fargo and former NBA star and now businessman Kevin Johnson, five other candidates are in the race. All candidates whose names are on the June 3rd ballot are invited and will be given equal time to answer written questions submitted from the audience. More info? Call Frank Cirill **455-2880** or email Dave O'Toole [vicepresident@riverparksacramento.net](mailto:vicepresident@riverparksacramento.net)

## High School Update

RPNA representatives including Matt Mitchell and Jeff Harris, and SCUSD board member Elley Bell have continued meeting with Sacramento City Councilman Steve Cohn to address the need for a full sized comprehensive high school to serve Sac High's former attendance area. Councilman Cohn has drafted a letter to be sent to SCUSD board members and Superintendent Maggie Mejia requesting a one-year postponement of implementation of the Consent Decree. The letter particularly urges that the conversion of Marian Anderson to a high school be delayed. Superintendent Mejia was quoted in the Bee recently saying that if fewer than 150 students enrolled in the new CDHS, the district would not open the school. Early reports suggest that the total enrollment will be significantly below 150. This development and Kevin Johnson's entrance in the mayoral race significantly change the political playing field.

Look for fireworks before July 4th this year.

## Attention Crime fighters

RPNA is looking for 36 volunteers to participate in this summer's night patrol. With that number of volunteers (and one companion for each volunteer- to make a pair) we can staff the patrol during the rowdy season between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

### Here's how it works:

Each volunteer would agree to commit two hours in June, two hours in July, and two hours in August. That's only six hours per person to help kayo overnight crime in River Park. A volunteer's shift would be ten to midnight one month, midnight to 2 a.m. another month, and (here's the hard part) 2 a.m. to 4 a.m. the third month. Each pair of roving crime fighters will need a cell phone to call in suspicious or criminal sightings to the police. A search light will be available to each participant for their shift. Details of how to conduct a shift and what to watch for will be provided at a volunteer meeting, time in April TBA. A free RPNA tee shirt is part of the deal. Sign up with Jeff Harris [cadence@surewest.net](mailto:cadence@surewest.net) **455-0996**



Turkey coop?

This new fence box in the Glen Hall parking lot encloses new pumps for the park's sprinkler system. The old pump house was an ugly mess.

*Where water flows, grass grows.*



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February 2008 River Park crime reports:

Feb. 3	10:00 pm	Burglary-Vehicle	Callister at Carrington
Feb. 14	12:45 pm	Burglary- Vehicle	Camellia by school
Feb. 20	9:30 am	Burglary- Residence	Hale Court/Sandburg
Feb. 24	3:00 am	Burglary-Vehicle	Dittmar Way
Feb. 24	3:00 pm	Vandalism	Carlson/Shopping center

**Parents:** Please remind your children that with warm weather approaching, the public streets are not a playground. Instruct your children to look both ways before crossing streets; and if their balls or toys wind up in the street, ask a parent for help in retrieving it.

RPNA has a new volunteer coordinator, Lupita Cortez Alcalá. There are many opportunities in River Park to do good things for other people and for the community as a whole. Lupita would love to hear from you with ideas and offers of service. She's at **254-2555** or email [lcortez916@yahoo.com](mailto:lcortez916@yahoo.com)

The River Park Neighborhood Association is pleased to announce that the Sacramento State library is now open to the public and you do not need to be a student to check out books or other library materials. To check out library items you must purchase a library card. A library card costs \$25. You can find out more about the Sac State library by calling **278-5679**, or by visiting the library online at this site [www.library.csus.edu](http://www.library.csus.edu). Or just walk on over.

**Sac State Calendar of Events**

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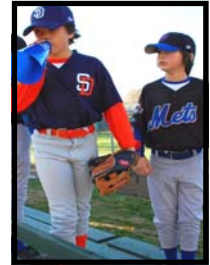
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**Youth League Baseball season begins with raucous parade**



Padres float by



Ellison Gearheart Mac Rattan

On Saturday, March 8, River Park Youth Baseball held its annual Opening Day Parade through the streets of River Park to celebrate the start of the 2008 season. Floats represented all 24 teams in the league, from majors and minors to rookies and t-ball teams. Young players hooted while throwing hard candies to—and at—onlookers. The parade started and ended at River Park's famous Ciavarella Field at the far end of Moddison Avenue at Erlewine Circle. Maintaining a 30-year tradition, fire trucks from Firehouse 5 and two Sacramento City Police squad cars escorted the parade. Games will be played at Ciavarella Field and Caleb Greenwood School every day from now until early June. The Snack Shack at Ciavarella Field is world famous for its nachos, hot dogs and hamburgers. Batter up! For info visit <http://www.riverparkbaseball.org/index.html>

River Park Resident

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# In brief:

- \* The River Park Mothers Club is sponsoring a morning of magical adventure at Fairytale Town in Land Park Wed. April 9 at 10 a.m.  
Game Night (moms only) is Tues. April 22, 7 p.m.  
RSVP for both at [www.bigtent.com/groups/rpmc](http://www.bigtent.com/groups/rpmc)  
Or call **505-8756** for more information.
- \* The City of Sacramento will host a Public Safety Open House Wednesday May 7, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at Fremont Presbyterian Church. Mayor Heather Fargo and City Councilman Steve Cohn have been invited to attend. Come with questions about plans for long-range fire protection and police policies.
- \* Blood Drive Sunday April 20 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. BBQ too!  
The big Blood mobile will be parked at 5458 Carlson Drive.  
Call Neal at **454-5290** or [nealbear@surewest.net](mailto:nealbear@surewest.net)

Deer, coyotes, snakes—now wild turkeys. Suddenly on March 1st, wild turkeys were sighted all over The Park. Carlson, Minerva, Sandburg, Teichert, Camellia. Single and in groups. Males and females. Frank Cirill, on State Avenue for 43 years, said it was the first time he'd ever seen a turkey with feathers in RP. Come back in November, you turkeys.



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## 2008 RPNA Contacts/Membership information

RPNA membership is on a calendar year. If you would like to check or renew your membership, call Bill Piper at **455-8539** or e-mail [membership@riverparksacramento.net](mailto:membership@riverparksacramento.net). If you would like to become a member, send \$10 (per household) to **RPNA, PO Box 19866, Sacramento, CA 95819**. Make check payable to RPNA.

NAME	ASSOCIATION	PHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Matt Mitchell	RPNA President	736-2029	<a href="mailto:president@riverparksacramento.net">president@riverparksacramento.net</a>
Billy & Eve Martinez	Block Captain Coordinators	457-7725	<a href="mailto:rvrpk3@surewest.net">rvrpk3@surewest.net</a>
Bill Piper	RPNA Membership	455-8539	<a href="mailto:membership@riverparksacramento.net">membership@riverparksacramento.net</a>
Mike Montgomery	Newsletter Editor	457-2933	<a href="mailto:editor@riverparksacramento.net">editor@riverparksacramento.net</a>

To submit an article to the River Park Review, please e-mail information to [editor@riverparksacramento.net](mailto:editor@riverparksacramento.net). The River Park Review is published by the RPNA, which is responsible for its content. It reserves the right to edit and/or reject submissions. Editor will pay five dollars to first person who finds the typo. **ADVERTISING RATES PER ISSUE: Business Card-Plus: \$75; Business Card: \$50**  
**Thanks always to Silvio Suine and his army of volunteers who deliver the River Park Review to your doorstep. Great job!**