

## Impressive Eagle Scout Project Adds to North Nursery

Visit the North Nursery this summer and you'll see some exciting new additions to the front of the facility: an awning over the office door, a new sign, and three large concrete tables and benches on the front lawn. You might well imagine these improvements were the result of a large grant, a special fund-raising project of the Friends or a local service club, or the generosity of the Children's Home. Not only would you be wrong, you probably would be amazed to know that they are all the result of the vision, dedication, organization and just plain hard work of one sixteen year-old young man.

In April of 2002, Christian Buck, now a 16 year old Junior at Rio Americano



*A new awning over the office door!*

High School, was researching a worthy endeavor for his Eagle Scout project. After talking to several people, including Sue Bonk at the Nursery, representatives of the Children's Home, and a couple of general contractors, Christian embarked on his journey.



*Christian and the new sign*

The Eagle project requires a total start-to-finish commitment, from the initial planning stage, through design, site plans, permits and materials lists to actual hands-on building and installation. Every piece of the project must be donated; scouts are not allowed to spend any of their own money. Of course this would require individual solicitation of advice and equipment and materials as well. After painstakingly creating drawings and specifications for his projects, Christian set out to solicit help, all the time working through the County building permit process.

Several generous individuals and firms signed on to help with the projects. Michael Livingston, of Livingston Concrete, donated cement for the pads under the tables and benches. Craig Reinhardt of RMP

Concrete contributed wheel barrows and the tools necessary to frame and shape the concrete. He also supplied invaluable 'how-to' advice. Donna Grant, owner of Creative Concrete Company, donated three cement tables and nine benches. Sara Sicotte, from Pottery World, donated large pots, which will be planted with flowers and placed around the grounds. The awning over the front door was donated by Mike Gillum of GPS, and Richard Weidner of Weidner Architectural Signage donated the sign that Christian recently installed in front of the Nursery.

*(continued on page 7)*



*Christian solicited all the donations of concrete, cement furniture, the sign, use of tools, the awning and large flower pots from local businesses.*



# President's Message

Vi McNally, President, Friends of Crisis Nurseries

The Friends of the Crisis Nurseries Board of Directors for the year 2003-2004 officially took office in July. Many thanks to our returning members and welcome to our new members.

We welcomed Erin Muilenburg (Stevens & O'Connell, LLP), Gloria Eller (retired accountant), Karen Field (Go To Your Room), Marilyn Parker (Geiger West), Pamela Long (US Bank), and Ruth Fields Messersmith (community volunteer).

Hats off to the volunteers who serve on boards of many valuable public service organizations, and to the volunteers that help in so many ways. I can't imagine a world without volunteers.

Serving on a board or volunteering to work for a charity offers many rewards. Women and men of achievement and distinction can make significant contributions to an organization's progress.

The mission of the Friends of the Crisis Nurseries continues as we create greater community awareness through our speakers' bureau and appearances at health fairs. Our goal to financially assist the nurseries continues with our sale of tiles on the colorful obelisk that will stand in front of the north nursery. Future funding needs are even greater, and we pledge to meet those needs.

Join us as a volunteer on a committee, as a board member, or as a child care volunteer. We are making a difference, and it feels so good.

## Trainor Roast Benefits Nurseries

During the time his wife, Paulette Trainor, worked with Bobbi Brown to decorate the Crisis Nurseries, Chuck Trainor came to know the Nurseries well. So when he was chosen to be this year's recipient of the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties' (NAIOP) Man of the Year Award, and with it given an opportunity to recog-

nize his favorite charity, Chuck chose us. Mr. Trainor, of Trainor Robertson, will be so honored at a Roast on September 25<sup>th</sup> at the Dante Club. Proceeds will go towards the mortgage on the North Nursery. Just another example of the generosity of the community in general – and the Trainors in particular!

## Friends of Crisis Nurseries Board of Directors

Vi McNally, President  
Carol Bone, Past President  
Abigail Hewitt, President Elect  
Chris Bohannon, Treasurer  
Marnie Badgley, Secretary  
Abigail Hewitt, Communications VP  
Edie Richmond, Fund Raising VP  
Christine Mattos, Nominations VP  
Evie Palumbo, Planned Giving VP  
Christy Clark, Strategic Planning VP  
Carol Luery, Volunteerism VP

## Members at Large

Donna Chipps, Erin Cromer, Gloria Eller, Karen Field,  
Pamela Long, Ruth Fields Messersmith, Erin Muilenburg,  
Marilyn Parker, Angela West

## Sacramento Crisis Nurseries

Sue Bonk

Director of Sacramento Crisis Nurseries

Sacramento Crisis Nursery South  
6699 South Land Park Drive, Sacramento CA 95831  
Telephone 916-394-2000

Sacramento Crisis Nursery North  
4533 Pasadena Avenue, Sacramento CA 95821  
Telephone 916-679-3600

## Visit the Nurseries' website:

[www.crisisnurseryonline.org](http://www.crisisnurseryonline.org)

**24 Hour Parent Support Line**  
**1-888-281-3000**

The Friends of Crisis Nurseries is an auxiliary of  
the Sacramento Children's Home



**Sacramento Children's Home**

SERVING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SINCE 1867

2750 Sutterville Road, Sacramento CA 95820  
916-452-3981



# Nurseries Update:

Sue Bonk, Director of Sacramento Crisis Nurseries

Today I did my usual morning “check in” at the South Nursery. How many children do we have today? Is everything fine? Any problems? The answer I got this morning was “**We have 8 babies!**” I inquired about their ages and was told “*We have a 3 day old, 5 day old, 2 month old, 4 month old, 5 month old, 14 month old, 22 month old and 23 month old.*” All of this in addition to 2 preschoolers running around. Can you imagine feeding time, bathing time, not to mention diaper changing? We go through 2 cases of baby wipes a week. It’s no wonder we are continually requiring more diapers and formula.

We have tried to identify trends in numbers and ages



Sue Bonk

of children coming to the nurseries. There does not seem to be a consistent time of year, type of weather, or a specific indicator that will prepare us for more babies. We just know that recently, in the past three months, we have been over-populated with

very young babies ranging in age from 10 hours up to two years old. This means last minute shifting, out with twin beds, in with additional cribs, to accommodate the infants. Calls to our diaper and formula resources are quickly made and **baby items have been highlighted on our wish list.**

Miracle stories about babies are abundant and they are what keep the hard working childcare staff, case managers, and all of us at the nursery inspired and energized. You read about them in our newsletters. Each story is unique but a common thread runs through every scenario. Holding, touching, nurturing these little souls brings about miracles that are inspirational to all of us.

The Nurseries are at capacity for the amount of childcare staff that we have. Licensing allows us to have more children, but we are limited by our budget. It is frustrating when we have to turn away Moms with new babies because we cannot staff the nursery at the level that licensing permits. We have two beautiful facilities that were built, furnished, and decorated with community support. The Sacramento Crisis Nurseries are a model for the state and country. But these wonderful “homes” alone will not bring about miracles. We must have the operational dollars necessary to hire the childcare staff who care for the children. ***That is our challenge.***

## Regional Crisis Nursery Collaboration Invited to Participate in National Respite and Crisis Care Evaluation Project Proposal

The Regional Crisis Nursery Collaboration (RCNC), formed by the Sacramento Crisis Nursery Program has been invited to participate in a grant proposal by the National Resource Center for Respite and Crisis Care Services (ARCH) in Washington, D.C. If chosen, the grant will evaluate the Sacramento, Placer and Yolo Crisis Nursery programs based on three goals: (1) Determine the relationship between

crisis care services and the incidence of child abuse and neglect. (2) Determine the relationship between crisis care and out of home placement. (3) Identify differences in outcomes between parents who use crisis nurseries as a primary prevention strategy and parents who use crisis nurseries as a secondary prevention strategy.

With billions of public dollars spent annually on domestic welfare programs,

it is critical that services are achieving the promised results and outcomes. Crisis nursery services show promise for increasing safety for children and for reducing expenditures of public money on expensive interventions such as foster care. It is projected that this evaluation project will demonstrate that crisis nursery programs do in fact reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect and maintain children within

their own families. It will add to the body of evidence that is mounting on the power of crisis nurseries to achieve those results.

We are proud that ARCH chose the RCNC as a partner for this national evaluation project. The grant is being administered by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. We will know if we received the grant in September.



# Obelisk Project Continues to Add Tiles

The Obelisk Tile Project continues to add funds to help keep the Nurseries financially on track. Friends and supporters of the Nurseries are purchasing \$100, \$250 and \$500 tiles and painting them.



Rio Americano's Interact Club purchased a \$250 tile

Recently two members of Rio Americano's Interact Club arrived at the Paint Room to decorate their tile

(the Club voted last year to purchase a \$250 tile). Kelli O'Brien and Jaclyn Lee spent a couple of hours painstakingly creating the Interact logo on their tile.

Several volunteer painters are currently creating company logos on tiles purchased by businesses and corporations. They're also available to help anyone who would like to purchase a tile, but just doesn't feel artistically qualified!

Three of the four Platinum Ponies at \$2500, which will grace the top of the Obelisk, have been sold, but there are still plenty of Bronze Bears, Silver Songbirds, and Golden Geese available.

## Health Fairs Outreach to Community

Throughout the year, Friends staff booths at various Health Fairs and community events to inform parents of the services available at the Nurseries. Brochures and refrigerator magnets are among the hand-outs given with our information and the 24-hour Parent Support Line phone number. The following are two up-coming events. (If you would like to help participate in future events, contact the Crisis Nursery at 916-679-3600 and ask for Haydee, our volunteer coordinator.)

**Health and Education Fair for Foster Parents, Group Home Providers and Relative Care Providers** will be held on Saturday, September 13 from 9:00 to 4:00 at Orange Grove School, 46 Orange Grove Ave.

**Carmichaels' 94th Founder's Day Celebration** is on Saturday, September 20 at Carmichael Park. All day displays, crafts, classic cars, Health and Safety Fair and Trade Fair.

## We thank these individuals, companies and service clubs who, to date, have purchased obelisk tiles:

Linda Acosta  
Margaret Arballo  
ACS Quantum Strategies  
Robin & John Applebaum  
Margaret & Peter Arballo  
Ann Auble  
Jane & Elias Bardis  
Rachel Bardis  
Philip & Susanne Birney  
Susan Bitar  
Vernita Bohannon  
Carol Bone  
Robert & Antoinette Bone  
Cheryl Brown  
Lynn Cannady  
Carmichael Inner Wheel  
Larry & Mary Kate Carter  
Diane & Rob Casil  
L. Wayne & Shirley Cool  
Robert & Carol Davenport  
Judge & Mrs. Anthony DeCristoforo  
James Donoghue  
Norman & Karen Eilert  
Gloria Eller  
Julie Fetsco  
Friends Board  
Tad & Patricia Gantenbein  
William & Charity George  
Randy & Pat Getz  
Vanessa Gilbert  
Girl Scout Troop #65  
Girl Scout Troop #1539  
Ann & Joseph Griffin  
Heritage Community CU  
Roger & Abby Hewitt  
Catherine Geraty Hoag  
Sandy Hoover  
James Hunt  
Interact Club of Rio Americano HS  
Tom & Betsy Jennings  
James & Betia Johnson  
Nancy Johnson  
Junior League of Sacramento  
David & Leslie Kirrene

Barbara Kletzman  
Himen & Lynn Ko  
Marlin Krshul  
Lester Consulting Group  
Dr. Richard & Robin Lewis  
Christopher & Judith Longaker  
Los Ninos Service League  
Carol Luery  
Christine Mattos  
McNally Public Relations  
Ruth Fields Messersmith  
Carolyn Moon  
Junia Potter  
Quest Media & Supplies  
Ann Reardon  
Edie Richmond  
Sacramento Children's Home Guild  
John & Candy Shannon  
Peter & Veronique Siggins  
Marybeth Steinfeld  
Brian & Maria Vail  
Linda & Roy Vogel  
Carol Wallace  
Angela West  
Karl & Abigail West  
Tyrone West  
Bridget & Nephi White  
Nadine & Thomas Winn  
Peter & Susan Winn  
Vicki & John Winn  
Earl Worley

### Paint Days

First Saturday and Wednesday each Month  
11:00 AM to 1:00 PM  
or by appointment  
call 916 679-3600

### Tile Donations

Bronze Bears - \$100  
Silver Songbirds - \$250  
Golden Geese - \$500  
Platinum Ponies - \$2500



# Newborns Given Good Start at Nurseries

At the Sacramento Crisis Nurseries we often get infants who have been recently discharged from the hospital. In many cases they are born testing positive for drugs. At the South Nursery we have a 'mommy bed' for the children born drug addicted that rocks them gently from side to side, forward to back, and makes a noise to mimic being in the womb. This gentle motion and auditory sound assists the baby in calming him/herself while he/she goes through detoxification. During this time, both staff and the baby's doctor closely monitor the babies. Our staff is trained in infant CPR and first aid.

In other cases we care for newborns whose mothers are medically or emotionally unable to care for their babies. We facilitate the baby in bonding to other family members while the parent recovers. In the event a mother is emotion-

ally unable to care for her baby, appropriate referrals to Birth and Beyond and mental health services are recommended so that when the mother is ready to take the baby home, she has additional support.

One example of how we assisted a newborn whose family was in crisis was when we admitted a 2-week-old newborn whose mother was in the hospital in a coma. She was failing rapidly and not expected to live. Grandma rushed to California from out of state to be with her daughter and granddaughter. The Crisis Nursery case manager provided emotional support for grandma and provided resources available to the family in the community. Grandma filed for legal

guardianship of the baby while her daughter was incapacitated. The case manager also extended visiting hours so grandma could visit at the nursery after visiting hours were over at the hospital. Once the mother's condition stabilized, the grandparents decided to return home and pack up to move to California as it appeared that if their daughter lived, her recovery would be long.

The baby continued to stay at the nursery. All the nursery staff had this family in their thoughts and waited for new news regarding the mother's condition. Grandma came back with grandpa and their belongings. The mother's condition began to improve, but hospital staff listed her condition as guard-

ed. Grandma took the baby home for a few days, but had to return her to the crisis nursery as they continued dealing with the ups and downs of the mother's condition. Finally, the mother improved, the doctors were no longer doubtful about her surviving. Grandma and grandpa took the baby home and began preparing a place for their daughter to be when she came home. Grandma took the baby to visit mother in the hospital where they noticed a small reaction from the mother. Mother became more and more responsive until she finally came out of the coma completely. With support from her parents, the mother came home and was able to begin to assume some responsibility for the care of her baby.

This is just one of hundreds of "baby stories" that the Crisis Nurseries experience everyday.



## Golf Tournament Benefits Nurseries

Proceeds from the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Charity Golf Classic sponsored by Health Net Express will once again benefit the Regional Crisis Nursery Collaboration of Sacra-

mento, Yolo and Placer Counties. Held on Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, at the beautiful Sun City Roseville course, the event begins with Registration at 11:30

and a 1:00 PM Shotgun start. Dinner follows with an amazing selection of raffle prizes. As we went to press, there were a few slots open for players (\$125 per player).

Call Susan DeStout at 353-6476 if you'd like to spend a great day on the course and benefit the Nurseries!



# Experienced Hands Create Soft Love

Since she moved to Sacramento three and a half years ago, Grace Snyder has been crocheting soft infant blankets for the babies at the Crisis Nurseries. For the past 30-plus years she made large ones that fit beds for all of her children and grandchildren, but small infant blankets are just the right size now, for Grace and for our babies. The infant blankets are soft and of every color the yarn comes in. As she works, Grace says she imagines how secure and comforted a tiny girl or boy baby will feel when all wrapped up in it.

Each blanket takes about 40 hours to complete. Grace works on them when she can't sleep at night, and the comfort of the activity makes her feel like resting

*Grace Snyder and a tiny visitor enjoy each other's company.*



again. Sometimes she works on the blankets in the daytime, too, and finds the exercise relaxing and good for keeping her hands so active.

She feels great being able to contribute these gifts to society. So many people in their mid-80's stay to themselves and stop contribut-

ing, but not Grace Snyder. Her husband Estal Snyder, with whom she celebrates 64 years of marriage next month, supports her volunteer work and consistently compliments her on the beauty of the blankets and her generosity to the babies. Grace's example has not gone unnoticed by her

family: her granddaughter, Christine Mattos, volunteers at the North Nursery once a week and serves on the Friends board as well.

The cost for the 8 spools of yarn is approximately \$10, which she donates to the nurseries. She also crochets blankets for the Children's Receiving Home. In the last three years Grace has made over 140 blankets. Her hope is that we have enough blankets in the Nurseries for the babies we care for and that many babies are going home with a blanket that they may choose to keep forever. We hope they'll someday be told about the wonderful lady who loved them enough to create their beautiful blankets.

## Anna Rita and the Parent Support Line

*Katy Stoner, Program Supervisor*

The Parent Support Line, a component of the Sacramento Crisis Nursery, has been in operation as a 24-hour service for close to 5 years. Three years ago it was regionalized so that caregivers from throughout Northern California have access to the service. In that time, parents have been able to call and speak confidentially to a trained and caring volunteer about their parenting concerns, a crisis they are experiencing, or just to speak to another

adult about their fears and anxieties. The line is housed at the Sacramento Crisis Nursery-South and volunteers spend two to four hours a week staffing the line.

Anna Rita Neuman has volunteered for the Parent Support Line for over 4 years. She shows up faithfully three hours a week anxious to help parents in need. This is not a new role for Anna Rita; she retired as a preschool teacher and parent educator in 1997 af-

ter 25 years of service. Her vast knowledge of child development is a great asset to the Sacramento Crisis Nursery and the Parent Support Line. Her compassion and understanding has continued to aid distressed parents calling the Parent Support Line. With a gentle and caring voice she asks how she can help a caller. She enables them to understand the situation they are facing and together they find a solution or at least the beginning of one.

One of the greatest benefits of being retired is having the time to travel. Anna Rita enjoys traveling around the globe with family and friends. Her trips sometime take her away from us during her regular volunteering shift. She always makes up for her absence by volunteering additional days before she leaves or upon her return. Anna Rita is the epitome of a loyal, conscientious and dedicated volunteer.



(continued from page 1)

As a requirement for the rank of Eagle, a Scout must plan, develop and organize the implementation of a community service project, receiving assistance solely from other scouts and vol-

unteers. That was Christian's obligation. He did entice several other fellow scouts to excavate, form and pour the cement, as well as unload and assemble the tables and benches, the tops of which weigh ap-



Christian and the results of his dedication and hard work



Christian learned how to work the cement and, along with his fellow scouts, did all of the work himself.

proximately 400 pounds.

Christian's final job? Writing thank-you letters to all who helped him, taking pictures of the finished project, and writing an extensive project summary.

All in all, an amazing project and an unequalled

learning experience, not to mention an inspiration to his parents and all of us – and to the children – who will benefit so greatly from the vision and generosity of this outstanding young man. Thank you, Christian.



## Shop til You Drop! - Sacramento Crisis Nurseries Shopping List

We are always very grateful for all donations, large and small. Any item from the following list that is donated by our generous friends doesn't need to be purchased out of our general funds. So clip this list out and bring it with you next time you are shopping. When you see an item on sale or at a good price go ahead and pick it up and drop it off to either Nursery. It will be a big help!

### Household

- Paper Towels
- Laundry Soap
- Toilet Paper
- Bleach
- Dishwasher Soap
- Comet
- Anti-Bacterial Liquid Soap
- Lysol

### Playthings

- Arts and Crafts\*
- Music Cassette Tapes (children's songs)
- Cassette Players
- Bean bags  
\* non toxic

### Linens

- Twin Sheets and Mattress Covers
- Crib Sheets

### Food

- Grocery Gift Certificates
- Juice
- Baby Food (all stages)
- Vegetables
- Fruit

### Clothing

- Diapers (all sizes including newborns)
- Latex Gloves
- Pull-ups
- Socks Size 0-7
- Boys and Girls Underwear 0-6

- Infant Sleepers With Fold Over Hands

- Galoshes

### Bathroom/Personal Needs

- Pic Combs
- Hairbrushes
- Diaper Genie Refill (large)
- Toothbrushes
- Lice Combs

### Miscellaneous

- Bus Tickets
- Target Gift Certificate
- Strollers
- Car Seats Infant
- Car Seats Booster
- Bottle Dryer
- Honeywell Air Cleaner

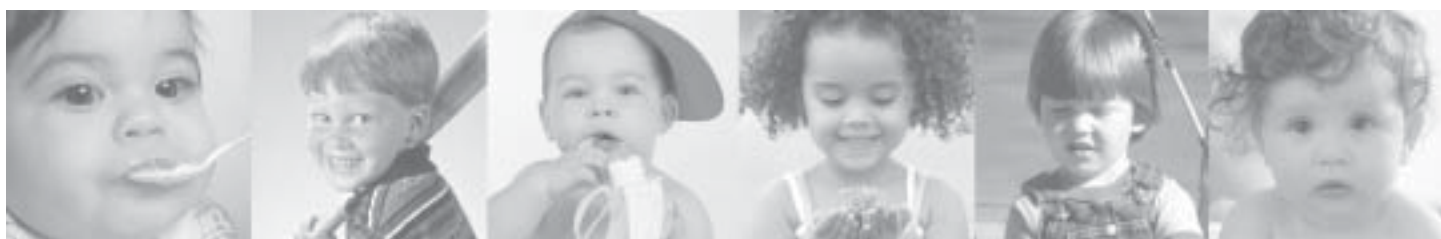
### Locations

Donations can be dropped off Mon.-Fri., 8:30am -5pm at either of our Sacramento Crisis Nurseries locations:

4533 Pasadena Ave  
916-679-3600

6699 South Land Park Dr.  
916-394-2000

Please refer to our website: [www.crisisnurseryonline.com](http://www.crisisnurseryonline.com) for the most current wish list.



# Friends Speakers Bureau

The Friends are ready to launch their Speaker's Bureau on behalf of the Nurseries. If you belong to an organization or know of an organization that would like to hear a dynamic presentation about the Crisis Nurseries, please call Marnie Badgley at (916) 359-6414 or email at mbadgley@surewest.net.

What you will hear is how a caring staff epitomizes the magic possible when heart-felt interaction and team coordination works its miracles with children who are at risk of neglect and abuse.

# Thanks to Our Generous Donors

Margaret Arballo  
Norma Atlee  
Dale & Marnie Badgley  
Rachael K. Barnes  
Rick Bettis  
Ralph & Ellen Billerbeck  
Philip & Suzanne Birney  
Richard & Jeannine Blunden  
Barbara Burdick  
Diane's Day Care  
Carol Casaday  
Arlene Darling  
Robert & Carole Davenport  
Nancy Conner Earl  
James & Gloria Eller  
Fort Sutter Company  
E. & A. Foster-Davis  
Laura Flander  
Nancy Garton  
The George Family Trust  
Louise Hackett  
Howard Hineman & Margaret Manigal  
Mary Hopkins  
Herbert & Lois Hunn



Interact Club of Rio Americano  
Joey Ishihara  
Rory & Elizabeth Jaffe  
Richard & Christine Johnson  
W.J. & Nerva Jukovich  
Leonard & Barbara Kahl  
David & Lesley Kirrene  
Kerwin & Joyce Knight  
Lester Consulting Group  
Christopher & Judith Longaker  
Andeen Lovett  
Melanie Magetts  
Dr. Dennis & Nancy Marks

Fred & Linda McClurg  
Carol Milloway  
Richard Morrow  
Joseph Moura  
William & Anna Neuman  
Margaret Parilo  
Quest  
Radiological Associates  
John & Carolyn Reid  
Emily Reves,  
Robin Reves-May  
Rotary Club of Sacramento Breakfast  
Gary & Kathleen Schneiderman  
Peter & Veronique Siggins  
Richard Simpson & Nancy Sheehan  
J.G. Smith  
Yvonne Strong  
Roger & Lynn Swanson  
Delight Trotter  
Nadine & Thomas Winn  
Peter & Susan Winn  
Bernice & Jack Woo  
Kent & Nanette Wong  
Jill Wright  
Ralph Zschoernig



2750 Sutterville Road  
Sacramento CA 95820

*The Annual United Way Campaign can benefit the Crisis Nurseries. Just designate your contribution to: Sacramento Crisis Nurseries Thank you for your thoughtful donation!*

Nonprofit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 983  
Sacramento, CA

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

