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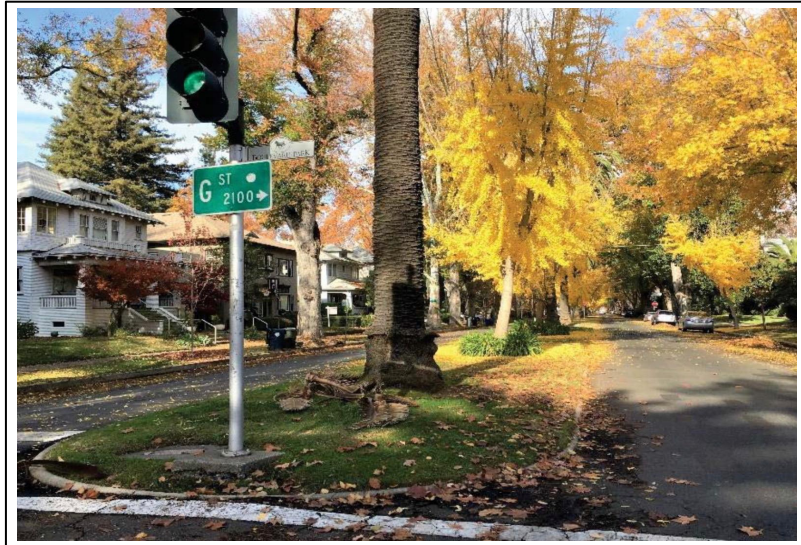
The Pulse of Greater Boulevard Park

Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association # Box 163179, Sacramento 95816 # March 2019

Historic District Plans Project: Update

As announced at the public meeting held in New City Hall on January 18, the calendar for the Historic District Plans Project has been extended, partly to allow more time for receiving and responding to public feedback. The new calendar was posted online in February. The City intends to complete its review of the Draft Historic District Plans document on **March 29**, the new Public Draft of the plans will be posted on the project website on **April 1**, the City's Preservation Commission will host another public meeting about the project on **May 15**, and the new deadline for public comments will be **May 28**. Residents are strongly encouraged to look at the draft document that was issued last November—both the “Historic Contexts and Surveys” portion (for Boulevard Park, see pages **90-111**) and Appendix A (for Boulevard Park, see pages **380-385**).

The latter section is of particular interest for its lists of properties suggested for addition to, or removal from, the city-designated historic districts. Appendix A also includes a recommendation for the creation of a new “H Street Historic District” (bordered by Government Alley, Jazz Alley, 20th Street, and 25th Street). This is in accordance with a proposal to divide the Boulevard Park Historic District “into two separate districts: one that captures the 1905 Wright and Kimbrough subdivision and follows the district boundaries set in the National Register of Historic Places, and a second that captures the earlier Victorian-era development along the H Street streetcar line” (see page 381). For the entire draft document and other information about the HDP Project, go to the City website (<http://www.cityofsacramento.org/HDP>). Questions, concerns, or suggestions about the draft document may be directed to the project contact, Sean de Courcy (Associate Preservation Planner, Community Development Department; sdecourcy@cityofsacramento.org).



A Brief Report from the BPNA Board

At the monthly meeting on February 5, the first one of the year for the 2019 Board, the four continuing members (Ty Dockery, Liz Edmonds, Dave Herbert, and Eric Knutson) welcomed the three new officers (Ellen Hunt, Steve Sander, and Catherine Turrill Lupi). There was a discussion of the officers' assignments and also of the events calendar. Dates were selected for two of the neighborhood events hosted by the BPNA each year. National Night Out will be observed on Tuesday, August 6; and the Spaghetti Dinner will be on Saturday, September 14. The date and location of the holiday party in December will be selected and announced later. The evening's agenda also included a discussion of other BPNA topics: the steps needed to finish the new website, a possible implementation of PayPal (specifically for membership dues payments), and *Park Beat* newsletter content. Finally, board members reviewed recent proposals for new residential building projects in midtown, such as an apartment building at 17th and K Streets (former site of the Sacramento Ballet Studios), and a three-way split of a deep lot at 1721 G Street that presently has one house and a backyard. The developer would like to build two more dwellings on the property, a project involving some deviations from City regulations.

The Trees of Midtown: Japanese Maple



One of the most familiar landscape trees in midtown yards and gardens must be the Japanese maple. The proper name for this variety of maple is “Acer palmatum,” a name that reflects the resemblance between the tree’s leaves and the human hand or palm. Often considered the most graceful of all the maples, the Japanese maple can easily beautify a home.

Native to Japan and Korea, Japanese maples have been cultivated in Japan for centuries. They make an excellent candidate for a bonsai tree. They also do well in containers. Preparations made from their branches and leaves are used in traditional Chinese medicine.

The Japanese maple is a slow growing tree that can reach about 20 feet in height. The root system is compact and is not invasive. The trees will naturally self-prune foliage that is not getting enough light. Hundreds of named varieties (cultivars) of Japanese maples have been developed with many different forms, sizes, leaf styles, and colors. Some varieties tolerate the sun better than others but most prefer shade from hot afternoon summer sun. Sacramento’s climate creates a bit of a challenge for these trees because the hot dry summer can cause leaf scorch if the planting location is unprotected.

To see some very attractive Japanese maples, stop by La Cosecha restaurant on the west side of Caesar Chavez Park. It is partially shaded by mature specimens. Other examples can be found near midtown residences. The photo above, taken last November, shows a brilliant display of color offered by Japanese maples planted along 22nd Street. The leaves can turn red, orange, or yellow in the Fall.

Spring Cleaners, Please Mark 2020 on Your Calendars!

The BPNA periodically hosts a yard sale in May or June in an effort to both raise money (for the association) and reduce clutter (in the homes of residents). By making this a **biennial** event, we hope to improve both the amount and the quality of the merchandise donated. Since there was a BPNA yard sale last Spring, the next one will be in **2020**. Please keep that event in mind when you are cleaning up your attic, basement, garage, or storage unit this year, and set any saleable items aside rather than dispose of them immediately. Collectibles, household items, garden tools, and sports equipment that are in good condition are welcome, as are books, records, CDs, and DVDs. Sometimes we also are able to accept furniture—depending on the size of the pieces, and the availability of volunteers to help transport them. If you own a truck and/or can assist with large items, please keep in touch with us!

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Ellen Hunt	ellenhhunt@gmail.com
Eric Knutson	eric@knutsonarchitecture.com
Steve Sander	steven.p.sander@gmail.com
Catherine Turrill Lupi	turrillc@csus.edu

Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association's purpose: The BPNA was created to support, promote, and improve the quality of life for the residents of the greater Boulevard Park neighborhood. By achieving this goal we strive to improve the quality of life for others who work and live in and around Boulevard Park, and therefore in Sacramento as a whole.

Committees

Membership: Ellen Hunt
Preservation: Eric Knutson

Park Beat Production Team

Newsletter Designer: **Open - Contact Ty Dockery to volunteer**
Newsletter Editor: Catherine Turrill Lupi
Webmasters: Ty Dockery and Steve Sander
Block Captain Coordinator: Joe Cress, (916) 698-7938
cressj@saccounty.net

Places to Go, People To See

Every Saturday: Yoga in the Park, McKinley Park (9 a.m.; this free, all-levels class is held indoors at the Clunie Center from October through March). **Website:**

<http://yogamovesus.org/calendar-items/yoga-in-the-park-mckinley-park-indoors/>

Every Saturday: Midtown Farmers' Market: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., 20th Street between J and L Streets (*non-winter hours and location went into effect on March 2*).

Mar. 2 and 3: 95th Annual Sacramento Camellia Show, Elks Lodge #6, 6446 Riverside Blvd. (3-6 on Sat.; 10-5 on Sun.). **Website:**

<https://www.camelliasocietyofsacramento.org/events.html>

Sat., Mar. 2: Mardi Bark Parade, Old Sacramento Waterfront (fundraiser for Front Street Shelter, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; fee for dog registrations). Dog parade followed by a street festival. **Website:**

<http://oldsacramento.com/specialevents/mardi-paws>

Sat. Mar. 2: Dr. Seuss's Birthday Celebration, Fairytale Town, 3901 Land Park Dr. (11 a.m.-3 p.m.; admission). **Website:**

<https://www.fairytaletown.org/calendar/dr-seuss/>

Tues., Mar. 5: BPNA Board Meeting, open to BPNA members and other interested neighbors (**6:30-8 p.m.**). Contact Eric Knutson for location or to suggest agenda items.

Mar. 7-10: 20th Sacramento Jewish Film Festival, Crest Theatre.

Website: <http://jewishsac.org/sjff-tickets/>

Fri., Mar. 8: Deadline to apply for the 2019 Citizens Academy Class (for more information, see the February issue of *Park Beat*).

Fri., Mar. 8: International Women's Day

Places to Go, People To See (cont.)

Sat., Mar. 9: Monthly FORB event, *TBA*. For information, go to the website: <https://www.friendsoftheriverbanks.org/>

Sat., Mar. 9: Second Saturday ArtWalk. Galleries around town will be open to present individual and group shows of artists' work. **Website:** <http://www.2ndsaturdaysacramento.com>

Sun., Mar. 10: Daylight Savings Time begins

Fri., Mar. 15: Art + Feminism Wikipedia Edit-a-thon, Sacramento State Library (10 a.m.-4 p.m.; free admission and parking). **See page 4.**

Sat., Mar. 16: 23rd Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, Old Sacramento Waterfront (activities begin at 11; parade at 1 p.m.). **See page 6.**

Sat., Mar. 16: 2019 Brazilian Carnaval, at CLARA (2420 N St.; 5-10 p.m.). See: <https://www.facebook.com/events/715675352123669/>

Sun., Mar. 17: Bachathon at St. John's Lutheran Church (2-6 p.m.). See article on **page 6**. **Website:** <https://www.stjohnslc.org/events>

Sat., Mar. 23: Basics of Backyard Composting, workshop with UCCE Master Gardeners of Sacramento County, 4145 Branch Center Rd. (10-noon; pre-registration required). **Website:** <http://sacmg.ucanr.edu>

Sat., Mar. 30: Hands on History: S.T.E.A.M. at the Fort (10 a.m.-4 p.m.): full day of family-friendly activities at Sutter's Fort (admission fee). **Website:** <https://suttersfort.org/event/steam-at-the-fort/>

Sat., Mar. 30: Spring Beauties Awaken, rose garden tour in the Historic City Cemetery (10 a.m.). For more information, go to the website: <https://www.historicoldcitycemetery.org/upcoming-events>

Sat., Mar. 30: 36th Annual Sacramento Scandinavian Festival, at the Scottish Rite Center (6151 H St.; 10 a.m.-4 p.m.). **Website:** <https://www.sacramento365.com/event/36th-annual-sacramento-scandinavian-festival/>

... *And, looking ahead to early April:*

Apr. 2-7: Annual Festival of the Arts, Sacramento State (many campus events); also, on Thursday, April 4, projects and performances by student and faculty artists will be offered at 7th and S Streets (event called "U-Create!"). **Website:** <https://www.csus.edu/al/festival/>

Tues., Apr. 9: BPNA Board Meeting, open to BPNA members and other interested neighbors (**6:30-8 p.m.**). Contact Eric Knutson for location or to suggest agenda items.

Another Reason to Hold a Library Card

Did you know that holders of Sacramento library cards can get free admission and/or discounts at regional art museums, history museums, science centers, and other venues? Many institutions and venues participate in this program, offering one, two, or more admissions per calendar year. To secure a pass, library card holders must be 16 years or older. Passes are available up to two months in advance on the first of each month and should be reserved in advance (as many as two reservations may be made at one time; other restrictions also may apply). Participating venues currently listed on the Library's "Discover & Go" website include the California State Railroad Museum, Folsom History Museum, Legion of Honor in San Francisco, Napa Valley Wine Train, Sacramento Zoo, San Jose Museum of Art, and Santa Cruz Museum of Art and History (among others!).

To learn more about these special opportunities and to reserve your passes, go to:

<http://www.saclibrary.org/Books-Media/Specialty-Checkouts/Museum-Passes>.

The First House Built in Boulevard Park

Wright & Kimbrough, the real estate firm that developed Boulevard Park, often boasted about the large houses built on the neighborhood's prominent corners, but more modest projects were mentioned in their advertisements too, such as the 21st Street residence of Henry C. Stevens, a foreman with the Sacramento Electric, Gas & Railway Company. Stevens bought lot 69 from the Park Realty Company in July 1905, almost simultaneously signing a contract with W&K for the construction of a "handsome five-room cottage."

In a W&K newspaper ad from January 1906, the Stevens home was described as the first one to be built in Boulevard Park. It is in the popular Classical revival style, with a pair of slender columns in its front porch. Its hipped roof, front attic dormer window, and three-sided bays later were repeated in other "high-water bungalows" throughout the neighborhood. In some variations, a single bay is on the side of the house and the front porch extends the full width of the façade. Joseph Burns, a general contractor during this same era, used a photograph of the latter type of house to advertise his business in 1908. Henry and Helen Stevens lived at 414 21st Street for only about a year before selling the property to James Crawley, a linotype operator with *The Sacramento Bee*, and his wife Fanny.



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Art + Feminism Edit-a-Thon at Sacramento State

Sacramento State's Art Department is hosting an "Art + Feminism Wikipedia Edit-a-Thon" on Friday, March 14 (10 a.m. – 4 p.m.). The day-long event will be in room 2024 of the University Library. Parking is **free** (*print out the pass from the event website and place it on your car's dashboard*).

An "edit-a-thon" is a communal updating of entries on the Wikipedia website. Participants in the Sac State event will be engaged in a collaborative effort to improve website content related to gender, art, and feminism. At the event, tutorials for the beginner "Wikipedian" will be provided. All participants will have access to reference materials. Refreshments will be on hand as well. Although a limited number of computers will be available for use at the library, participants are encouraged to bring their own laptop computers and power cords. Also, they should create a Wikipedia account before the event. Instructions about how to set up the account as well as other information can be found on the event's website (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/art-feminism-wikipedia-edit-a-thon-at-sacramento-state-tickets-52378206626>).

For general information about the 2019 Art + Feminism campaign, an international enterprise now in its sixth year, go to: <http://www.artandfeminism.org>

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Neighborhood Treat: Six Gables and a Peak

The east end of the 1900 block of E Street has offered a neighborhood treat for over half a century: let's call them the Victorian triplets. The three identical cottages were built in about 1896, thirteen years before the Western Pacific railroad tracks were laid down beside them. When advertised for rent in 1898, one of the houses was described as the "choicest dwelling in the city for the money," with its five rooms, bath, and "patent closet."



However, what attracts the attention of today's passersby is the close cluster of six shingled gables—two per house—that peep above the low roof of a busy laundry facility that dates back to the 1920s, and which, over time, has swallowed up the three houses. The triangular shapes of the six gables are echoed in the mountain peak that serves as the logo of Shasta Linen Supply, a family-owned firm that has been headquartered at the northwest corner of E and 20th Streets since 1948.

Shasta Linen Supply replaced another laundry that had been in operation on the same site since 1924. Herber H. Grow, the owner of the first business, was responsible for converting the three Victorian cottages into an extension of his "Lux Laundry" at 416 20th Street. When Gordon MacCaulay took over the property in 1948, the upper stories and clapboard siding of the houses were still visible, as shown in the black and white photo above, taken shortly after the new name was assigned (Shasta Laundry and Dry Cleaners). Now operating as a commercial linen supply business, Shasta Linen Supply extends all the way to D Street, encompassing the three repurposed houses on E Street, Grow's original laundry building on 20th Street, and another brick building that once served as a warehouse (404 20th). The current president and CEO, Noel Richardson (grand-daughter of Gordon MacCaulay), is the fourth generation of her family to work in a laundry business that originated in Chicago. For a KCRA news story about the company, broadcast in 2012, go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=svls6YcJvy0>

February Updates to the SacRT Forward Plan

On February 18, the planning staff of the Sacramento Regional Transit District (SacRT) posted a new report about the SacRT Forward project, a complete redesign of the bus network. Based on further staff review, stakeholder meetings, and public comment, a number of adjustments were made to the draft plan released in December 2018. The revised plan was presented to the SacRT Board of Directors at their regular meeting on Monday, February 25 (before the March issue of *Park Beat* went to press). Three of the midtown bus routes are undergoing changes: numbers 30 (the J Street bus), 34 (the F Street bus, to become 134), and P (to be combined with route 30). More information about the project is on its webpage (<http://www.sacrt.com/apps/sacrt-forward-draft-networks/>).

FREE Income Tax Assistance

April 15 is still several weeks away, but it is never too late to think about filing your 2018 income tax returns. You can beat the last-minute rush by tackling this task in March. Better yet, residents with an annual income of \$60,000 or less can take advantage of free tax assistance at several City-sponsored venues (VITA, or Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program). For a complete list of venues and open hours, go to the City website (<https://www.cityofsacramento.org/HR/Volunteer-Opportunities/VITA>).

In the Boulevard Park neighborhood, the Hart Senior Center (915 27th Street) offers both the VITA program and Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE; serving seniors age 60+). Depending on which of the two services is needed, weekday (TCE) and Saturday (VITA) appointments are available on a "first come, first served" basis and must be arranged in advance. According to the "Free Tax Assistance" notice on the Hart Center website, this program covers electronic filing only. **Phone:** (916) 808-5462 or 845-4516.

Celebratory Things to Do on the Weekend of March 16 and 17

St. Patrick's Day Parade in Old Sacramento

For nearly a quarter century, Sacramento has had a colorful parade on St. Patrick's Day, attracting people from all over Northern California. This year's parade, held on **Saturday, March 16**, will feature Irish and highland dancers, pipe and drum bands, bagpipers, military regiments, historic re-enactors, costumed marchers, and members of several different cultural organizations. The parade will start from Neasham and Front Streets at **1 p.m.**, head east on L Street to 2nd Street, go past the viewing stand on 2nd and K Streets, turn west on J Street, then north on Front Street, before concluding at its starting point. There also will be other entertainment throughout the day, starting at **11 a.m.** Old Sacramento's streets will be closed to traffic between 11 and 3; parking is available in garages nearby. **Website:** <https://www.facebook.com/events/784840545228188/>

"Bachathon" at St. John's Lutheran Church

The Sacramento Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is offering a "drop-in concert" of Johann Sebastian Bach's music at St. John's Lutheran Church on **Sunday, March 17**, two weeks before the composer's 334th birthday (**2-6 p.m.**; 1701 L Street). Held for the first time in 2005, Sacramento's Bachathon is a biennial fundraiser. All proceeds from ticket sales (*the suggested donation is \$5 per person*) will go towards a scholarship fund for young organ students. Performers on March 17 include Barry Moenter, Sue Miller, Harry Wang, Gayla Mott, Pat Grimm, Wendy Payton, Marian Metson, and Ryan Enright. Because this is a **drop-in** concert, visitors may come and go as they please. However, chances are they will decide to stay and enjoy the music resonating from the church's massive pipe organ, installed in 1967.



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