

City to celebrate newest neighborhood park

Construction is wrapping up on the city's newest neighborhood park, and it's nearly time to celebrate. Located at the corner of Alhambra Drive and Arroyo Avenue in East Davis, John Barovetto Park has been named in memory of a local veteran who served two tours of duty in the Vietnam War and led numerous local humanitarian efforts to help support orphanages there.

● **Not quite ready yet.** John Barovetto Park is near completion, and it may appear ready for full public use. However, more time is needed to make sure the park is fully prepared for heavy use by park enthusiasts.

Some amenities such as the landscaped areas and multi-use open fields require a few months for the turf and plants to grow and take hold. This is called the "Park Establishment" period — a limbo of sorts — when the city has accepted the park construction as complete but needs to give the young grass and plants more time to be ready for use.



John Barovetto Park is in its "establishment" period.

During this important landscape establishment period in February, March and April, some amenities in the park can be used. These include picnic and playground areas, walking and bike paths, the basketball court, and restrooms. The fences and barriers around the grass and plants will remain intact until the fields are deemed ready for play.

● **Grand opening to come.** Parks & Community Services Department staff is planning a grand opening celebration for the park some time in May. Look for announcements to be sent out soon. For more information, contact the Parks & Community Services Department at (530) 757-5626.

César Chávez Celebration in Davis on March 31

The 7th annual Davis César Chávez Celebration will be held on Saturday, March 31 at 11:00 a.m. in Central Park. The free event is sponsored by the city of Davis Human Relations Commission. Community members, especially children and families, are invited to attend. The location of the event is at Third and C Streets in downtown Davis.

The program will feature speeches, dancers and music. Following the program at approximately 12:15 p.m., citizens will be invited to participate in a short Freedom & Justice March through the downtown.

For more information, call 757-5602 or 757-5691.

Mow Down Air Pollution

To take advantage of this limited opportunity to exchange your gas mower for a reduced price cordless rechargeable mower, you must register on March 14 between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. by calling (888) 742-SMUD (7683).

Also, you can visit www.smud.org to register to turn in your mower and \$189.00 on March 31 for a Neuton electric mower. Call (530) 757-3650 for more information.



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this gem — voted "Best Park to Take Out-of-Town Guests." Finals coming up? Slip into Central Park's sycamore grove for some tranquility, and you'll find the "Best Park to Study for Finals."

Best Park All-Around, to Fly a Kite, to Have a Child's Birthday Party, and more ...

Community Park; Covell Boulevard & F Street — It's the place we hold the annual Celebrate Davis! event, and it is the home of summer camps and our 4th of July festivities. Community Park is an ol' time favorite of Davis residents. It's the one-stop spot for all your park needs!

Kick a ball, push your way through the skate park, let Fido run free in the fenced dog exercise area, hit a homer or score a goal, take a refreshing dip, then play in a "city" of rainbows designed and built by local volunteers. Here you'll find the "Best Park for a Child's Birthday Party" or the company picnic, "Best to Fly a Kite" or toss

around a Frisbee.

For the best way to start or end your day, make your way to Community Park and lie back on a grassy hill with your hands behind your head, as this is the best park to watch the sunrise and sunset.

Many of the other parks in Davis were also recognized. For a complete listing of the "Best of Davis Parks" survey results, visit www.cityofdavis.org/pcs and follow the link to the survey.

The diversity of our parks and greenbelts has long been a point of pride for Davis residents. To begin the search for your own favorites, contact the Parks & Community Services Department for a copy of *Park it!* — *Your Guide to Davis Parks* or *Let's Play!* — *A Guide to Davis Playgrounds*.



Northstar Park, 3434 Anderson Rd. is the Best Place to Spot Birds, See Fall Colors and Commune with Nature.



Community Park earns the honor of "Best All Around Park."

Wanted: Another winning team of lifeguards and swim instructors

Looking to be part of an award-winning team this summer? The city of Davis Parks & Community Services Department is now recruiting for spring and summer 2007 aquatics positions including lifeguards, swimming instructors and cashiers.

Becoming a lifeguard is a great opportunity for individuals 15 years of age and older to meet new people, serve the community and gain valuable work experience.

An experienced team of pool managers and lifeguards-mentor new staff members and provide ongoing training and support throughout the summer.

Last year the city of Davis lifeguards participated in the Northern California Aquatic Management Association's annual "Lifeguardpalooza" and the Davis team won the competition.



Teens develop leadership skills as lifeguards and swim instructors.

For those not yet certified as a lifeguard, the city offers a one month Lifeguard Training course beginning in March. This course includes C.P.R. for the Professional Rescuer and First Aid.

The city of Davis is also offering a one-month Water Safety Instruction (WSI) course starting in mid-April. WSI participants must be at least 16 years old by the end of the course.

Upon completion, participants will be certified to teach swimming lessons for all ages.

Anyone interested in joining the aquatics staff may pick up an application at the Human Resources Office located at 23 Russell Boulevard, or download an application at www.cityofdavis.org. Applications are accepted until all positions are filled.

For more information, please contact the Parks & Community Services Department at (530) 757-5626.

Spare the Air extends to year-round program

Concerns about air quality exist long after the heat of summer is gone. On November 1, 2006 the air districts in the Sacramento region began issuing a daily air quality forecast for particulate matter. Pollution is a health concern for residents in the Sacramento region, especially during the fall and winter months. Fine particulate matter is a complex mixture that may

contain soot, smoke, metals, nitrates, sulfates, dust, water and tire rubber.

Spare The Air advisories will be issued when pollution levels are considered to be unhealthy, not only for sensitive groups but unhealthy for everyone in the region.

Residents are encouraged to sign up for Air Alert, a free service, which will now provide information year-round.

Air Alert provides to subscribers via e-mail or text message the daily air quality forecast, Spare The Air advisories, and current conditions at monitoring sites in the region. To sign up, go to www.SpareTheAir.com.

To find out things you can do to reduce air pollution, visit www.ysaqmd.org or www.SpareTheAir.com.