



PARK BEAT

The Pulse of Greater Boulevard Park

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

Homeless Deaths Spiking In Sacramento

The number of homeless people dying on the streets in Sacramento may have reached an all-time high in 2016.

As of Dec. 9, the county coroner had recorded 87 such deaths, up from 78 in 2015 tallied by the Sacramento Regional Coalition to End Homelessness, which released a report on Dec. 19. The report tracks the deaths of 705 homeless people from 2002 through 2015. It found that about one homeless person per week died during that period.

In 2002, 32 homeless people died in the county, and that number fluctuated between the low 30s and the low 40s per year for about a decade. But in the past three years the total has risen sharply, to 60, 71, 78, and now nearly 90 deaths. Among the most frequent causes of death: substance abuse, heart disease and injury. About 6 percent die by homicide and a similar number of deaths are attributed to suicide.

Newly elected Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg has said he will make fighting homelessness a major priority of his administration. In his inaugural speech, Steinberg proposed building at least 2,000 units of permanent housing while increasing support services for the homeless and dramatically boosting the number of clinically trained employees available to help them.

"We can no longer afford to be complacent," he said. "And we're not complacent, but we can no longer afford to just do what we're doing while more than 1,000 of our neighbors have to lay their heads on our streets, sidewalks, and riverbanks every night."



Midtown Farmer's Market

A favorite vendor at the Midtown Farmer's Market is Chico-based Beber Almondmilk. Beber was started by Chico native Arielle Danan after she learned to make almond milk on a trip to Israel while she was in college. Returning to Chico, she visited her local farmers market and was impressed by the customers' desire for locally sourced, freshly made products. An early batch of 30 gallons sold out within hours, and she was on her way.

She named the company Beber after the Spanish word "to drink" and began selling 16-ounce bottles at farmers markets and natural food stores from Chico to San Francisco.

Beber's plain almond milk has just two ingredients: almonds and purified water. The company also sells flavored milk, including chocolate, honey vanilla, lavender, and horchata.

"No preservatives, no thickeners, and no pasteurization," says the Beber website. "We believe that simplicity is the key to a great tasting product."



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.

Saturday, Jan. 14. Second Saturday Art Walk

Monday, Jan. 23. Park Beat newsletter content due.
To submit articles and calendar entries, contact Daniel Weintraub at Daniel.weintraub@gmail.com. To place an ad, contact Jennifer Knutson at 925-324-1289 or jennifer@knutsonarchitecture.com.

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FRIEND" INCENTIVE

Pet of the Month — MISSING

Brother is a 10 year-old, medium sized, grey and black tabby (with brown accents) who disappeared on Thanksgiving from his east Boulevard Park home.

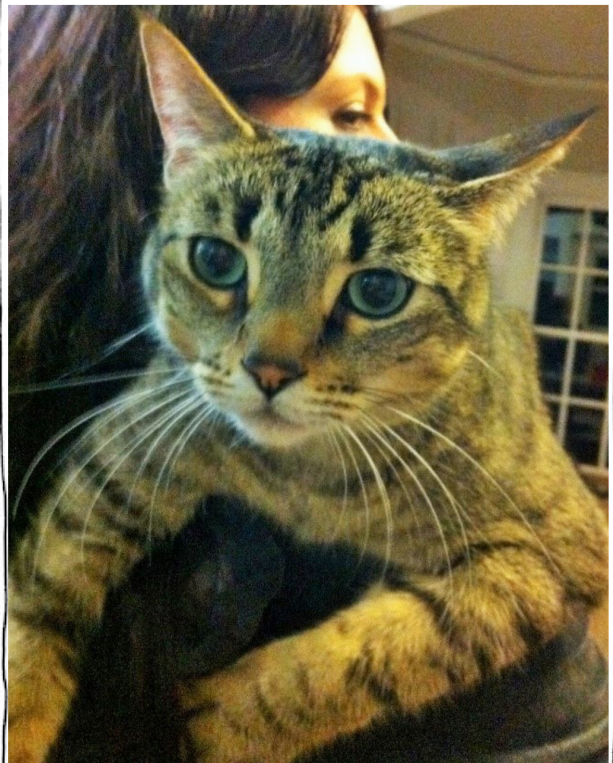
Brother has a white mouth and white "eyeliner." He has a striped back and tail, spotted tummy, long whiskers and beautiful green eyes. He has some scars on his nose and ears.

He is micro-chipped (#086776566), but won't keep a collar on. He is very friendly and adventurous. He likes to sit on the front and back fences, watching people go by. Sometimes he'll stop people walking on the sidewalk and block them until they pet him. He normally runs up to his person's car every time she gets home and meows until she pets him or picks him up. His favorite toy is probably the laser pen.

He was last seen at my house (D and 24th Streets) on Thanksgiving. He went on sabbatical one other time - he was gone seven days two years ago - but this absence is unprecedented and very stressful/sad.

Please contact Shelly if you have seen him. mcgillsr@gmail.com

WANTED



BPNA Board of Directors 2016

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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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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!

Be Brave Bold Robot

The band Be Brave Bold Robot has many connections to the Center City. Song writer and front man Dean Haakenson is a longtime downtown Sacramento resident, and state worker. While he now lives across the river in Broderick, he bikes into downtown daily to work and play. The band's viola player, Catie Turner, lives at 19th and F. Her husband Justin manages the community garden on 19th near G.

The band has made a new album and will have a CD Release show on **January 20 at Fox and Goose, starting at 9pm**. The \$10 cover charge includes a CD. Check them out!

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Christmas Tree Recycling

City of Sacramento residential yard waste customers can place trees in the street for pickup as part of the City's Leaf Season service. Leaf Season collection occurs November through January. The last day that trees, or any yard waste, can be placed out on the street for collection is January 31, 2017. Residents can find their estimated collection dates on our calendar.

Holiday Tree Recycling Guidelines:

- Trees should be clean of all lights, tinsel, stands, nails, & decorations.
- Flocked trees will be accepted.
- The city will collect up to 5 trees. Loads in excess of 5 trees will only be accepted at Elder Creek, Kiefer Landfill, & the North Area Recovery Station.
- If you miss the citywide tree collection, you can put your tree in your yard waste container. Please cut the tree into pieces that will fit completely into the container with the lid closed.

Art Exhibit: Possessions

At the corner of 21st and I Streets in Midtown you can find a very interesting art exhibit in the streetside window of a residential building. Here is an explanation:

This collaborative installation explores ideas revolving around objects and possession. Integral to the human experience, objects a certain connection, implicit or not, with people. A used toothbrush, an old wallet, a worn chair, a rusty bicycle — all contain a connotation of belonging to someone, of possession.

Over the course of two months, five artists will investigate how objects interact with their own thingyness as well as the invisible presence of their possessors. Everyday an artist will add personal items and rearrange the installation from the day before. With each iteration new associations will emerge as both objects and artists coexist in the space.



Some of the Central City's Most Interesting Buildings

We all know that Sacramento has a fascinating history starting with Sutter's Fort, which had its beginnings around 1839. There really was not much going on here, though, until the Gold Rush of 1849. Do any buildings remain in Sacramento from those times? Yes! Here are a few of the buildings which are still standing from those earliest days.

1029 F Street.This is one of the oldest houses remaining in Sacramento. Built approx. 1853 using brick and wood construction, in the Greek Revival style common in the South. Supreme Court Judge David Terry lived here at the time of the famous Broderick-Terry duel on September 13, 1859. This was also the home of J. Neely Johnson when he was governor of California in 1856. (Pictured Right)



1119 D Street.Another Greek Revival style home, this one built with brick in the year 1860. The house is set way back off the street. Maria Hastings built the house and was the original owner in 1860. She was also the owner of the Orleans Hotel on 2nd Street in Old Sacramento, the most prominent hotel in Sacramento during the 1850's. She lost the home in 1863 in payment of a debt. The next owner of the home was Robert K. Wick who founded the first funeral home in California. The home was later owned by Philomen E. Platt from 1876 – 1920 who came to Sacramento in 1868 to take over the W.R. Strong and Co., one of the largest fruit packing businesses on the Pacific Coast. (Pictured Left)

Booth Building, 1019-1021 Front Street in Old Sacramento. Home of the Booth Company, a wholesale grocery business, and home to its founder Newton Booth, lawyer, writer, lecturer, and politician. Booth lived here while he was governor of California 1871-1875 and United States Senator 1875-1881. His inaugural ball as governor was held in a ballroom on the second floor. The platform on the roof of the building was used to signal ships approaching Sacramento, to get a jump on his competitors. (Pictured Right)



Vernon-Brannon House, 112-114 J Street. ... Henry E. Robinson built this building in 1853 on the lot where Sacramento's first post office had stood in 1849. He named it the Jones Hotel. In 1855 it became a boarding house called the Vernon House. In 1865 Samuel Brannon bought the building, turning it back into a hotel and calling it the Brannon House. The building was lifted about 9 feet in 1865, along with much of the downtown area, in an effort to avoid flooding problems. (Pictured Left)

The Pioneer Hall, 1009 7th Street between J & K Streets. Built in 1868 as the headquarters of the Sacramento Society of California Pioneers which was organized in February 1853. It has been owned and cared for since its construction by the California Pioneer Assn., descendants of the original organizers who were among those who arrived in California prior to January 1850. (Pictured Right)



The Trees of Midtown Sacramento: Liquidambar

Liquidambar trees, commonly called "sweet gum," can be seen along some midtown streets and in other areas of the central city. The variety usually seen in our area is a tall, straight, deciduous tree of a pyramidal shape, noted for its brilliant fall colors of scarlet, red, orange, and yellow. Fall colors are most brilliant when autumn nights are chilly.

The flowers are small, produced in a dense globular shape. The fruit is a woody multiple capsule, popularly called a gumball, containing numerous seeds and covered in prickly, woody armatures, possibly to attach to the fur of animals, which could be helpful in spreading the seeds for propagation.

The 3 to 7 lobed leaves are arranged spirally on the stems and have a pleasant aroma when crushed. The wood is classified as a hardwood.

Liquidambar wood is used for furniture, interior finish, paper pulp, veneers, and baskets of all kinds. The heartwood once was used in furniture as imitation mahogany or walnut. Liquidambar is a food plant for various caterpillars.

The hardened sap, or gum resin, excreted from the wounds of this tree, can be chewed on like chewing gum, and has long been used for this purpose in the southern United States. The liquidambar tree appears in Chinese herbal medicine around 700 AD where it was said to promote the movement of blood, help with abdominal pain, anemia, and nasal congestion.

In Turkey, a native variety of liquidambar is used for harvesting an oil from the sap, an industry which plays an important role in their local economy. The sap is put into boiling water to soften, then pressed. By steam distillation, a light yellow oil is obtained. The oil is used for abrasions, anxiety, bronchitis, coughs, ringworm, and scabies. In English this oil is known as Storax.

Like so many trees, liquidambar has good qualities and some not so good. Liquidambar trees drop their hard, spiky seedpods by the hundreds seasonally. These can become a nuisance on pavement and lawns. Planted in the right place, liquidambar is a wonderful landscape tree.



House of the Month

2101 G Street (Kleinsorge or Bishop's House)

Built in 1906 by W.E. Kleinsorge, a prominent local attorney, though there is no evidence he ever lived here. The first recorded resident was William F. Geary, vice president of Kirk, Geary & Co., a wholesale drug, stationery, soda fountain and supply company located on Front Street.

This 4,000 square foot house sitting on a slight rise combined decorative Prairie-like window treatment and long deep eaves with Craftsman rafters, generous low slung porches and roof details resulting in a modern, almost oriental feeling (see roof detail on house and garage).

The unusual use of vertical battens and rustic brick places this house in the First Bay Tradition of similar Berkeley houses design by Morgan and Maybeck, and Greene and Greene. Note the original hitching post on G Street and that the house sits on a large double lot. Reputed to be built for the Bishop of the Catholic Archdiocese, the interior paneling has a cut-in cross motif.



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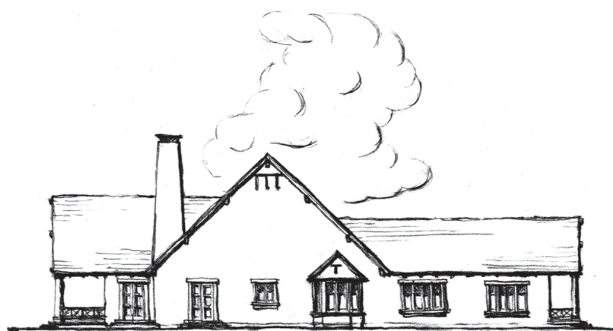
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Send form with your \$5 to \$15 check per member for the remainder of the calendar year to: P.O. Box 163179, Sacramento, CA 95816-9179

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