



PARK BEAT

The Pulse of Greater Boulevard Park

Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association # Box 163179, Sacramento 95816 # December 2018



Come Join the Festivities on December 15!

Everyone is welcome at BPNA's annual holiday party, generously hosted this year by the De La Vergne family (610 22nd Street, between F and G Streets; 6-9 p.m.). This is always a potluck event. Please bring a beverage of your choice and favorite dish to share.



Boulevard Park's Poppysaurus

Long-time Boulevard Park resident Chris Duffy, a senior in Sacramento State's Studio Art program, designed a large welded-steel sculpture for the turnabout on Ramona Avenue, close to campus. The 16-foot high sculpture, inaugurated on Nov. 2, was sponsored by the Power Inn Alliance. According to Duffy, his daughter's stegosaurus-covered pajamas were the inspiration for the brightly-colored sculpture, called **#Poppy** (read more: <https://www.csus.edu/news/articles/2018/10/30/Student-made-sculpture-brightens-Ramona-turnabout.shtml>).

BPNA General Membership Meeting: Save the Date (Tuesday, January 8, 2019)

Every January the Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association (BPNA) holds a general membership meeting at which the new slate of directors is voted into office and attendees have the opportunity to learn about, and discuss, issues of particular interest to residents of midtown Sacramento. Usually a few representatives of the City also attend. As of this writing, we anticipate having presentations by Norm Leong (from the Sacramento Police Department) and Sean De Courcy (from the Community Development Department). Sean will be providing an update about the historic district planning process (see also the article on **page 4**). There may be other guests as well—watch for the announcement in the January issue of *Park Beat*. The meeting will be held at the Hart Senior Center (915 27th Street; 6:30-8:30 p.m.). For the Board candidate statements, see **page 5** of this issue.

A Brief Report from the BPNA Board

The November BPNA board meeting was attended by several visitors from the community, including two local residents who are interested in serving on the 2019 board and a representative from Sacramento Regional Transit, Francisco Medina. Francisco shared information about RT's new programs designed to grow ridership and to give all RT customers an improved ridership experience (see the article on **page 4**). Next on the agenda was planning for the annual neighborhood Holiday Party, as announced above.

Development and preservation issues addressed at the meeting included a recent proposal to divide a 40 by 160-foot lot at 2401 I Street into two lots. The developer hopes to build a three-story dwelling on the newly created lot. On the topic of historic preservation, Board members discussed the December 10 deadline for applications for Historic Place Grants (see article on **page 4**) and the next public meeting about the on-going project that will result in the development of a new set of historic district plans and design standards for the City (the topic of articles in the July and August issues of *Park Beat*; see also the article on **page 4**).

The Madeley/De La Vergne House, 610 22nd Street

Thomas Welch Madeley, cashier of the California Fruit Exchange, and his wife Alice Foster Madeley built this Mission Revival-style home in 1912.



According to the building permit issued in June 1912, the new two-story residence was projected to cost \$7300.

As noted in the book *Sacramento's Boulevard Park*, Madeley was one of several ranchers and agricultural executives to make their homes in the new district. On this block, the Madeleys were preceded by neighbors Lawrence Jackson, a bookkeeper for the Pioneer Fruit Co. (first owner of 614 22nd Street; built in about 1907) and Henry M. Ellis, vice-president of the Pioneer Fruit Co. (first owner of 618 22nd Street; built in about 1910). The two corner houses originally located at 600 and 630 22nd Street were built for a hop-grower and a farmer respectively.

Thomas and Alice Madeley had three children (Hughes, Alice, and Edith). Members of the family occupied the house for a half century. Edith Madeley Turner and her husband Arthur, general manager and later president of the West Sacramento Land Co., lived here from the 1930s until 1961. The next owners, Harold J. and Arloween T. Hopkinson, converted the residence into a boarding house in 1962-63. Called "Theola Hall" (after Arloween's middle name), the building initially served "college and young working girls," according to the newspaper advertisements (there even was a housemother in residence). It remained a boarding house for men and women of different ages through the 1970s. It is now a single-family home. Mission Revival features of the outside of the house include the stucco finish, arched openings, overhanging eaves and exposed roof rafters. The spacious interior is laid out in a classic four-square arrangement, with four rooms at the corners on each floor surrounding wide hallways.

The Madeley House was built on one of the three blocks of Boulevard Park that contain a central "common area" shared by the eleven properties surrounding it. Like the landscaped medians running down the centers of 21st and 22nd Streets, these common areas were an intentional outdoor design feature born of the "City Beautiful" movement of the late 1800s and early 1900s. This movement advocated for the inclusion of parks and open spaces into neighborhood design as an antidote to the negative aspects of the Industrial Revolution, such as overcrowding and pollution. The common areas and grassy median strips are among the defining features of the neighborhood that helped earn Boulevard Park a place on the National Register of Historic Places in 2011.

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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: Ty Dockery
Preservation: Eric Knutson

Park Beat Production Team

Designer: Open - Contact Ty Dockery to volunteer
Webmaster: Open - Contact Ty Dockery to volunteer
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Places to Go, People To See

Every Saturday: Midtown Farmers' Market: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.,
20th Street between J and K Sts. (*winter hours and location*).

Dec. 1-24: Theatre of Lights Spectacular, Old Sacramento Waterfront District, every Thursday through Sunday evening (the light shows will be at 6 and 7:30 p.m. except on Dec. 24, when the show will be at 6 p.m. only). **Website:** <http://oldsacramento.com/specialevents>

Dec. 1-12: 12 Days of Midtown Celebration, with multiple events and activities. Free on-street metered parking after 4:30 p.m. and all day on weekends (only between I and L Streets, Front and 29th Streets; through Dec. 25). For more information, go to the website: <http://exploremidtown.org/12-days-of-midtown/>

Dec. 1-2: 19th annual Christkindlmarkt, Sacramento Turn Verein, 3349 J St.: Over 25 booths offer traditional German treats, beverages, crafts, ornaments, etc. (10-6 on Sat., 11-5 on Sun.). **Website:** <http://sacramentoturnverein.com/events/>

Sat., Dec. 1: 50th annual Ben Ali Shrine Ladies Holiday Craft Bazaar, Scottish Rite Temple, 6151 H Street (8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.). **Website:** <http://www.benalishrine.org>

Sat. Dec. 1: Friends of the River Banks will participate in the 34th annual ARNHA wildlife count. See article on **page 6**.

Tues., Dec. 4: 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.

Sat., Dec. 8: Puppet Art Company Holiday Party, McKinley Library (10:30-Noon.; **free admission**): Presentation of a holiday version of "The Boy Who Cried Wolf."

Sat., Dec. 8: Holiday Shoppe, Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink, 701 K St. (noon-4 p.m.): entertainment and local vendors will be on hand.

Places to Go, People To See (cont.)

Sat., Dec. 8: Second Saturday ArtWalk. Galleries around town will be open to present individual and group shows of artists' work. **Website:** <http://www.2ndsaturdaysacramento.com>

Makers Mart, Sacramento Convention Center (noon-6 p.m.): Curated shopping event featuring the work of local artists and artisans (**free admission**; enter near 13th and K Street). **Website:** <http://www.sacmakersmart.com/events/>

Fri., Dec. 14: Handel's Messiah, performed by the Capella Antiqua Choir and Baroque Orchestra; Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, 1017 11th St. (7:30-9:30 p.m.; admission charged).

Website: <http://www.capella-antiqua.org/performances.html>

Sat., Dec. 15: "Jingle All the Way!": Family entertainment by the Sacramento Master Singers, First United Methodist Church, 2100 J St. (3-3:45 p.m.; admission charged).

Website: <https://www.mastersingers.org>

Sat., Dec. 15: Boulevard Park Holiday Party, 610 22nd Street (see articles on **pages 1 and 2**).

Mon., Dec. 24: Free Admission Day, Fairytale Town, 3901 Land Park Drive (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.).

Website: <https://www.fairytaletown.org/calendar/free-admission-day/>

Mon., Dec. 31: Noon Year's Eve Family Festival, Crocker Art Museum (10 a.m.-2 p.m.): **free** festival with multicultural entertainment, **free** museum admission, and a special countdown at noon. **Website:** <https://www.crockerart.org/event/1766/2018-12-31>

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

Tues., Jan. 1: FORB's Annual New Year's Gathering (9 a.m.). See article on **page 6**.

Tues., Jan. 8: General BPNA membership meeting with election of 2019 board members (Ethel Hart Center, starting at 6:30 p.m.). See the article on **page 1** and the candidates' statements on **page 5**.

Joyful Noises & Happy Feet

Here is a list of other special holiday events, all with admission fees (see the websites for tickets, times, and other information).

Dec. 1, 2, and 4, First United Methodist Church: "Holiday Feast: A Bountiful Musical Buffet," presented by the Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus (website: <https://sacgaymenschorus.org/buy-tickets/>)

Dec. 8, Community Center Theater: "Home for the Holidays," with the Sacramento Choral Society and Orchestra (website: <https://sacramentochoral.com/wells-fargo-home-for-the-holidays-2018/>)

Dec. 9, Westminster Presbyterian Church: "A Master Singers Christmas" (website: <https://www.mastersingers.org/a-master-singers-christmas/>)

Dec. 9, St. John's Lutheran Church: "Lights of the World: Sacramento Children's Chorus Holiday Concert" (website: <https://www.sacramentochildrenschorus.org/performance/lights-world-holiday-concert>)

Dec. 13-16, Guild Theater, Oak Park: "La Pastorela de Sacramento," presented by the Latino Center of Arts & Culture (website: <http://www.thelatinocenter.com>)

Dec. 14-23, Community Center Theater: "The Nutcracker," with the Sacramento Ballet (website: <http://www.sacballet.org/events/the-nutcracker-3/>)

Dec. 15 and 16, First United Methodist Church: "A Master Singers Christmas" (website: <https://www.mastersingers.org/a-master-singers-christmas/>)

Dec. 21, Masonic Temple: "Symphonia Phonotone Christmas Concert," with 1920s and 1930s style dance music (website: <https://www.phonotoneorchestra.com>)

Recent and Future Transit Enhancements

As recently emphasized by the Midtown Association on its new website page, *Ease Into Midtown* (<https://easeintomidtown.com>), it is becoming easier (and sometimes cheaper!) to get around the City. Bicycle routes have been improved, Jump Bikes are flourishing, and Regional Transit has launched several initiatives that have been receiving favorable attention in the local press. If you are new to the neighborhood—or simply new to mass transit—you will find a lot of useful information on the redesigned RT website, including a leaflet called the “How to Ride Guide” (<http://www.sacrt.com/services/howtoride.aspx>).

In August, Regional Transit’s Board of Directors voted to roll back bus fares, reducing the cost of both single rides and monthly passes. The Board also decided to bring back the 25-cent transfer ticket (*both changes were effective as of October 1*). Another development announced in August was the introduction of **SmaRT rides**, a new on-demand rideshare service that will be implemented inside the City in the next few months (presently it is available only in Citrus Heights and Franklin/South Sacramento). With SmaRT rides, individual fares are comparable to those on city buses, and groups of five or more individuals, traveling together, can ride for free if everyone in the group has the same pick-up point and destination (<https://smartride.sacrt.com>).

In preparation for a major redesign of the transit network, part of an initiative called SacRT Forward (<http://www.sacrtforward.com/home/>), RT sought input from the public during the first half of November, hosting a “Virtual Workshop” from Nov. 1-16 and a Community Open House on November 13. Information gathered in November may be among the issues discussed by the RT Board of Directors at their monthly meeting in the SacRT Auditorium on **December 10** (5:30 p.m., 1400 29th Street). The public is encouraged to attend the meeting.



Virtually Touring Sacramento

Using their electronic devices (iOS or Android), folks can now enjoy free “Anytime Tours” of Old Sacramento’s historic waterfront and the Old City Cemetery (*shown in the photo above*). Armchair travelers may prefer to explore these places virtually on their home computers. The short videos of the tours led by two costumed guides called Pete and Ruby are especially diverting. In the case of Old Sacramento, there also is the option of using the self-guided tour, which offers a map of the district, photos, and short written descriptions of the different buildings. The app was created by the Center for Sacramento History.

For information, go to: <https://anytimetours.oncell.com/en/index.html>

Historic Districts and Historic Places: Recent News

As announced by the City’s Community Development office in November, the first draft of the Historic District Plan document (context, survey, and recommendations) is ready for public review. On **December 6**, members of Sacramento’s historic preservation staff and representatives of Page & Turnbull (a historic preservation planning consulting firm) is hosting a workshop about the draft document, at which members of the public are encouraged to ask questions and provide feedback. The meeting will be held at 6 p.m. at the CADA Courtyard Building, 1322 O Street. Members of the public can prepare for the workshop by previewing the draft document on the project website (<http://www.cityofsacramento.org/HDP>). The section covering Boulevard Park is on pages 90-111.

And here is a timely reminder from the City of Sacramento: **December 10** (4 p.m.) is the deadline for applications for the final round of **Historic Places Grants** for both residential and non-residential properties. Grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$24,999 (or 50% of the project cost, whichever is less) may be applied either toward exterior work or toward work on historically-significant, publicly-accessible interiors or sites. Grant applications will be reviewed and ranked by Sacramento Heritage, Inc. To be eligible, a building must be a City-designated “Landmark” or “Contributing Resource in an Historic District” (alternately, the building may be in the process of receiving this designation). For further information about this program (requirements, procedures, deadlines, etc.), go to: <http://www.cityofsacramento.org/Community-Development/Planning/Urban-Design/Preservation/Historic-Places-Grant>

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2019 BPNA Board Candidate Statements

Ty Dockery: My partner in life, Dr. Thomas Reda, and I moved to Boulevard Park from the Windy City three years ago. I have had the honor of serving on the BPNA board for the past two years and would love to continue for a third year. In addition to supporting Washington Elementary and participating in other community outreach projects, I have attended Sacramento's City Management Academy, and look forward to using my newly-gained knowledge about city operations and services to benefit the Boulevard Park neighborhood. This is where I will continue to focus my energies as a board member.

Liz Edmonds: As a 39-year resident of Boulevard Park, I would consider it a privilege to continue to serve on the BPNA board. BPNA has provided the leadership for many positive changes in our neighborhood in the past 3+ decades. When we moved to our house on 22nd Street, G Street was a 3-lane, 50 mph freeway, and the homes were just re-emerging from being boarding houses. Today, this is one of the most desirable neighborhoods in Sacramento, a fine place to raise a family, with caring and involved neighbors. As a sales agent with Lyon Real Estate I have had the pleasure of helping many clients move into Boulevard Park, who have become my friends and neighbors. My husband and I raised our three sons here, and there is no place we would rather live. I have enjoyed volunteering over the years at many BPNA events, including the annual yard sale, National Night Out, and the Spaghetti Dinner. I would appreciate your vote, and if re-elected will do all I can to preserve and continue to improve our neighborhood and city.

David Herbert: I am a native of San Francisco but a long-time Sacramento resident, having lived at the same house on F Street in Midtown for over forty years. My wife, Emily Herbert, and I have 3 children and 4 grandchildren. I have always thought of the greater central city as my home and have often gotten involved in issues that seemed important to maintaining our wonderful Midtown/Downtown. I have communicated with City Council members on many occasions to dispute proposed demolitions of historic homes and businesses, questionable tree removal programs, and so on. In the 1980's, I was a member of the Sacramento Street Tree Task Force. My determined involvement in, and monitoring of, the Central City's so-called "reforestation" program during this period did much to help guide the City toward a greater appreciation of our wonderful street tree heritage. I have served on the BPNA Board of Directors for the past 3 years and would love to continue in this position in the year 2019. I have also delivered issues of *Park Beat* for the past several years.

Ellen Hunt: My husband, Ben, and I moved to the Boulevard Park neighborhood five years ago but have lived in the Midtown area for almost ten years. I was born and raised in nearby Woodland and went to college at UC Santa Cruz. After living briefly in the Bay Area, we decided to make Sacramento our home. We live on 24th and D Streets with our tuxedo cat, Eva, and absolutely love the neighborhood. My husband is active in the art community as an artist and member of Axis Gallery as well as working in the Art Department at Sacramento State. I work at Opus Bank in Public Finance, providing financing for cities, counties, school districts, etc. I have met several neighbors over the years while out and about in the neighborhood or attending the annual Spaghetti Dinner but would like to meet more of you and become more involved in matters that affect the Boulevard Park community. I would appreciate your vote to join the BPNA Board of Directors!

Eric Knutson: My wife Jennifer and I have lived with our friendly dog at the corner of H and 23rd Streets for several years. I have had the pleasure and honor of serving on the BPNA Board for four years and would like to serve another year with this great group of neighbors. While on the Board, I have been active as the Preservation Chair, working to ensure that the neighborhood stays informed about proposed projects and developments in Boulevard Park and Midtown. If re-elected to the Board, I promise to continue focusing on these issues in this time of change in our central city.

Catherine Turrill Lupi: I have lived in the Boulevard Park neighborhood for just over twenty years, first as a renter, then as a homeowner. I was a member of the full-time faculty at Sacramento State for most of that period. Since retiring, I have had much more time for research, writing, community service, and travel (often to Italy, my husband Alberto's country). I have enjoyed being editor of *Park Beat* this past year and am happy to continue with that assignment. My interests include neighborhood history, architectural history, and, as an art historian (my profession), the Italian Renaissance. I served on BPNA's Board of Directors from 2007-2010 and from 2012-2013. I would enjoy being part of the group again. Board membership offers a great opportunity to become more engaged with our neighborhood and with the larger community, and to have a voice in discussions about the many issues that concern all of us as city residents.

Steve Sander: I'm pleased to be under consideration for a position on the BPNA Board. My partner Alex and I are renting an apartment in a lovely fourplex near 17th and G Streets. As a Board member, I will be able to bring the renters' perspective to the table and be a strong advocate for those individuals. After all, only about 10% of homes in Boulevard Park's census tracts are owner-occupied. I am a scientist and a policy analyst at CalRecycle, California's state waste management and recycling agency, where I work on the development and implementation of policy mandates to increase source reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting. I'm also a graduate of the 2018 Boards and Commissions Leadership Institute, an intensive six-month program led by South Sacramento Building Healthy Communities (a project of the California Endowment) that supports, prepares, and places community members on, for instance, neighborhood associations. I am well-versed in the issues facing our neighborhood and feel well-qualified to address them head-on through a leadership role on the Board. Issues close to my heart include: active transportation, transit-oriented development, environmental sustainability, preservation of historic structures, and community empowerment. I endeavor to critically analyze the information presented to me by elected officials and their representatives and to get answers from them about important issues in the community. I plan to hold our local representatives accountable when they come before the Board to present their ideas and initiatives. When our voices are united, we residents are a powerful force to be reckoned with. I ask for your support to help make our community and city the most attractive place to live, work, and play in California!

News from Friends of the River Banks

Rather than hosting events on Second Saturday in December and January, FORB invites members and friends to participate in two “first of the month” activities: the 34th annual ARNHA Wildlife Count on **Saturday, December 1** and the traditional New Year’s gathering on **Tuesday, January 1**.

In 2017, twelve teams participated in the wildlife count organized by the American River Natural History Association (ARNHA), with impressive results—over 14,300 birds were counted (in addition to other animal species), and the data acquired was then shared electronically with citizens and scientists around the world, using eBird.

FORB’s team, the **Otters** (*six of the seven participants in the 2017 count are shown here in the photograph on the right*), will be doing its “critter count” along the American River banks near Sutter’s Landing. Participants will meet at the north end of 28th Street at **8 a.m. on December 1**. If you own binoculars or a spotting scope, please bring them along. For information and updates, go to: <https://www.friendsoftheriverbanks.org/>

Then, on **January 1**, please join the annual riverside celebration of the New Year’s arrival. Participants will meet at Sutter’s Landing at **9 a.m.**, feast on oatmeal cookies and a hot beverage, and then set off on a “potluck nature walk” along the river bank, taking whatever weather comes and seeing whatever there is to see. Please dress warmly and, if you have them, bring along a pair of binoculars to share with others.



Welcome Change in City’s Rules for Recycling Plastics

The August 2018 issue of *Park Beat* included a short article about the City’s implementation of a more restrictive policy for recycling plastics during the Summer. In mid-November, it was announced that, due to the identification and availability of new markets for used plastic, Sacramento residents will be allowed to put all types of plastic (categories 1 through 7) into their recycling bins. For more information and a link to the useful Waste Wizard site, go to: <https://engagesac.org/blog-civic-engagement/2018/11/14/most-plastics-allowed-back-in-recycle-bins-city-says>

EXTRA! EXTRA! BLOCK CAPTAIN NEEDED

A new Block Captain is needed to deliver *Park Beat* in the **19th and H Street** area of Boulevard Park. If you can spare 15 minutes of your time each month and would enjoy the opportunity to walk and talk with your neighbors, please contact our Block Captain Coordinator, Joe Cress, at 916-698-7938 (email: cressj@saccounty.net).



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