



PARK BEAT

The Pulse of Greater Boulevard Park

Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association ■ Box 163179, Sacramento 95816 ■ October 2017

Biggest Spaghetti Dinner Ever!

BPNA's 25th Anniversary dinner attracted over 200 adults, children, and babies (lots of babies!) and many new faces. The attendance was the highest ever, and BPNA was able to raise over \$1,100 to fund future neighborhood events and endeavors. The food was abundant, and the horse and buggy rides through the neighborhood were once again a popular treat.

This year's award for BPNA Volunteer of the Year went to Tom and Lorna Martens with our thanks for their regular hosting of the summer meetings and for spearheading or helping in so many of our events over the past decade. There were no candidates this year for the George Bramson Award for a student project on historic preservation. Hopefully it will be brought back next year. Encourage students to apply!

Boulevard Park resident and Washington Elementary School teacher James McDaniel introduced the School's Principal Dr. Gema Godina-Martinez, and Board Member Ty Dockery presented her with BPNA's donation of a 3-D printer plus a check for materials. After being closed for some time, Washington Elementary had been re-opened in 2016 as a neighborhood school with a focus on a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) program. The 3-D printer will help the children be exposed early on to the possibilities of the new technology. The donation was funded by proceeds from the BPNA Yard Sale earlier this year.

This event literally could not happen without the volunteers who helped put it together and kept it running, even with the snafus that came along with the high attendance. Thanks go to this year's organizers, Marj Duffy and Eric and Jennifer Knutson, who put in countless hours planning and overseeing the dinner, and to Liz Edmonds, our treasurer extraordinaire for handling the money and the shopping.

Thanks to the dedicated volunteers who stepped up to help before, during and after the dinner include Travis Silcox as Lead Server, Shelly Lusk, as Kitchen Queen, and Dave Phillip as Lead Bartender. They were supported by the excellent work of Sally and Taff O'Neill, Marcy and Corey Brown, Emily and Dave Herbert, Sylvie and Peri Cressman, Pat and Vickie Cosentino, Sarah Lehman and Jack Haglund, Nita Davidson, Jeffrey Flack, Roberta Franklin, JoEllen Arnold, Barbara Nobriga, Marsha McCormick, Margaret Buss, James and Rebecca McDaniel and their girls, Marley and Layley, Sherrie Lundstrom, Sara Kelber, Susan Mitchell, Jere Owens, Hal Edmonds, and Michael Moore

Special thanks also go to John Skarstad and Eva Harriman, who provided us again this year with their traditional vegetarian and Bolognese sauces, and to Lisa Hammersley and Ty Dockery for cooking the pasta. And many, many thanks to the participants who brought desserts. We had to bring out a second table to handle the overflow!

We are always looking for ways to improve the dinner and volunteer experience. If you were a volunteer and have comments about your experience or ideas for next year, please send them to the Board at boulevardparkna@gmail.com.

Thanks to everyone for making it a terrific 25th Anniversary – hope to see you next year.

BPNA Holiday Party

SAVE THE DATE

Many thanks to James and Rebecca McDaniel for agreeing to host the annual **Holiday Potluck Party on Saturday, December 9th**. Details to follow in the November newsletter.

Sacramento Archives Crawl - Saturday, Oct. 7 from 10- 4

The Sacramento Archives Crawl is an Archives Month event held every October. Crawlers tour among four host archives in Sacramento, gathering stamps in their passports as they view treasures from dozens of archives and special collections libraries, visit with archivists, and go on special behind-the-scenes tours.

This year, nearly two dozen area archives will be set up across the four host locations:

Where: **California State Archives** (1020 O St), **California State Library** (900 N St), **Center for Sacramento History** (551 Sequoia Pacific Blvd) and **Sacramento Room, Central Library** (828 I St)

Sacramento Public Library, Sacramento Room (828 I Street)

California State Railroad Museum Library
California State University, Sacramento
San Joaquin Historical Society & Museum
Cox Black & White Photo Lab

California State Library (900 N Street)

California State Parks Archives
California State University, Chico
University of California, Davis

California State Archives (1020 O Street)

El Dorado County Historical Museum
Folsom Historical Society
Lavender Library, Archive, and Cultural Exchange
Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park, Gold Rush Research Library
Old City Cemetery Committee
Root Cellar – Sacramento Genealogical Society Library
Sacramento City College Special Collections

Center for Sacramento History (551 Sequoia Pacific Blvd)

Congregation B'nai Israel Archives
Placer County Archives & Research Center
Sacramento River Delta Historical Society
Yolo County Archives

**The Sacramento Archives
Crawl is a free event
Saturday, Oct. 7 from 10-4**

WANTED – GRAPHIC DESIGNER FOR BPNA NEWSLETTER

Our graphic designer has moved on, and we are in urgent need of someone to take on those duties, taking articles and photos submitted by the 20th of each month and create the layout for printing by the end of the month.

Since we are a volunteer organization, we cannot provide a salary, but can provide a free ad in the newsletter (as well as our gratitude) as compensation. If you are interested in the work, or know someone who might be, please contact BPNA Chair Eric Knutson at eric@knutsonarchitecture.com

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Vacancy	

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 therefore Sacramento as a whole.

Committees

Membership: Majorie Duffy, 916 448-4659

Preservation: Eric Knutson, 925 324-0587

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Designer: Open

Editor: Open

Block Captain Coordinator: Joe Cress, 916 698-7938

cressj@saccounty.net

Ad Manager: Jennifer Knutson, 925 324-1289

jennifer@knutsonarchitecture.com



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 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!

Boulevard Park Neighborhood is seeking a couple of block captains!

A block captain is responsible to place the newsletter on porches once a month when it comes out. It is a pleasant way to see our charming neighborhood, possibly meet some neighbors, and get a little exercise, too! Block captains are particularly needed in the area around 24th, and D and E. If you can help with this, please call or text Marj Duffy at (916) 601-9717, or email boulevardparkna@gmail.com

THE TREES OF MIDTOWN CORK OAK



Over the years the City of Sacramento has planted several types of oak trees in our local parks and along the streets in midtown. One variety often seen is the cork oak, a medium size evergreen oak that reaches a height and width of 40 to 60 feet and produces acorns about an inch in size. This variety of tree commonly lives for over 200 years.

In addition to making an attractive street tree the cork oak is also interesting in that it is the primary source of cork used for wine bottle stoppers, cork flooring, insulation panels, sound proofing for cars, and other similar products.

A cork oak can be harvested the first time for its cork at about 25 years old and can be re-harvested about 12 times during a tree's lifetime. Harvesting is generally done with human labor, employing about 30,000 people in Europe. The cork oak is native to Southwest Europe and Northwest Africa. Portugal accounts for about 50% of the world's cork. The tree is so important to the economy of Portugal and Spain that they cannot legally be cut down.

Cork oaks are a major plant community of the Mediterranean forests where they support rare animals such as the Barbary Macaque and the Iberian Lynx. The thick insulating bark makes the cork oak well adapted to surviving forest fires. They simply re-grow their branches to fill out the canopy.

To see a couple of very nice specimens of cork oak trees in midtown Sacramento, check out the north east corner of 19th Street and Capitol Avenue.

Downtown Specific Plan Continued ...

As reported in last month's Park Beat, the City of Sacramento has been developing the Downtown Specific Plan (DSP), a document that sets out detailed development standards and uses, infrastructure requirements, and measures to implement the city's General Plan for the entire Central City, not just what is conventionally thought of as "Downtown". The Plan anticipates that new development in the DSP area in the next 20 years would include about 13,400 new housing units, and approximately 7.1 million square feet (sf) of non-residential uses. Most of the new housing units projected in the DSP area are likely to be multifamily units.

The DSP will set the requirements for design and density of infill, which will affect the lives of midtown residents and businesses, both in direct effects on existing properties and more indirect effects, such as traffic generation and sewer capacity. It also provides incentives for developers, including more predictability and streamlined review for their projects, which sometimes means less input by residents.

Although the City held several community stakeholder meetings in spring to get citizen input into the plan, many midtowners did not attend, thinking it only applied to downtown.

There is one more chance for input. The City has issued a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the DSP to analyze and disclose potential environmental and social consequences of implementing the proposed DSP. It is now available for public review and comment at the Community Development Department, 300 Richards Boulevard, Third Floor, Sacramento, California 95811, weekdays between 9:00am and 4:00pm. An electronic copy of the document is available for review at the downtown Central Library.

The document is also available at the City's Community Development Department, environmental documents webpage at the following link:

<http://www.cityofsacramento.org/Community-Development/Planning/Environmental/Impact-Reports>

The Draft EIR is being circulated for a 45-day public review period, September 22 to November 8, 2017. Written comments regarding the Draft EIR should be received by the Environmental Planning Services no later than 5:00 pm, Wednesday, November 8. Written comments should be submitted to Scott Johnson, Associate Planner; City of Sacramento, Community Development Department; Environmental Planning Services; 300 Richards Boulevard, Third Floor; Sacramento, CA 95811; or by email at: SRJohnson@cityofsacramento.org

BPNA urges residents to review and comment on the document or, at least those portions of interest or concern to yourself. It is the last chance to determine the development of midtown over the next 20 years.

We also recommend going to the City's excellent website

www.cityofsacramento.org/Community-Development/Planning/Major-Projects/Downtown-Specific-Plan for an overview of the Plan and the processes to date.

Seeking New BPNA Members!

Editor & Graphic Designer Positions Open

**Contact BPNA Board Member
Marjorie Duffy
for membership opportunities.**

Locomotive Junction

This month we introduce a new column, “Locomotive Junction,” to help our neighbors become more familiar with our friends at Washington Elementary School. During the school year we will have articles to feature the people and events at the school. This month, we begin with an introduction of the principal, the person who has rekindled the spirit and brought an infectious energy to Washington School; Dr. Gema Godina-Martinez.

Dr. Godina-Martinez, is a proud Sacramento native and a product of SCUSD’s public schools, including C.K. McClatchy High School where she worked as a teacher and Assistant Principal for 15 years before becoming Principal of Washington Elementary School. She has a Doctorate in Education Leadership & Public Policy, with an emphasis on teacher sustainability. When asked how her education helps her with her current position, Dr Godina-Martinez states, “Teacher sustainability at Washington means building a strong community and school culture that is evident in each classroom and with our staff as a whole. I am really proud of the sense of community we’ve built this past year, and I look forward to growing and nurturing it in the coming academic year. When I think about the goals for our school and our ideal promotional graduate, building a strong school culture that is sustainable even once I or any of our staff, moves on, is key. I want the school to grow and remain strong. In other words, we’re building a Washington School for students that may not even be born yet, in addition to the students who are enrolled currently. This is a long-term goal for our neighborhood school -- five, ten, or fifteen years down the road. We lead, we innovate, we empower, and we care.”

Dr. Godina-Martinez is not just an educator who cares, she is also a parent. She states, “ One of my greatest joys is having had the opportunity to help build our STEAM school and to have my 9 year old daughter attend.”

Plant for the Planet Academy: At this Academy, 4th–12th graders learn about the science of climate change from other young Ambassadors. Parents are invited to participate in a separate workshop in the morning, and return in the afternoon to hear the children’s presentations. In addition, local VIPs will be invited to come and listen to the presentations.

When: Saturday, October 7, 2017 from 9 am–2 pm

Where: Washington Elementary School, 520 18th St, Sacramento

Who: All 4th–12th graders are invited to attend

Cost: Free

Registration (required): tinyurl.com/y788aq9r

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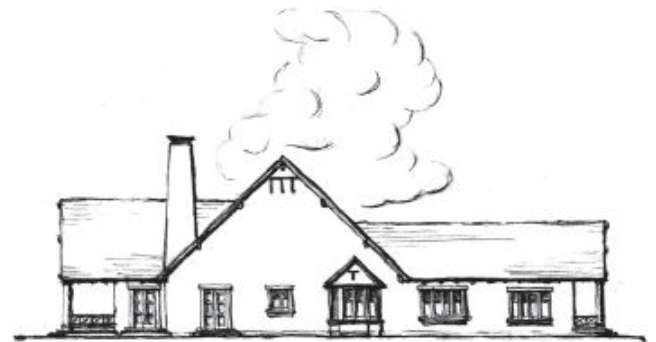
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WALKING THE NEIGHBORHOOD: FINDING SMALL TREATS

Neighbor Kelly McDole found these surprises while walking in the neighborhood. The “green man” face is from the corner of 29th & E. The small gargoyle protects one of Sacramento’s remaining American Elms, which is part of the Save the Elms Project (STEP) at 25th & D; the gargoyle’s name is a mystery, but the elm’s name is registered as Elmas C. Skye.



If you have some favorite places or things you have found while walking the neighborhood, or a favorite walking experiences, contact Margaret Buss at bussmlou@gmail.com We’d be glad to share them in the newsletter.

FRIENDS OF THE RIVERBANKS OCTOBER EVENT: WELCOME BACK, SALMON!

Friends of the Riverbanks (FORB) will once again welcome our iconic salmon back to the American River. Join the group on Second Saturday, October 14, at 10 am for the annual gathering to celebrate this sacred species. There will be salmon games provided by California Department of Fish and Wildlife, a canoe talk by Tom Biglione, and possibly other activities. It’s always exciting to see the salmon return—one year a sea lion came down the river and showed his joy as he caught and ate a large fish. This is an especially good event for young children—come join the celebration!

Meet at 10 a.m. at the Sutter’s Landing Park parking lot, next to the Skateboard Quonset Hut. The group will then go down to the river to see if the salmon are running. You may spot not just salmon, but egrets, beaver, otter, or maybe even that sea lion! The event is free, but donations are gratefully accepted. However, please leave your dogs at home – their natural exuberance scares the local critters.

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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

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Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

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