



PARK BEAT

The Pulse of Greater Boulevard Park

Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association ☐ Box 160811, Sacramento, CA 95816-0811 ☐ September 2024

Come Congregate and Celebrate at BPNA's Spaghetti Dinner (Sept. 14)

2024 marks the 30th anniversary of Boulevard Park's beloved Spaghetti Dinner, held annually almost without interruption since 1994. It is the second time that the event will be located at its third and newest venue, the section of the alley park that is directly behind the Folberg residence at 617 21st Street (Noack/Kuchman house; see article on [page 5](#)). We also are returning to the traditional date of many years standing for this neighborhood feast, the second Saturday in September. As always, the dinner is open to everyone—you do not need to be a member of BPNA to enjoy this family-friendly event.

Guests will enter the dinner area from the 21st Street end of Fat Alley (between F and G Streets). Ticket and beverage sales will start at 5 p.m.; dinner service will be from 5:30 until 7:30. The prices will be the same as last year: dinner will cost \$10 for youth and adults (anyone aged 13 and above); \$5 for children aged 6-12 (younger children eat for free). Beer and wine will cost \$5; soda will be \$2. Cold water and lemonade will be available at no charge. Payment options will be cash, check, or Venmo (*sorry, we cannot accept credit cards*). Following tradition, the dinner course (spaghetti with a choice between meat sauce or vegetarian sauce; mixed salad and garlic bread on the side) will be prepared and served by volunteers. The dessert table will be stocked with sweets donated by the attendees. Please bring a favorite treat to share with your fellow diners.

Free entertainment offered during the evening includes face-painting and creative balloon-manipulation by Carolyn Geiger of Balloon Twisters (<https://balloontwisters.dudaone.com/>), and horse-drawn hay wagon rides through the Boulevard Park neighborhood by Top Hand Ranch Carriage Company (<https://tophandranch.com/index.html>).

The whole event usually winds down around 9 p.m., just over an hour after the end of dinner service. For those of you who can stay on for a while after finishing your spaghetti, any help that you can offer with general clean up in the dining area will be most welcome. It's also a good way to get to know other neighborhood residents.



Were You There in 2004?

The photograph on the left was taken on the 600 block of 21st Street in mid-September 2004, when the neighborhood also was celebrating Boulevard Park's 100th anniversary.

You'll find the same photo in the book *Sacramento's Boulevard Park* (Images of America Series; 2006), by Paula Boghosian and Don Cox. Chances are that the wagon, horses, and drivers came from Top Hand Ranch. And, then as now, everyone riding in the hay wagon had a great time.

Photograph courtesy of Don Cox.

Report from the BPNA Board

Thanks again to Washington Elementary School for providing a venue for the Board meeting and for offering the use of the school library as a meeting place for the foreseeable future. August's guest speaker was Madalynn Jagla, Community Organizer for Mutual Housing California. She came to tell BPNA Board members about Lavender Courtyard Apartments at 1616 F Street and the work of Mutual Housing California (website: <https://www.mutualhousing.com/>). Founded in 1988, this non-profit has built or rehabilitated 20 vibrant housing communities in the greater Sacramento area, providing safe, affordable low-income housing for people from a variety of backgrounds. One of Mutual Housing's goals is to encourage residents of its buildings to involve themselves in decision-making in their communities. Madalynn explained that many of the residents of the Lavender Courtyard Apartments are eager to participate in neighborhood activities such as those sponsored by BPNA.

The rest of the meeting was devoted to planning for the August 6 "National Night Out" event (article below) and for the annual BPNA Spaghetti Dinner on September 14 (see article on **page 1**). Board members also discussed neighborhood concerns about the extensive SMUD infrastructure work along 22nd and C Streets in Boulevard Park. Other topics included improvements to the *Park Beat* newsletter (article on **page 4**) and the upcoming quest for candidates the 2025 Board of Directors (article on **page 6**).

NNO: BPNA and MNENA Together

The progressive potluck dinner co-hosted by the Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association and the Marshall/New Era Neighborhood Association has been a very successful way of observing National Night Out (NNO) on the first Tuesday of every August. The weather is sunny, the food is delicious (especially when it includes freshly picked fruit and other produce from residents' backyards!), and the company is congenial. As is traditional, the appetizer course was held in the center of 22nd Street between Fat Alley and G Street; the dinner course in the spacious courtyard of Fred Hull and Susan Allair, just a few blocks east; and the dessert course in Marshall Park. Participants included not only residents, but also honored guests from the City. District 4 Councilmember Katie Valenzuela attended both the appetizer and dessert courses; Assemblymember Kevin McCarty and incoming councilmember Phil Pluckebaum were at the dessert course. The Central Command of the City's police department also was well represented. Thanks to participating residents for the tasty treats that they brought to the tables, to the board members of both neighborhood associations (who organized the event), and to our hosts at all three locations.

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BPNA's purpose: This neighborhood association was created to support, promote, and improve the quality of life for the residents of the greater Boulevard Park neighborhood. In so doing, we strive to improve the quality of life of those who work and live in and around Boulevard Park, and therefore in Sacramento as a whole.

Board Assignments

Membership:	Colleen Schwartz
Preservation:	Morris Lum
Social Media:	Noah Mebane

Park Beat Production Team

Newsletter Editor: Catherine Turrill-Lupi (turrillc@csus.edu)
Columnist: David Herbert
Newsletter Designer: *Position Open*
Block Captain Coordinator: Joe Cress (916) 628-3130
josephmcress@yahoo.com

September 2024: *Places to Go, Things to Do*

TIP: For more information about public events this month, go to: <https://www.sacramento365.com>.

Most weekend mornings: Join volunteers in beautification tasks at Sutter's Landing Park. Contact FOSL's volunteer coordinator, Betsy Weiland (flweiland@yahoo.com; or 279-202-4677).

Every Saturday: Midtown Farmers' Market (8 a.m. to 1 p.m., 20th St. between J and L Sts.; K St. between 19th and 21st Sts.). Website: <https://exploremidtown.org/midtown-markets/>

Every Sunday: Downtown Sacramento Farmers' Market: under the freeway at 8th and W Streets (8 a.m. to noon; free parking).

Most Wednesdays: "Hey Neighbor:" an informal, no-host gathering on 21st Street's grassy central median between F and G Streets, Boulevard Park (from 5:30-6:30, approximately).

Sep. 1-2 (Labor Day weekend): Last days of the 34th annual "Chalk It Up!" Chalk Art and Music Festival, Fremont Park, 1515 Q St. (10 a.m. – 6 p.m. each day). Website: <https://chalkitup.org/festival/>

Thu., Sep. 5: BPNA Board Meeting, conducted in person (6:30-8 p.m.). Open to BPNA members and other interested residents. Contact Board member Dave Herbert for information (in list above)..

Fri., Sep. 6: 3rd annual Central American Independence Day Celebration, at Casa de Español, 1101 R St. (6-9 p.m.). Website: <https://casadeespanol.org/events/>

Places to Go, Things to Do (*continued*)

Sep. 7-8: Begonia Show & Sale, hosted by the American Begonia Society at Sacramento Garden & Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Boulevard (Sat., 10-4 p.m.; Sun., 10-3 p.m.)

Sat., Sep. 7: "The Art of the Trio Sonata," concert by the Sacramento Baroque Soloists, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 1430 J St. (4 p.m.; admission charged). For information and tickets, go to: <https://www.sacramentobaroque.org/23rd-concert-season>

Sat., Sep. 7: "Knockin' on Heaven's Door," walking tour at the Old City Cemetery (5-7 p.m.; advance ticket purchase required). Website: <https://historicalcitycemetery.org/tours-events/>

Sun., Sep. 8: 10th annual Mariachi Festival de Sacramento, Memorial Auditorium, 1515 J St. (5 p.m.; admission charged). Website: <https://mariachifestival.net/>

Mon., Sep. 9: California Admission Day celebration, hosted by California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association on the historic West Steps of the Capitol (11 a.m.-1 p.m.): Free cake and ice cream (while supplies last!) plus live music performance by a youth choir. Website: <https://capitolmuseum.ca.gov/>

Fri., Sep. 13: "Spiritualism," themed walking tour at Old City Cemetery (6-7 p.m.; advance ticket purchase required). Website: <https://historicalcitycemetery.org/tours-events/>

Sep. 14-15: DGA VS Fall Show, hosted by the Gesneriad & African Violet Society at Sacramento Garden & Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Boulevard (Sat., 10-4 p.m.; Sun., 10-3 p.m.)

Sep. 14-15: 19th annual Sac Open Studios (10-5 each day). See article on **page 5**. Website: <https://sacopenstudios.com/>

Sat., Sep. 14: "Wide Open Doors," 175th Anniversary Celebration at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 1430 J St. (8 a.m. – 7 p.m.): Full day of history, music, tours, and food. Website: <https://stpaulssacramento.org/events/wide-open-doors/2024-09-14>

Sat., Sep. 14: BPNA's annual Spaghetti Dinner, in the alley park behind 617 21st Street (starts at 5 p.m.). See article on **page 1**.

Sep. 17-22: Broadway at Music Circus presents *Company* at UC Davis Health Pavilion, 1419 H St. (admission charged). Website: <https://www.broadwaysacramento.com/production/company/>

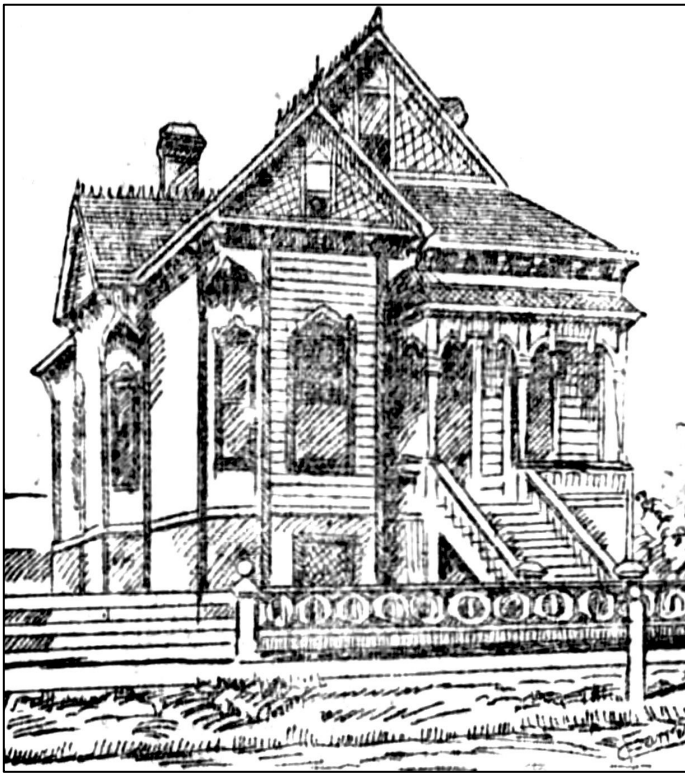
Sep. 21-22: Second weekend of the 19th annual Sac Open Studios (10-5 each day). Website: <https://sacopenstudios.com/>

Sun., Sep. 22: Preservation Sacramento's 48th Annual Historic Home Tour, this year in Boulevard Park. See article on **page 4**.

And looking ahead to early October . . .

Thu., Oct. 3: BPNA Board Meeting, conducted in person (6:30-8 p.m.). Open to BPNA members and other interested residents. Contact Dave Herbert for information.

Oct. 4-6: 61st Annual Sacramento Greek Festival, at the Church of the Annunciation, 600 Alhambra Boulevard. Website: <http://sacramentogreekfestival.com/>



H. Winters House, 2326 H Street, as it appeared in 1891
(one of the oldest houses on the 2024 Home Tour)

48th Annual Historic Home Tour

Local residents should expect to see several hundred visitors strolling around the Boulevard Park neighborhood between **10 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Sunday, September 22**. Most of them will be participants in the 48th annual historic home tour, organized by Preservation Sacramento. This tour, the sixth to be held entirely or partly in the greater Boulevard Park neighborhood, will feature six historic residences built between 1890 (the two oldest houses on the tour: see the 1891 *Sacramento Bee* illustration above) and 1922 (the youngest structure on the tour). Tour goers also will be provided with information about a dozen or so other buildings of interest in the neighborhood. These will not be open to the public, unlike the six featured residences.

The event also includes several vintage automobiles that will be parked around the neighborhood (each of the featured homes will have an antique car parked near or in front of it), a visit by the Sacramento Tweed Ride, and a street fair with vendors, artisans, and representatives from local nonprofits and historic organizations. The fair will be set up in the former supermarket/pharmacy parking lot at 23rd and F Streets. This also is where participants will go to pick up their tour supplies and/or to pay their admission fees (\$30 for non-members and tour-day purchases; Preservation Sacramento members pay only \$25 before Sept. 22). For more information about the tour and to pay in advance, go to: <https://www.preservationsacramento.org/hometour>



Calling All Readers!

We want to make sure that *Park Beat* and other forms of communication used by the BPNA meet the wants and needs of everyone living in the Boulevard Park neighborhood, so we have created a brief survey to get your feedback. We're also throwing in a prize! If you reside in the area bounded by 16th, 25th, C, and J Streets, and if you fill out the survey, your name will be entered into a raffle for a \$100 gift card (Amazon or similar; only one prize awarded). So don't hesitate, scan the QR code with your smart device or go to this website: <https://forms.gle/6x8AB8pS219jeFDW9>.

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2100 F Street

617 21st Street

2101 G Street

The House Beside This Year’s Spaghetti Dinner Venue

Located next door to the Cranston-Geary house (2101 G Street), which provided a backdrop for Boulevard Park’s spaghetti dinners from 1998 until 2022, 617 21st Street was built for Otto and Katherine (Kittie) Noack in 1910, the same year that Joseph and Catherine Marzen erected their mansion at 2100 F Street. When the above photograph was taken in around 1911, the Marzen, Noack, and Cranston houses were the only ones on the east side of the 600 block of 21st Street. The house and duplex now located between the Marzen and Noack houses were built in the 1920s and 1930s (607 and 613-615 21st Street).

The Noack house, built of wood frame with a cement stucco exterior, is in a Colonial Revival style and looks fairly simple when compared to the two larger houses at either end of the block. It has a hipped roof, two front-facing dormer windows, and a modest front porch with four tapering pillars. The porch has a wooden balustrade that is repeated on its roof. To the left of the Noack house, Fat Alley leads to the park in the center of the block that is shared by the residents of the homes built around it. The Spaghetti Dinner will be held in this alley park, right behind 617 21st Street (see the article on **page 1**).

Otto Noack was a jeweler by profession, but instrumental music was his passion. His first training as a musician was during his Wisconsin boyhood, and he continued to perform after settling in Sacramento as an adult. He and his younger brother Alex, who built a house at 2119 G Street in 1907, were both musicians, playing with several local bands, among them the Sacramento Artillery Band and the Sacramento Hussars Band. Eventually Otto formed his own group, the Noack Orchestra. Katherine Noack was a salesclerk and then department head for the Weinstein & Lubin department store before becoming the head of the millinery department of Hale Brothers department store, as well as its principal buyer. Her sister Pauline’s husband, Charles W. Kuchman, was a department head at Hale’s. Like Katherine Noack, he had worked first for Weinstein & Lubin. The Noacks and Kuchmans started living in the same residence after the Kuchmans’ marriage in 1907, and once the Boulevard Park house was built, the two couples shared it for the rest of their lives.

Sac Open Studios: Events in the Boulevard Park Neighborhood (Sept. 14-15)

For more information about Sac Open Studios, participating artists, and collateral events, see the free guide available on the website of the Verge Center for the Arts (<https://sacopenstudios.com/view-the-guide/>).

Artist Demonstrations at the I Street Art Studios (1727 I St.):

Sat., Sept. 14 (10:30 a.m.): Pam Avery: *Collage & Text*: Art workshop for teens and adults (ages 14+).

Sun., Sept. 15 (11:00 a.m.): Kathleen S. Farros: *POP It Up!* Art workshop for kids and adults (ages 12+)

Open studios, Sept. 14 and 15, 10-5 each day (the numbers match locations on the map in the Open Studios guide):

E Street Gallery, 1115 E Street: Marc Cardinet (102A), Cherie Hacker (102B), Dave Hodapp (102C), Deborah Pittman (102D), and Bahiya Spaulding (102E)

I Street Studios, 1727 I Street: Pam Avery (104A), Kathleen Farros (104B), Lori Franz (104C), and Linda Zempel (104D)

Flop Haus, 2100 I St.: Mehr Mesbah (105)

Camera and Brush, 1109 22nd St.: Deborah Dinelli (106A), Susan Fulk (106B), Susan Landi (106C), and Jean Wiley (106D)

Trees of Midtown: The Tulip Tree



This deciduous tree of the magnolia family takes its name from its large yellow green flowers, which resemble tulips and have a faint cucumber odor. They are hard to see because they are generally high up and well hidden by leaves. In autumn, the leaves turn yellow or brown and yellow. Tulip trees are large, growing up to 80 feet tall when planted along city streets, and can be even larger in their native areas on the East Coast. Specimens growing in the Appalachian Cove Forest are sometimes 160 feet tall. Tulip trees do better in a temperate climate, with sun or partial shade, and where there is sufficient moisture. They do not tolerate drought well.

The wood from tulip trees, also called tulip poplar, yellow poplar, or tulipwood, is fine grained and easy to work. For that reason, it is commonly used for cabinet and furniture framing. Much inexpensive furniture sold as hardwood is in fact tulipwood stained to resemble other hardwoods like walnut or cherry. Locally, tulip trees can be found in some of our city parks. A few grow along Midtown streets. The photograph on the left shows a beautiful mature tulip tree in the Boulevard Park neighborhood, in front of 2212 D Street.

First Call: Candidates for BPNA's 2025 Board of Directors

The BPNA seeks members in good standing (annual dues paid!) to serve on next year's Board of Directors. Being an officer on the neighborhood board is a great way to serve the community while also learning more about the issues that affect the quality of life of everyone in Boulevard Park. Board meetings are held once a month, with each session lasting about 90 minutes. The seven officers also coordinate the four public events sponsored by BPNA—the general membership meeting in January, the progressive dinner for National Night Out in August, the Spaghetti Dinner in September, and the Holiday Party in December. If you are interested in serving on the BPNA Board and have questions about it, please contact any current Board officer (their names and email addresses are listed on **page 3** of the newsletter). You also can speak to the 2024 Board members at the Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, September 14. Everyone should be there. Because the Board election will take place at the general membership meeting in January, the deadline for submitting a letter of interest to the BPNA is **Monday, December 2**. Short personal statements by the candidates will be printed in the January 2025 newsletter.

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