



PARK BEAT

The Pulse of Greater Boulevard Park

Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association # Box 163179, Sacramento 95816 # July 2017

National Night Out Progressive Dinner Tuesday, August 1st

Join the Boulevard Park and the Marshall School / New Era Park Neighborhood Associations at their annual joint progressive potluck dinner marking National Night Out (NNO). National Night Out is a nationwide program started in 1984 to encourage residents around the country to foster good police-community relationships, to build neighborhood connections by being a physical presence on the street and getting to know fellow residents. Elected officials and representatives from the police department usually attend one or more of the locations, giving residents a chance to get to know them and to discuss concerns. Bring a dish to share—whether hors d'oeuvres at 22nd & C or an entree at 25th & H or a dessert in Marshall Park. BPNA will supply soft drinks and water, plates, cups and utensils.

Note one change from past years: This year the hors d'oeuvres / light snacks will be at 22nd & C Streets instead of at 22nd & G Streets. The move is to honor the spirit and intent of NNO, allowing the progressive dinner to encompass a broader swath of the whole neighborhood. OK, it does mean you'll be walking or biking or driving an extra four blocks to the main course location at 25th & H, a mere 8 blocks total, but that is an opportunity to enjoy parts of the neighborhood you might not normally see. The locations and times are below:

- **6:00 pm, 22nd & C Streets**— Hors d'oeuvres & light snacks
— Host: Suzie Johnston (BPNA)
- **7:00 pm, 25th & H Streets** (2415 H Street) — Main dishes
— Hosts: Fred Hull & Susan Allair (BPNA)
- **8:00 pm, 27th & I Streets** (Marshall Park Tot Lot, 915 27th Street)
— Desserts
— Host: Carrie Pedersen (MSNE)

Correction to the June Publication

In the article about the 42nd Annual Historic Home Tour that appeared in the June issue of Park Beat, the wrong email contact information was provided for the Volunteer Coordinator, Vickie Valine. If you are interested in helping at the tour, please contact Vickie by email at vhvaline@cwo.com or by phone, (916) 442-1160. The tour will be from 10am - 4pm on Sunday, September 17th, and will feature Sacramento's oldest residential neighborhood, Alkali Flat. There will be a street fair with local artisans, musicians, and nonprofit representatives in J. Neely Johnson Park (11th and F Streets). Participants may purchase wristbands (needed for access to the tour) there at Preservation Sacramento's tour booth (\$35), or they can register in advance at a reduced rate (\$30) by going to www.preservationsacramento.org/hometour/

Save The Date / Call For Volunteers: Annual BPNA Spaghetti Dinner Saturday, September 9th

Mark your calendars for the 24th Annual BPNA Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, September 9th. It is our social extravaganza of the year, a mellow evening of good food and good company, not to mention an important fundraiser for BPNA. It's not too early to sign up to volunteer: setting up and taking down tables, taking money at the entrance, and doing 45 minute stints in the serving line or in the kitchen. All tasks are designed to allow volunteers plenty of time to enjoy the dinner themselves, and it's a great way to meet neighbors.

If you are willing to volunteer, please contact one of the organizers: Eric Knutsen at eric@knutsenarchitecture.com, Jennifer Knutsen at jennifer@knutsenarchitecture.com, and Marjorie Duffy at marj_duffy@sbcglobal.net

Major Success At Yard Sale Means 3-D Printer for Washington School

BPNA had pledged to use part of its Yard Sale profits to benefit Washington Elementary School. Having made a comfortable profit of \$1,365, the BPNA Board voted to put funds toward the 3-D printer that was on the wish-list provided by the school principal, Dr. Godina. The School has a designated STEAM program (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) before and after the school day. The BPNA Board felt the 3-D printer would give the students a great opportunity to learn cutting-edge technology as part of their learning experience. We look forward to seeing what the children come up with!

Places to Go, People to See

Every Saturday. Midtown Farmer's Market.
8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on J & 20th streets.

Every Saturday. Free Yoga in the Park.
9 a.m. at the McKinley Park Clunie Center. Yoga in the Park is provided by Yoga Across America. For more information, go to yogaintheusa.org.

Monday, July 17. Park Beat newsletter content due.
To submit articles and calendar entries, contact [redacted] at [redacted]@gmail.com. To place an ad, contact Jennifer Knutson at 925-324-1289 or jennifer@knutsonarchitecture.com.

Friends of the Riverbank Returns— And They Have Hawks!

After several months of being unable to hold their monthly Second Saturday nature walks, our favorite local outdoor-education group Friends of the River Banks (FORB) restarted their programs last month. This month on July 8th, the UC Davis Raptor Center staff will speak about local raptor species, bringing along some of the hawks under their care. This annual program is always fascinating, and attendees will be able to observe the birds at first hand. After the talk and Q & A, there will be a short hike down to the bank of the American River to look for more raptors in our neighborhood.

Meet at the most northern end of 28th Street in the Sutter's Landing parking lot, next to the skateboard park at 9 am. Bring water, snacks, and sun protection, but please leave your pets at home. Even the best-behaved dogs can scare off the wildlife we want to see. All ages are welcome — See you at the River!



BPNA is on Facebook!

Want to stay in the know on the latest events in the neighborhood? Then find and like the Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association page on Facebook. We post stories about recent developments and reminders about BPNA events. It's another great way to connect with BPNA and your neighbors!

Help Save Sacramento's Elm Trees

During the early 1900s, elm trees were planted throughout Sacramento's central area in parks and along streets. The tall trees shaded houses before the invention of air conditioning and gave the dusty city a lush, forested appearance. Pruning mistakes in the 1930s resulted in loss of some of the oldest and largest trees before 1950. Then beginning in 1990, Dutch elm disease (DED) killed hundreds of Sacramento's elm trees. This fungal disease has no known cure. It had already killed elms throughout Europe and much of the United States. A group of concerned Sacramento citizens got together and learned how to visually inspect (monitor) elm trees for disease symptoms. Once a tree has symptoms, it must be immediately removed or the fungus will spread to nearby elms. The new group, Save the Elms Program, or STEP, was soon supported by the Sacramento Tree Foundation and continued for a few years until the city began doing its own monitoring.

Two years ago, the Tree Foundation brought back STEP. Instead of tracking disease symptoms with pencil and paper as was done in the 1990s, volunteers now use a *mobile device app!* If a tree appears to have symptoms, this is noted and a city arborist follows up.

How do you monitor trees? You first attend a 2 hour workshop where you'll learn how to identify elm trees and inspect them for symptoms of DED, then download the GreenprintMaps app to your iOS or Android smartphone or tablet. As you visit each tree, you'll note what you're seeing directly on the app. You adopt 5–15 trees (new this year is that you can give each one a nickname) and monitor them 3 times between July — October. It takes less than 5 minutes to monitor a tree.

Does monitoring make a difference? Yes! Last year, 50 volunteers monitored 750 trees—about a third of the total elm population—and found 5 trees with confirmed DED, all of which were removed. DED spreads rapidly, so rapid removal saved other elm trees. This year, 85 volunteers have signed up to monitor 500 trees and the city has already removed 8 diseased trees.

It's not too late to participate in this summer's elm monitoring. Join the fun on **Saturday, July 15th, 9:00–11:00am at Sacramento Tree Foundation (191 Lathrop Way, Suite D, Sacramento 95815)**. Ideal for high school students trying to earn community service credits.

To learn more, visit www.sactree.com/STEP, where you'll find useful articles and videos. To volunteer, contact STF's Volunteer Specialist at (916) 974-4310 or volunteer@sactree.com



BPNA Board of Directors 2017

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Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association purpose: The BPNA is 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 thereby to improve the quality of life for others who work and live in and around Boulevard Park and for Sacramento as a whole.

Committees

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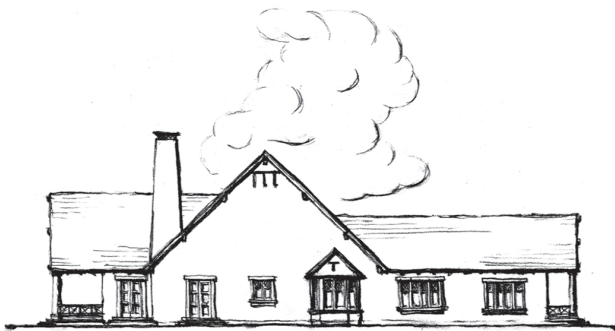
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HOT Tips to Protect the Energy Grid

The California Independent System Operator (CAISO) is an independent non-profit that oversees the operation of California's bulk electric power grid. When the temperatures soar, CAISO ISO may call a Flex Alert. All electricity consumers are asked to take 3 simple actions:

- Turn off all unnecessary lights.
- Postpone using major appliances until after 9:00 pm.
- Set your thermostat air conditioning to 78° or higher.

Whether or not there is a Flex Alert, other actions can help you keep your home cooler and lower your energy consumption – and your bills:

- Keep windows and doors closed during the heat of the day to prevent the loss of cooled air.
- Tilt blinds up and close drapes and shades on windows that receive direct sunlight.
- Clean or replace your A/C Filter: A dirty filter forces your air conditioner to work harder, wasting money and energy.
- Keep Cool With Ceiling Fans: Running a ceiling fan while your A/C is on (when you're at home) will allow you to raise your thermostat about 4°F while experiencing the same level of comfort. Plus most ceiling fans use less energy than a light bulb!
- Be Smart About Lighting: Turn off unnecessary lighting and use task or desktop lamps with CFLs or LEDs instead of overhead lights.
- Power Down Your Computer: Enable "power management" on all computers and make sure to turn them off when not in use.
- Cool Off Your Home at Night: On cool nights, safety-permitting, open windows to let cooler air in. In the morning before the day starts to heat up, close windows and blinds to keep warm air out.
- Delay Heat-Producing Activities: To avoid heating up your home on hot days, postpone using heat-producing appliances like the oven, dishwasher, clothes washer and clothes dryer until cooler times of the day.
- Caulk or seal around air vents, registers, doors and windows to help keep hot air out of your home during the summer. Connections where vents and registers meet floors, walls and ceilings as these are common places for leaks.
- When possible, wash clothes in cold water. About 90% of the energy used in a clothes washer goes to water heating.
- Run your dish and clothes washers only when fully loaded. During summer, wait until after 9pm to use these and other major appliances.
- Use a programmable thermostat to help keep your A/C costs low during the day when you're not at home.
- Unplug battery chargers, power strips (those without a switch) and other equipment when not in use. Taken together, these small items can use as much power as your refrigerator.
- Turn your water heater down to 120° or the "normal" setting when home, and to the lowest setting when away. Water heating accounts for about 13 percent of home energy costs.
- On hot afternoons, consider leaving home, adjusting your thermostat accordingly, and going someplace cool like the pool or the library. Or let nature be your A/C and take a trip to the park, forest or beach.
- Get Rewarded for Saving: Learn about incentives and bill credits offered by SCE, PG&E and SDG&E to save energy on days when conservation is needed.

More of Midtown's Historic Buildings

2110 U Street (right top)

This richly ornamented Italianate, set in a well kept garden with a stone retaining wall, was built in 1883. The owner, John Stevens, was president of Pioneer Box Co. and vice president of Frind & Terry Lumber Co. He arrived in California in 1856 via the Isthmus of Panama. He was Superintendent of Streets under Sacramento Mayor George H. Clark. Wife Mrs. Eliza Stevens was president of the Sacramento Foundling Home. This outstanding Sacramento property is currently being proposed for a modern several story residential building. Eleanor McClatchy had bought up this property in the 1960's to save it from possible demolition. McClatchy Newscorp. sold the property last year. The property has now been purchased by a broker.



2130 L Street (right middle)

This house at the corner of 22nd & L was built in 1899 by E.J. Carragher who lived there with his family. He served as a Sacramento Councilman (called Mayor) and also a Commissioner of Education. Carragher, a bartender, was also the owner of the famous Saddle Rock Restaurant on 2nd Street in Old Sacramento, a favorite meeting spot for legislators & a true Sacramento landmark. This prominent Queen Anne house is also the home of Pease Conservatory of Music, now in its 95th year in this same location. The Geary Theater is also currently located in the basement area of the building.



Alley between D & E behind 2625 E Street (right middle)

One of the few surviving barns of notable design remaining in the old city. Sacramento was once full of them but most have been removed for garages or parking space. Built approx. 1890 when this entire block was under a single owner. Later owner James H. Meredith, who lived at 2625 E Street, used the barn for horse and wagon.



1700 P Street (right bottom)

Part of an impressive block of houses that contains several Italinates. This delta type Italiniate was built approx. 1879. The original owner was W.H.-W. Colcough, a bookkeeper for Sacramento Bank. In 1885, the home was owned by Mathew Fontaine Johnson, a Superior Court Judge.

1724 N Street (left bottom)

This cube type colonial revival home, built approx. 1905, has an abundance of classical details. The landscaping includes a large side yard and mature palm trees. This beautiful building has recently been lovingly restored and the home is truly outstanding in its corner of the block location. Original owner was Martha Elliot, wife of an orchardist. Later the house became the residence of George Clark, manager of a construction company.



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In Remembrance of Charles Wardle Morton

One of the designated “contributors” to the Boulevard Park Historic District, the shingled two-story residence at 626 21st Street was showcased in an article printed in the Sacramento Union in March 1912. The journalist used the new house, built just three years before, to support his opening assertion that Boulevard Park was the “favored section of those who desire mansions.” The article concluded with the statement that this house, which reputedly had cost between \$10,000 and \$12,000, was a “step forward in the building of homes because [it represented] the greater class of residences—the medium priced.”

The man who had the house built, Charles Wardle Morton, was the first window display manager hired by Weinstock, Lubin & Co. in the late 1880s. He joined the firm the same year that he moved to Sacramento. He was still in the department store’s employment, and still serving as its display manager, when he died at the Sutter Club in 1942. Morton’s window displays were famous locally. His work also was celebrated nationally by his professional organization, of which he was a prominent member. In 1908, according to an article in the Union, his elaborate reproduction of a Parisian millinery salon attracted crowds of Sacramentans. A decade later, he directed his creative energies toward the war effort, and designed windows for the department store that were intended to inspire patriotism in his fellow citizens. One especially impressive display was illustrated in Merchants Record and Show Window in 1918. The accompanying article began: “By far the most important duty which display men have ever been called on to perform in the entire history of window display is that of giving publicity, through the window, to the war needs of the Government.”

As we approach the centennial of the end of World War I, it seems appropriate to feature one of Morton’s window displays here, together with his Boulevard Park home.



Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association Membership Form

Send form with your \$5 to \$15 check per member for the remainder of the calendar year to: P.O. Box 163179, Sacramento, CA 95816-9179

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

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Seeking New BPNA Members! Editor Position Open

Contact BPNA Board Member Marjorie Duffy for membership opportunities.