



PARK BEAT

The Pulse of Greater Boulevard Park

Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association ■ Box 163179, Sacramento 95816 ■ June 2018

Boulevard Park Yard Sale: Thanks to the Donors and Volunteers!

Many thanks to everyone who helped make this year's fundraising yard sale another success. Thanks to the many neighbors who donated items, thanks to Pat and Vickie Cosentino for generously allowing us to use both their garage and truck, thanks to Pete Bramson for storing the tables used at the sale, and thanks to the several volunteers who helped with the pricing, transport, and sale of the items (under the able coordination of Eric Knutson): Margaret Buss, Ty Dockery, Liz and Hal Edmonds, Lisa Hammersley, Dave and Emily Herbert, Jennifer Knutson, Whitney Leeman, Preston Rudy, and Catherine Turrill Lupi. As in past years, proceeds from the sale will help support production of this newsletter, BPNA's meetings and social events, and donations to groups and causes that benefit the neighborhood and the quality of life in midtown. The sale also benefited the Salvation Army and the Sacramento libraries, as the unsold items and books (respectively) were donated to them afterwards.



>> HELP STILL WANTED <<

A few more Block Captains are needed to deliver copies of *Park Beat* in two sections of Boulevard Park: **21st and H Streets, and 21st and F Streets.**

If you can spare 15 minutes a month and like to walk and talk with your neighbors, please contact our **Block Captain Coordinator**, Joe Cress, at 916-698-7938 (cressj@saccounty.net).



A Brief Report from the BPNA Board



At their monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 1st, the BPNA's board of directors welcomed their guest, Alexandra Zucco, from the office of Councilmember Steve Hansen. As the Constituent Services Manager for our local Council District 4, Alex assists Steve and is responsible for neighborhood outreach. She introduced the board members to "Vice-Mayor Hansen's District Four Newsletter," a colorful, highly informative e-publication designed to inform residents about many Sacramento events and activities (to subscribe, go to: <https://www.cityofsacramento.org/Mayor-Council/Districts/District4>).

Alex then discussed the recently introduced "JUMP Bike Rental," a new service which can now be accessed in Midtown (as reported in the May issue of *Park Beat*).

She also answered questions about the "Sacramento Grid 3.0" project now being implemented along J Street (the "road diet" intended to improve conditions for bicyclists and pedestrians; see the article in the March issue of *Park Beat*). Finally, Alex listened to board member concerns about a range of issues, including the lack of adequate parking space requirements for many of the new Midtown residential developments currently underway, the impact of SMUD electromagnetic fields (EMF) on the health of residents living near power transmission lines (see the November 2017 and March 2018 issues of *Park Beat*), and the need for more street lighting in our area. Alex agreed to go over these subjects with Steve Hansen and get back to the board.

Adoptable Goods:

The Sacramento SPCA Thrift Store

The Sacramento SPCA Thrift Store, founded by members of the SPCA Women's Guild in the mid-1970s, was first set up in a trailer on Front Street, next to the animal shelter. However, the business quickly outgrew that small space and by 1981 had been moved to the building in the 1400 block of E Street that is now occupied by Lost Treasures and Shine Café. After moving yet again to 1517 E Street, the store was rebranded with a new look and a new name:

Adoptable Goods (<http://www.sspca.org/thriftstore>)

Over the years, profits from this business have funded numerous improvements for the SPCA, the Vet Clinic, the Spay Clinic, the new adoption center building, and most recently, the newly purchased thrift store building—the store's current location.

Adoptable Goods Thrift Store has a funky vibe with lots of fun merchandise for all the family. Prices are the best. The store is bulging with home decor, kitchen items, men's and women's clothing (including designer and vintage), electronics, art, collectibles (California pottery, art glass, vintage toys), tools, sporting goods, crafts, and jewelry.

Adoptable Goods accepts donations of gently used or new items in re-sellable condition. Deliveries can be made Tuesdays through Sundays until 4 p.m. Help the SPCA help the animals! Visit the store (bring your pet with you, if you like) and be sure to tell your friends about the treasures you found there! The store is open from Tuesday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and on Fridays and Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Your services as a volunteer also are welcome. If you are interested, apply at: www.sspca.org.



Photo:

Spirit, a Siberian husky, was delighted with her thrift store purchase.

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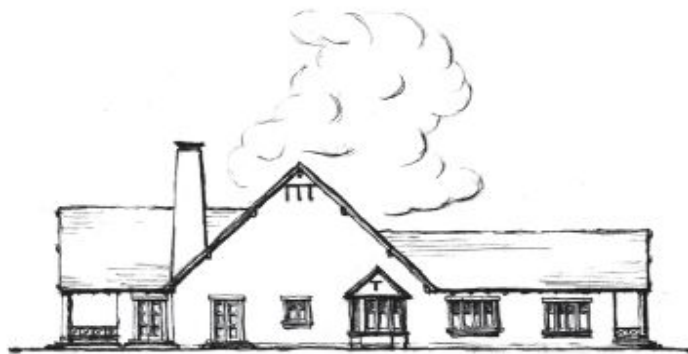
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Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association purpose: The BPNA was created to support, promote, and improve the quality of life for the residents of the greater Boulevard Park neighborhood. By achieving this goal we strive thereby to improve the quality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

Committees

Membership: Ty Dockery and Liz Edmonds
Preservation: Eric Knutson

Park Beat Production Team

Designer: **Open - Contact Ty Dockery to volunteer**
Webmaster: **Open - Contact Ty Dockery to volunteer**
Editor: Catherine Turrill Lupi, sac16712@csus.edu
Block Captain Coordinator: Joe Cress, 916 698-7938
cressj@saccounty.net
Ad Manager: Dave Herbert, davidmather446@gmail.com

Places to Go, People To See

Every Saturday:

Free Yoga in the Park: 9 a.m., McKinley Park (behind the H Street Rose Garden). For more information, go to:

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

Midtown Farmers' Market: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., 20th between J and L.

Fri., June 1: Student STEAM Exhibition & Locomotive Community Celebration, Washington Elementary, 520 18th Street (5-7:30 p.m.). Presentations, music, food, and a raffle: see the flyer on **page 6**.

Fri., June 1: "Yoga at the Fort": experience free yoga at Sutter's Fort State Park on the first Friday of each month, from May through September (6-7 p.m.).

Sat., June 2: "Symbology and Superstition," themed tour of the City Cemetery, 1000 Broadway (10 a.m.).

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

Sat., June 2: "Pops in the Park": Ideateam, East Portal Park (6 p.m.)

Tues., June 5: Statewide Direct Primary Election (mailed ballots must be postmarked on or before June 5 and received by the county elections office by June 8)

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

Wed., June 6: Free admission for children at the Sacramento Zoo (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.)

Fri., June 8: "Food Truck Mania," McKinley Park (5-9 p.m.): food, music, and family fun.

Sat., June 9: Open house, Fire Station 4, 3145 Granada Way (2-4 p.m.).

Sat., June 9: Friends of the River Banks (FORB) host "Coyotes with Guy Galante": meet at Sutter's Landing parking lot at 10 a.m. (for more information, go to: <https://www.friendsoftheriverbanks.org>)

Sat., June 9: "Pops in the Park": AKA Live Band, at Bertha Henschel Park (6 p.m.)

Sat., June 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., June 10: Sacramento Antique Faire, held the second Sunday of every month.. Website: <http://www.sacantiquefaire.com>

Sat., June 16: "Pops in the Park": Jessica Malone, at McKinley Park (starting at 6 p.m.)

Sun., June 17: "Pay-What-You-Wish" at the Crocker (almost free admission, every third Sunday of the month)

Sat., June 23: "Pops in the Park": The Count, at Glenn Hall Park (starting at 6 p.m.)

Sat., June 23: "Lunar Lunacy Ride": annual evening bike ride event benefits local children's charities (Capitol Mall, 7-11 p.m.; <http://lunarlunacyride.org>). See the article on **page 6**.

Pops in the Park: June Concert Series

The month of June brings the usual great line-up of free concerts for "Pops in the Park," sponsored by Councilmember Jeff Harris. Funds raised by sponsorships and refreshment sales at this annual event, now celebrating its twenty-seventh year, have been used to enhance neighborhood parks, bring improvements to neighborhoods, and provide youth athletic scholarships.

All of the concerts will be held on Saturday evenings in East Sacramento parks, and all start at 6 p.m. (for more information, go to <http://eastsacpopsinthepark.com/home>).

The dates, venues, and performers are:

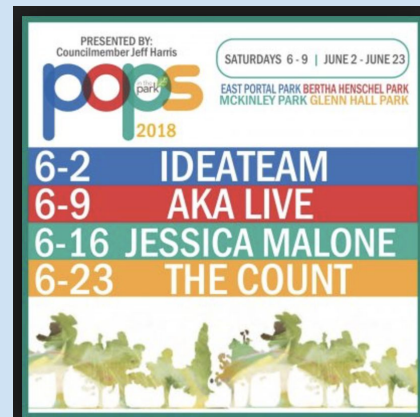
6/2, East Portal Park, 1120 Rodeo Way: *Ideateam*

6/9, Bertha Henschel Park, 45th St. and Brand Way: *AKA Live Band*

6/16, McKinley Park, H St.: *Jessica Malone*

6/23, Glenn Hall Park, Sandburg and Carlson: *The Count*

Bring blankets or lawn chairs for seating, but please leave umbrellas or canopies at home, as they can block the view for others. Food and beverage will be on sale. There also will be a beer and wine garden where alcohol can be consumed (please do not bring alcohol from outside the park). Free valet bicycle parking will be provided by Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates (SABA).



Neighborhood Treats: The Barrett Carriage House

There are still a few surviving remnants of the “carriage-culture” that once characterized the greater Boulevard Park neighborhood, when residents relied more on horses than automobiles for their transportation. Although many horses were boarded out at local livery stables, some of the wealthier people had barns at the back of their properties. One of the best preserved of these service structures, probably dating from the late 1890s (it is not shown in the 1895 Sanborn fire-insurance atlas), stands behind the historic Barrett House at the southwest corner of H and 24th Streets (c. 1883). The handsome Queen Anne style house is famous for its corner turret, the abundance of Eastlake details, and the ornamental reliefs with musical motifs (the first owner, M. K. Barrett, was a talented tenor).



The old barn on Historic Alley also is worth a glance. Notice the fish-scale shingles in its tall dormer and the weather-battered wood and iron pulley that dangles above the window accessing the hayloft. How many of those antique devices have you seen around the Boulevard Park neighborhood?

The Trees of Sacramento: The Fremont Cottonwood



Though rarely planted along city streets, cottonwood trees are very common along streams and rivers. Belonging to the poplar tree family, they are known for rapid growth, toughness, and low maintenance. The Fremont Cottonwood, named after the 19th century American explorer John C. Fremont, is commonly found in our area. It is a large tree, growing over 100 feet in many cases. Fall colors are mainly bright yellow with some orange.

Native Americans in the western states used parts of the cottonwood tree for medicine (the inner bark is a good source of vitamin C) and to make baskets, tools, and musical instruments.

Female cottonwoods disperse their seeds from March to April with a wind-blown fruit that resembles fluffy clumps of cotton. When cottonwoods are planted for landscaping purposes, the male variety is preferred to avoid the cottony debris. However, cottonwoods should not be planted near water or sewer lines due to their invasive root systems. In general, cottonwoods are not a good landscape planting choice in our area.

The best place to view cottonwoods in our neighborhood is along the American River—for example, when participating in one of the walks sponsored by the Friends of the River Banks. The photo shows cottonwood trees near Sutter’s Landing Park.

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The "Hows" of House Research: A Few Starter Tips

If you have little experience in doing research about older homes in Sacramento, here are suggestions for some digital resources you may want to consult when starting a project—especially if you would like to begin at home, using the computer to tap into the internet.

For anyone holding a library card and a password, the research section of the Sacramento public library website is a great starting point (<http://www.saclibrary.org/research>). Going to the GENEALOGY section, you will find HeritageQuest Online, which provides searchable access to city directories and federal census reports (the Ancestry.com website is accessible only for a fee or from a library computer). The Sacramento city directories are valuable sources of information for home occupancy as well as the occupations of residents. Starting in 1913, the directories began offering a street index, making it possible to find out who was living at a certain address in a specific year (the "Directory of Householders: Reverse Lookup" is at the back of each directory). Also located under GENEALOGY (as well as LOCAL HISTORY) is the digitized version of the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, which will give you a more complete picture of each house's footprint and neighborhood lay-out (starting in 1895). The LOCAL HISTORY section also contains a link to the California Digital Newspaper Collection. Using this site, you can search through the *Sacramento Daily Union* and its successor, the *Sacramento Union*, for a range of information. Back in the late 1800s and early 1900s, details about real estate transactions (who was selling, who was buying) and building permits often were printed in the city paper. The NEWSPAPERS section offers both the California Digital Newspaper Collection and *The Sacramento Bee* (currently covering 1940-present; issues from 1900-1939 will be added in July 2018). Like the state newspaper website, it is very easy to search online.

Staying with electronic resources, the website for Golden Nugget Library's Sacramento County Genealogy Databases was a very useful resource for home (and occupant) research until its host site, Rootsweb, had to be redesigned to address security problems (<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~npmelton/sacindex.html>). As of June 2018, the website is still closed while improvements are being made. When it is up and running again, it should offer access to city directories, biographies, and other sources of information.

For genealogical research, the FamilySearch website can be very helpful (<https://www.familysearch.org/search>). For old photographs of people and places, consider tapping into the websites of the Center for Sacramento History (<http://sacramento.pastperfectonline.com/photo>) and the Central Library's Sacramento Room (<http://www.saclibrary.org/Locations/Sacramento-Room/>). Once you have laid the groundwork using these sources, there are many others that will take you further in your research, but those will be covered in a future article.



2018 Sac Open Studios

Calling all Boulevard Park artists! If you are planning to participate in the Sac Open Studios this Fall and would like to have your studio location listed in the September issue of *Park Beat*, please send an email to the newsletter editor, Catherine Turrill Lupi (turrillc@csus.edu), before **August 10**. In the message block, include some information about who you are, the type of work visitors can expect to see on view, and the days and hours your studio will be open to the public.

Spaghetti Dinner: First Call for Volunteers

Boulevard Park's Spaghetti Dinner is not until **September 8**, but it is never too early to think about volunteering. Every pair of hands is welcome! This annual event would not be possible without the enthusiastic participation of neighborhood residents.

Volunteers can choose between several assignments: (1) the set-up squad, on Saturday morning (starting around 9 a.m., about one hour); (2) the kitchen squad (tasks include stirring sauces, monitoring pasta, tossing salads, replenishing bread baskets, lowering refilled bowls of food down to the servers outside: 45-minute shifts); (3) the food and beverage service squad (also for 45-minute shifts); and (4) the clean-up squad (Sunday morning, starting around 9 a.m.: about one hour). Contact Emily Herbert at (916) 444-6690 if you want to volunteer and be part of some great neighborhood camaraderie.

STUDENT STEAM EXHIBITION & LOCOMOTIVE COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

JUNE 1ST
5:00 - 7:30PM

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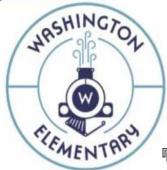
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Fifth Annual Lunar Lunacy Ride

Sacramento's only annual moon-lit bike ride for charity takes place under a quarter moon on Saturday, **June 23** (7-11 p.m.). This year's fundraiser will benefit local children's charities, including CASA-Sacramento's Making Memories Program (<http://sacramentocasa.org/about-casa/making-memories/>).

Participants will follow a fully closed, six-mile-long course around downtown Sacramento, and are encouraged to adorn their bikes with colorful lights (all bikes must have front lights and rear reflectors; all riders must wear helmets). They also can enjoy live music, food trucks, vendor booths (lights for bikes will be on sale!), and a bike rodeo before and after the ride (Capitol Mall meridian, between 5th and 7th Streets). Bike trailers and children are welcome; pets should be left at home. For further information and to register in advance for the event, go to: <http://lunarlunacyride.org>.

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Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association Membership Form

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