



River Park Review

Vol. 6, No. 2

www.riverparksacramento.net
www.groups.yahoo.com/group/rpna

Can The Night Herons Be Encouraged To Return To Their River Habitat?

If River Park residents want to mitigate the night heron problem and encourage the herons to return to the trees along the river, the first step must be removal of the nests while the birds are gone. The Sacramento City Tree Department has determined that River Park's night heron nests can effectively be removed only by hand work, from either an elevated bucket truck or by actually climbing the trees. This means the nest removal will be somewhat laborious and costly.

Jeff Harris, night heron project coordinator, and Sacramento City arborist Dan Pskowski, surveyed the heron nesting area and concluded that most of the mature Japanese Zelcova and Modesto Ash trees in the area need thinning and pruning to discourage nesting.

Local tree service companies estimate full pruning and nest removal will cost \$500 to \$1600 depending on the size of the tree. Nest removal by itself would be less costly, however, it will be easier to deter the herons in a well-pruned tree. Harris hopes that tree owners with heron nests will be motivated to join this effort to deal with the night heron problem. If at least 10 tree owners accept a tree service proposal, the price might be reduced by 10% for everyone.

After pruning, Harris wants to install some deterrents in test trees to find out which ones are most effective. Some possible deterrents are lights, bug zappers, possibly a heron distress call or other audible sounds.



How many nests can you count? In the Summer, each nest will have two adult herons and three to five young fledglings.

Most homeowners want to rid their trees of the birds because living with them is an unpleasant, messy, noisy and unsanitary experience. The Herons will begin returning to River Park in early March. Once they establish a nest and lay eggs, they cannot be harassed in any way, due to their protected status. If nothing is done, River Park can look forward to another summer of guano, noisy nights and damaged or dead fledglings in the streets along with their attendant flies. Residents only have a short time to take action. The objective is to allow for the herons to return to their natural, river habitat.

Harris urges all tree owners with nests in them to take action, now. He can be contacted at 455-0996 or email at cadence@surewest.net.

UPCOMING RIVER PARK EVENTS

FEBRUARY 8

RIVER PARK
MOTHERS CLUB
New Member
Night

Wednesday
7 p.m.

Call For Information
325-8765

FEBRUARY 14

VALENTINE'S DAY
DINNER AND JAZZ
Tuesday
6 p.m.

Bryan McLaughlin
Jazz Piano
Javalicious Café
Reservations
Call 736-1215

FEBRUARY 16

River Park
Neighborhood
Association
Monthly
Board Meeting
Geneva Room
Fremont Presbyterian
Church
7:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 16

RPNA
Neighborhood
Watch
Block Captains
Meeting
Geneva Room
Fremont Presbyterian
Church
6:30 p.m.

Boy Scout Troop 8



Successful Food Drive

Boy Scout Troop 8 ran a December food drive on several streets in River Park. Residents donated over 500 pounds of canned goods, many coats, sweaters, blankets and disposable diapers. All donations were delivered to the Sacramento Food Bank and Clothing Closet.

River Park Shopping Center Arts Festival

An arts festival featuring local musicians, performers and artists is being planned for the River Park Shopping Center with food and drinks provided by River Park merchants.

Brenda Waters, the promoter and organizer for the event, will relocate the popular 'H Street Festival' to River Park in May. The festival focuses on the diversity in Sacramento arts and typically draws on a broad range of artists with a focus on the performing arts. Many community organizations also participate in the festival with informative exhibits.

Saturday, May 13 is the festival date. Mark your calendars, now, and come enjoy the festivities.

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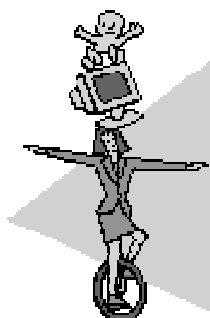
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River Park Mothers Club New Member Night

The River Park Mothers Club cordially invites other River Park mothers to meet other moms in our community. The Mothers Club will be hosting a New Member Night on Wednesday, February 8, at 7 p.m.



The River Park Mothers Club has been an active part of River Park life for half a century and for several generations. The club currently is accepting new

members. The Mothers Club organizes many activities throughout the year for moms, children, and their families. The club's activities include: a Family Potluck dinner in the Park, a Halloween Party, a Holiday Party, and community activism. While Bunco, Auction Night, and Movie Nights are just for the moms, the Club also has monthly children's activities where moms and kids might tour a firehouse, go to the Zoo, or jump in large bounce houses.

Some women may think that the Mothers Club is just for stay-at-home-moms; this isn't the case. Most club activities are held in the evenings and on Saturdays. Working moms are welcomed and encouraged to join.

If you are interested in joining or know someone who would like to be a part of the Mothers Club, you can call 325-8765. Active annual membership dues are \$30.




Blood Drive Success Strong Neighborhood Support

The River Park neighborhood blood drives for 2006 got a good start on January 15 with 41 pints donated. The blood drives are sponsored by the Capital City Wings motorcycle group and coordinated by Neal Graham. Graham schedules the bloodmobile in the front of his home on Carlson Drive six times a year. He lives across the street from Caleb Greenwood K-8 School.

Sunday, March 12, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. is the next scheduled blood drive. Blood is urgently needed at this time throughout the country. Giving blood is easy and having the Bloodmobile in River Park makes it very convenient. Graham says all donors will receive a certificate for a free personal size pizza from Round Table Pizza.


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In Brief: RPNA Membership

New and renewal RPNA memberships are \$10 for one year; \$18 for two years; and \$25 for three years. Membership in the RPNA is a good way to support the River Park neighborhood. Dues help pay for neighborhood improvements and annual events like the 4th of July Festival, Pancake Breakfast and community general meetings.

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Membership dues can be mailed to: RPNA, P.O. Box 19866, Sacramento, 95819. For membership information, call 457-6445.

Open House

Certified Massage Therapists Rebecca Warren, Jean Yun and Deja Kjoller are combining their relaxation, stress reduction and massage skills in one, new location here in River Park. You're invited to meet them and learn more about what they do, Saturday, February 11, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., 5495 Carlson Drive, Suite 3.



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2006 RPNA Contacts/Membership information

RPNA membership is on a calendar year. If you would like to check or renew your membership, call Alanna Butterworth at 457-6445 or e-mail alannab@surewest.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
Alanna Butterworth	RPNA Membership	457-6445	alannab@surewest.net
David O'Toole	RPNA President	456-0945	president@riverparksacramento.net
Billy & Eve Martinez	Block Captain Coordinators	457-7725	rvrp3@surewest.net
Dan Keller	Newsletter Editor/Publisher	457-5928	dak@surewest.net

To submit an article to the River Park Review, please e-mail information to publisher@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.

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