



# River Park Review

Vol. 9, No. 5

[www.riverparksacramento.net](http://www.riverparksacramento.net)

## Hot weather arrives - pool closes

The cool spring gave way to normal Sacramento summer heat in late June. The Glenn Hall Park public swimming pool opened on schedule, but just days later the city announced that the pool would close July 6th for the remainder of the summer. The city's acute revenue shortage is the cause. The public bathrooms were also to be locked indefinitely. River Park residents remained concerned about issues related to Paradise Beach, but suddenly the prospect of possibly larger numbers of people heading toward the beach and returning to a park with no toilets raised public health fears. It will be interesting to see what level of commitment will be maintained in actually enforcing the laws against public urination as well as more general concerns about rowdiness, drunkenness, and drunk driving. (See page 3 for pro and con letters concerning the proposed levee fence).

Vandals recently destroyed the sign at the entrance to Glenn Hall Park. It has been restored by the city maintenance crew. Many will notice a spelling change. For years, the sign had read "Glen Hall Park".

Now it is spelled with two of the letter 'n.' Which is correct? The answer comes by way of resident Gordon Garfield who supplied this summary from information specialist Robert Foster (public library) who quotes an article from Western City Magazine, dated May 1957:

"The City Council has recently paid honor to the late City Planning Director L. Glenn Hall, by naming a 60 acre park site in his memory. Glenn Hall devoted 35 years of his life to landscape architecture, city planning, park engineering, and civil engineering. He passed away in 1953 (in Oakland, CA)."

Mr. Hall was planning director for the City of Sacramento, and consultant for the County of Sacramento from 1946 to 1952.



Aaron King and the Imperials



RPNA President Jeff Harris  
City Councilman Steve Cohn



Glenn NOT Glen

### Pops in the Park June 13, 2009

Contact City Councilman Steve Cohn at 808-7003 or [scohn@cityofsacramento.org](mailto:scohn@cityofsacramento.org)

### UPCOMING RIVER PARK EVENTS

July 2009... and beyond

**Thursday July 16**

**RPNA Meetings**

Block captains 6:30 p.m.

RPNA Board 7:30 p.m.

Fremont Presbyterian Church

Geneva Room

Everyone is welcome

**Sunday August 9**

**Blood drive**

5458 Carlson Drive  
across from the school

Coffee Donuts BBQ

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Saturday August 22**

**Screen on the Green**

*The Parent Trap* (1961)

Glenn Hall Park

Free movie Bring the kids

Movie starts at dark

**Saturday Sept. 19**

**Open house**

**Fire station 8**

5990 H Street

Come see it all

Free 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

# Colette's Attic signs off

Colette's Attic gift shop, which opened last October in the River Park shopping mall, closed its doors for the last time on June 6. Colette's Attic owner **Joan Kruger** posted this farewell message on June 7:

As most of you already know, yesterday was my last day with Colette's Attic, and at some point in the (near?) future, I'll get around to posting a nice long blog about that. Having just spent the last hour or so over coffee, mulling it all over....I originally had planned to re-evaluate the location and viability of the store in August, but decided at the last minute to pull the plug at the start of summer, rather than at the end (an additional perk: that gave me a 2-week vacation before the fall semester begins!), which means, among other things, that I might even start returning phone calls and seeing some of you occasionally! Now, after a couple of truly chaotic weeks, I just wanted to say a big Thanks to those of you who helped me in so many ways, large and small, in supporting this little project. I can't just shut the doors for the last time without waxing philosophical a little, so here is a little excerpt from the forthcoming blog, just to let you know I'm not home, curled up in a corner, crying in my beer; quite the contrary!

On this, the morning after, I find I feel lighter. There is still the clean-up to accomplish, some more decisions to make, papers to organize, all of that worldly business that takes so much of our precious time on earth....but on the whole, I have to say I feel good about the venture, and glad to have left while people still wanted more; I was truly touched by all those who came by yesterday to say goodbye. Closing Colette's Attic so soon was like leaving the party while your favorite music is still playing, with the warm light casting a friendly glow as it spills out into the street, while you walk away, humming and feeling wonderful.

That is exactly how I feel today: I went to the party, I saw everyone I wanted to, I danced, I had just enough wine, I felt happy and good, and now I am home with warm memories of the whole affair that will live in my heart forever.

Many thanks again to family and friends for all your well-wishes and help and support in every form!

**MIHAI GRIGORUTA**  
OWNER



**MG CONSTRUCTION**

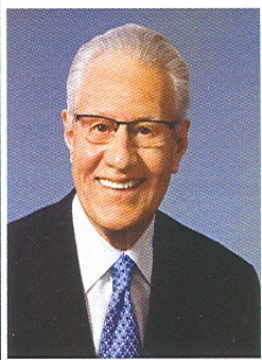
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**Beni Feil & Shelly Crawford**

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River Park resident for over 38 years!

# Should the city of Sacramento construct a steel fence across the levee with a gate that locks at night?

It is a public safety issue!

I respectfully urge River Park residents to look at the proposed extension of the existing security fence along the levee at Glenn Hall Park from the perspective of a family that has lived adjacent to the park for over 30 years. For us and many others with homes that border the park, this is simply a safety issue.

Paradise Beach continues to be a popular location for late night activities. Most of our problems occur in the very early morning hours as people exit after a night of drinking and partying. Glenn Hall Park as well as Paradise Beach is closed at night and no one is supposed to be in the area, but since the entrance area is wide open, there is no way for police to enforce the law.

The Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) report prepared by City Park, County Park and City Police representatives strongly recommends that this fence be included in the overall package of public safety improvements proposed for Glenn Hall Park. Those concerned about the aesthetics should take note that the existing chain link fence that has been there for the past 24 years is to be replaced with an attractive steel tubular fence similar to that which is already in place around the children's playground and the swimming pool.

The funding for this project comes from developer fees dedicated to park improvements. The funds cannot be used for park operations, i.e. garbage pickup, grass cutting, or additional police patrol. After 20 some years, Glenn Hall is currently first on the list to receive money for vitally needed public safety improvements. If we reject this report, I am sure other parks will be most receptive to the idea of accepting these funds.

Lee Ruth

Well, here we go again.

Now taxpayer money is to be spent on a fence at a public park, money that could be spent on things like video equipment and police patrol.

If a fence is put up, people will find a way around, over, or even through it. Then there is the cost of upkeep. Who pays for that? Paradise Beach is on public land. The problems have been here for a long time. I would even guess that a few residents (in their younger days) partied at Paradise Beach. A fence is like the speed bumps on Moddison: useless. Lets just throw good money after bad again. Have the lumps slowed down speeders? No! Just walk the street anytime and you'll see for yourself. Is a fence going to stop people from partying? No. Also how about the Yield signs on the corner of Moddison and Carlson? Yes, that's right. People treat the Stop signs more like Yield signs. Work on the problems we can fix.

Charlie Smith

For years the Paradise Beach area has been a trouble spot for River Park. The activities at the beach have caused an increase in crime, vandalism and drunk driving in our neighborhood. By supporting the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design report prepared by City Park, County Park, and City Police, we have a chance to take steps to mitigate the problems that have long plagued our neighborhood.

Twenty years ago a levee fence was proposed but because of a few opponents only half of the fence was built and the problems have continued on throughout the years. By building a fence across the entire levee there is the opportunity to curb reckless behavior. For those that don't live in close proximity to the park, you may not have experienced people driving across your lawn, urinating in your front yard, gunshots outside your window, or a gang fight across the street, but these activities are par for the course in Glenn Hall Park. These issues are directly related to the lack of lighting and security in the park. The CPTED plan would create a fence that would allow all of us to continue to enjoy the American River Parkway from dawn to dusk and help police enforce the law after sunset. Given the cutback in law enforcement personnel, we may not always have the increased police presence that we have experienced recently

The money for the fence and other improvements has already been allotted through special fees that developers have paid over the years. It is to be spent only on park improvements so if it's not spent on Glenn Hall Park those funds will go to another local park. Let us not miss this opportunity to create a safer neighborhood for our families.

Emily Kapic

Once infrastructure obstructing or limiting/controlling access to the river area near Glenn Hall Park has been constructed, it will be there for the duration. I disagree with the assertion that constructing the fence is not punishment; though perhaps better stated it is a punitive response to attempting to solve a problem. It would likely create an eyesore and can obstruct movement of many people that want to enjoy the river during the day, that access the opportunity to do so at approximately the same time. More than a few people during certain times of day walk up the hill at the levee at the same time to go to the river. From my observation, most of the problems occur during the day or early evening from people who are drinking and littering, or driving irresponsibly in or near the Glenn Hall Park parking lot. Mr. (Jeff) Harris is a good neighbor and I appreciate his efforts to improve River Park neighborhood. While he is entitled to his opinions, his assertion that public opinion has been decidedly in favor of **all** aspects of the CPTED report is unsubstantiated. Public opinion includes the broad public including many River Park residents who cannot or do not attend some of the RPNA sponsored meetings at the Fremont church. Comments in response to Mr. Stavros' s article in the on-line edition of the Sacramento Press are overwhelmingly against the fence proposal.

David Weightman

# Arts in River Park May 30, 2009



## Dragon Fire Martial Arts



Booths galore

## Brenda Jew Waters on Sandburg

was the first of many to call and report a typographical error in the June 2009 issue of the Review. The typo she found (there was more than one) made it seem as if we lived on the left bank of the Seine rather than the left bank of the American. But she won the prize. You could be next, just read quickly and carefully, and don't hesitate to call or email the editor.



## Opa! Opa! shares revenue with RPNA

Sunday and Monday July 19th and 20th will be RPNA Days at Opa! Opa!, where 10% of River Park customers' purchase amounts will go to RPNA to fund projects in River Park. Opa! Opa! owners (and River Park residents) Phil and Mariann Courey urge their River Park neighbors to come and enjoy a delicious, fresh and healthy Mediterranean meal while supporting River Park in the process. It's a great way to meet your neighbors and raise money for community improvements.

This marks the first event of the Coureys' Charitable Donation Program. The Coureys say that this program is not limited to East Sacramento/River Park. Any 501c3 organization can have its own fundraiser at Opa! Opa! Its all a part of the Coureys' new program which balances fundraising for non-profit organizations with a desire to provide greater exposure for Opa! Opa! It's a "Win Win" for everyone involved, says Mariann Courey.

Please be sure to bring this article or the ad below with you so that RPNA can receive credit for funds raised. Remember all day July 19th and 20th are RPNA Days at Opa! Opa! No coupons will be accepted on these days in order to maximize fundraising for River Park.

For more information on how you can raise money for your non-profit organization, call Mariann Courey at 225-5806.

A message to all River Park Residents, Opa! Opa! cordially invites you to **RPNA Days at Opa! Opa!** **July 19 & 20**

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## May 2009 River Park crime reports:

<http://gis.cityofsacramento.org/website/sacpd/>

May 4	7:45 a.m.	Larceny Theft	Carlson at State
May 9	2:45 p.m.	Larceny Theft	Glenn Hall lot
May 9	5:57 p.m.	DUI	Carlson at Camellia
May 12	8:39 p.m.	Drugs/narcotics	Carlson at Wanda
May 16	7:01 p.m.	DUI	Carlson at Wanda
May 16	5:33 p.m.	DUI	Moddison at Lovella
May 20	1:50 p.m.	Larceny Theft	Glenn Hall lot
May 21	3:58 p.m.	Drugs/narcotics	Moddison at Bevil
May 23	3:43 a.m.	Robbery-home	Sandburg at Camellia
May 26	noon	Burglary-vehicle	Glenn Hall lot
May 29	6:00 p.m.	DUI	Carlson at Callister

## River Park Co-ed Softball team: growing pains ... hobbling sprains

The River Park team, in its first year in the city Adult Twilight Softball League, won only two of its first seven games this spring. Team organizer George Shahan says approximately 30 interested individuals responded to recruitment notices in this newsletter and in the Inside East Sacramento paper. Fifteen regular players were selected, but all applicants were kept on the roster and everyone got at least a bit of playing time.

The new team's relatively poor performance can be explained, in part, by a host of minor sports related injuries ranging from sprained ankles, pulled hamstrings and abrasions, to various bumps and bruises caused by errant softball bounces. All injuries are being borne as badges of honor and the team is looking forward to a July end-of-season barbecue bash.

The River Park Adult Twilight League team wishes to thank the following team members for their courage, perseverance, and participation: Ray Bateman, Sara Cervantes, Pat Ferguson, Walt Flanners, Julian Herszage, Sara Kollman, Cherie Nichols, Maureen Nowak, Tim O'Connor, Steve Plummer, Nick Rahko, Jennifer Rauzy, Brian Reilly, George Shahan, and Edmund Wilson.

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## New RPNA members

Since January 1, 2009, RPNA has gained 57 new memberships and now has **608** members.

### New members in May:

Earl and Julie Towle  
 Larry Shaw and Lynee Boehret  
 Business of Rebecca Warren, Massage Therapist  
 William and Katy Carrasco  
 Dewitt and Jane Smith  
 Steve Offerman and Kathy Kyo  
 Patricia Coburn  
 Brian and Tabitha Huddleston  
 Julie Preslar  
 Vincent and Mariam Purcell  
 Fred and Johanna Grosklos  
 Adam Duer and Sarah Ferris  
 Brian and Jennifer Judy  
 Gregory Jamnetski and Cheryl Franzi  
 Arack Family  
 Kristen Hirschberger  
 Richard Fiellen  
 Martine Lozano  
 John Nicolaus  
 Naomi Lee  
 Kevin & Judy McAvoy  
 Claudia Cullen  
 Jeanette Veon  
 Jerry & Susan Raulinaitis  
 Olmsted Family  
 Laura Marabito  
 Chris & Anna Symkowick Rose  
 Macey Kelly-McKenzie  
 Rachel Fernandez  
 Sheila Macias  
 Rob and Deb Rice  
 Joshua Young and Dari Cullo  
 Donna Bonnel  
 Don Matthews  
 Robert and Phyllis Harrington  
 Scott and Molly Greene  
 Carl and Pamela Dolk  
 Florence Digre  
 Gerald and Alison Tubo  
 K. Hogan  
 Gordon and Audrey Garfiled  
 Julian Herszage and Laura Borodinsky  
 Ryan Plummer  
 Rafael Diaz and Kathryn Stanton



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## In Brief:

- Water your lawns Odd-Even. Street addresses ending in odd numbers can water only before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Even numbers on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. No watering on Monday. The city is vowing a crackdown.
- River Park's anti-crime Night Patrol continues in operation on weekend nights, and, irregularly, on weekdays. To sign up, just email Jeff Harris at [president@riverparksacramento.net](mailto:president@riverparksacramento.net)


- The next Blood Drive will be on August 9 (Sunday) from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Expect coffee, donuts and a tri-tip BBQ. Make an appoint or just drop by. Visit with friends and neighbors and have some fun. Donate if you can. It is a very good cause for our community. 5458 Carlson Drive, across from Caleb Greenwood School. For more info call **916-454-5290** or email [nealbear@gmail.com](mailto:nealbear@gmail.com).
- **National Night Out** is Tuesday August 4. Once upon a time River Park residents would meet at the shopping center and walk though the neighborhood as a group. Get out that evening and meet your neighbors again. Take a stroll (but be sure to lock your door first).
- Owner Dan Kok reports that the Fire Café now opens at 6:00 a.m. on weekdays.

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## 2009 RPNA Contacts/Membership information

RPNA membership is on a calendar year. If you would like to check or renew your membership, call Kate Mooney at **739-0201** 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
Jeff Harris	RPNA President	455-0996	<a href="mailto:president@riverparksacramento.net">president@riverparksacramento.net</a>
Billy & Eve Martinez	Block Captain Coordinators	457-7725	<a href="mailto:rivrpk3@surewest.net">rivrpk3@surewest.net</a>
Kate Mooney	RPNA Membership	739-0201	<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 email 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 the first person who finds a typo. **ADVERTISING RATES PER ISSUE: Business Card: \$50; Business Card-Plus: \$75; Insert: \$150** Thanks always to Silvio Suine and his army of block captains who deliver the River Park Review to your doorstep. Great job!