



PARK BEAT

The Pulse of Greater Boulevard Park

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

Exercise Your Rights: Please Vote!

In this year's general election, in addition to voting by mail, residents of Sacramento County can use either a **Ballot Dropbox** or a **Vote Center** to cast their vote. Secure Ballot Dropboxes can be found in most city library branches, including McKinley Library, and have been ready for public use during each site's regular business hours since early October. On Election Day, however, the Ballot Dropbox locations also will be open from **7 a.m. until 8 p.m.** Simply fill out your ballot, insert it in the official pink envelope, sign the envelope, and drop it into the Ballot Dropbox. You even may be able to pick up an **"I voted!"** sticker afterwards.

At a Vote Center, you can either drop off your completed ballot or vote in person. You also can use an accessible voting machine or get help with the voting process. City Vote Centers open from **November 3 to 6** include Modoc Hall at Sacramento State, Colonial Heights Library on Stockton Boulevard, Coloma Community Center on T Street, the Disability Rights Center on K Street, the Sacramento County Administration Building, the California Museum, the Sierra 2 Center, and the East Jay Building. Except on Election Day, when all centers will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., the Vote Center hours will vary from location to location—*check the county website before you go!*

(<http://www.elections.saccounty.net/VoteCenters/Pages/November-2018-VoteCenters.aspx>).



2019 BPNA Board:

Space Available for New Officers!

Because there will be a few vacancies on the BPNA Board at the end of this year (an election is held and the list of officers is renewed every January), interested BPNA members are encouraged to submit their names for consideration now. Serving as an officer on the BPNA Board is a great way to become more involved in our wonderful neighborhood and its activities. If you would like to be part of this group, please contact any one of the current officers (their names and email addresses are on **page 3** of this issue of *Park Beat*). They will be happy to answer any questions you might have about serving on the BPNA Board.

Annual BPNA Holiday Party: Date and Venue

Be sure to mark **Saturday, December 15**, the date of our annual holiday party, on your calendars. Our hosts will be the La Vergne family, at 610 22nd Street (6-9 p.m.). More details will follow in the December issue of *Park Beat*!



Strap on Those Skates—The Downtown Ice Rink Is Open!

In November 1990, the City of Sacramento announced plans to set up an outdoor skating rink at St. Rose of Lima Park, formerly the site of an historic Catholic church (built in the 1850s) and then of the old city post office (built in the 1890s; demolished in 1967). The new rink was envisioned as “the centerpiece for a five-week Winter Festival on the outdoor mall.” It has remained a fairly regular downtown feature ever since (for a very brief period, in 2009-2010, it was moved up to 20th Street, on the midtown site now used for the Saturday farmers’ market).

This year the ice rink has been up-scaled to keep pace with renovations in adjacent businesses. The rink’s larger size—it now measures 6,800 square feet, nearly the size of the rink at New York City’s Rockefeller Center—will accommodate 25% more skaters. The special event space (which will get quite a bit of use, judging from the calendar) also has been enhanced. Finally, general hours have been extended and the rink will be open on Christmas Day. For prices, seasonal discounts, holiday hours, special events, and other information about the downtown rink, go to: <https://www.godowntownsac.com/events/signature-events/ice-rink/>

The opening ceremony for the downtown skating rink will start at 10 a.m. on **Friday, November 2** followed by an afternoon and evening of skating at a special reduced rate (\$2 skate, Noon-11 p.m.). Regular hours will be from **2-9 p.m. on Monday through Thursday**, from **10 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Friday through Saturday**, and from **10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Sundays**. The skating season (which lasts until January 21) also will include several special themed events. Saturday, November 3, is the third annual “Princess & Superhero Day.” Kids are encouraged to come in costume (Noon-2 p.m.). There will be face-painting opportunities and encounters with celebrities like Cinderella and Captain America.

**New McKinley Water Vault EIR
Approved by City Council**

Although a group of residents continues to oppose the project, the final version of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the McKinley Water Vault was unanimously approved by the City Council members at their October 9 meeting. The Department of Utilities will be releasing a formal Request for Proposals later this Fall. It is anticipated that a construction company will be selected in time for work to begin in April 2019, and that the entire project will take about 18-24 months to complete.

For information and updates about the project, go to: <http://www.cityofsacramento.org/McKinleyWaterVault>. Questions or comments about the opposition’s stance on the project can be emailed to HALTtheVAULT@SewageFreeMcKinley.org

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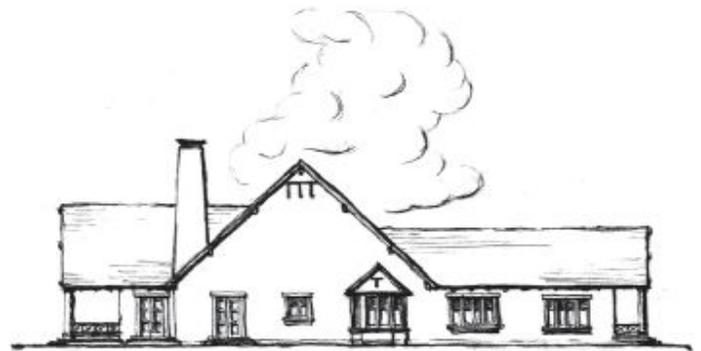
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Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association's purpose: The BPNA was created to support, promote, and improve the quality of life for the residents of the greater Boulevard Park neighborhood. By achieving this goal we strive to improve the quality of life 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

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Places to Go, People To See

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

Fri., Nov. 2: Opening ceremony for the downtown ice rink in St. Rose of Lima Park (10 a.m.; see article on **page 2**). For information about regular and holiday hours at the ice rink, go to:

<https://www.godowntownsac.com/events/signature-events/ice-rink/>

Sat., Nov. 3: Third Annual Princess & Superhero Day, downtown ice rink, St. Rose of Lima Park (Noon-2 p.m.).

Tues., Nov. 6: Last day to vote in the Statewide General Election! All Vote Center locations will be open from **7 a.m. to 8 p.m.** (see article on **page 1**)

Tues., Nov. 6: 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., Nov. 10: Annual "Christmas Around the World" Festival, Hellenic Center, Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, 616 Alhambra Blvd. (10 a.m.-4 p.m.; free admission and parking). Sample foods from a wide range of international cuisines; enjoy the crafts, rummage sale, and holiday raffle.

Sat., Nov. 10: Second Saturday ArtWalk. Galleries around town will be open to present individual and group shows of artists' work. **Website:** <http://www.2ndsaturdaysacramento.com>

Sun., Nov. 11: 100th Anniversary of the End of World War I, California State Capitol (first floor; 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.). Information posters, displays, costumed docents, music, and refreshments (free admission).

Places to Go, People To See (cont.)

Tues., Nov. 13: Community Dinner and Book Fair, Washington Elementary School, 520 18th Street (5:30-7:30 p.m.). See **page 6**.

Wed., Nov. 14: "Reduce 5 to 8 p.m.": Free workshop about SMUD's transition to Time-of-Day rates (9-10:30 a.m., Stockton Boulevard Partnership, 5635 Stockton Blvd.). See article on **page 5**.

Thur., Nov. 22: 25th Annual "Run to Feed the Hungry" event, with a **10K run** (starting at 8:15 a.m.) and a **5K run/walk** (starting at 9 a.m.). For more information, go to: <http://www.runtofeedthehungry.com>

Nov. 23-25: Crocker Holiday Artisan Market, Scottish Rite Temple, 6151 H Street (admission charged). Holiday bazaar with art, music, and food. **Website:** <http://www.creativeartsleague.com/cham-2018/>

... And, looking ahead to early December:

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.; free admission). For more information, go to: <http://www.benalishrine.org>

A Brief Report from the BPNA Board

Before turning to its regular agenda items at its monthly meeting on October 9, the members of the BPNA board listened to a presentation from a guest, Deniz Tuncer, about a grant proposal being prepared for submission before the end of October. The State of California's Wildlife Conservation Board is soliciting grant proposals for projects that "restore, enhance, interpret, protect, or improve public access to the American River Parkway's natural, recreational, educational and cultural resources." If awarded, this grant would help fund the acquisition of more riverfront land for Sutter's Landing Regional Park. It also could lead to the purchasing of land that would facilitate the completion of the "Two Rivers Bike Trail" on the south side of the American River.

Neighborhood association matters addressed by the officers during the remainder of the meeting included the need for candidates to fill impending vacancies on the 2019 BPNA Board of Directors and the date and location of the annual BPNA Holiday Party (see separate articles on both topics on **page 1** of *Park Beat*). Other issues discussed at the October board meeting were the recent filing of an application to open a cannabis dispensary at 1716 J Street and the current status of the City's proposal to build a 3.2 acre water/storage vault beneath the baseball field in the southeast corner of McKinley Park (one of the topics addressed at the City Council Meeting that same evening: see the article on **page 2**).

Architects of Boulevard Park: Alma Winn

Julia Morgan was the first woman architect licensed in California, but she was not the first woman architect to work in Sacramento. In 1911, ten years before Morgan designed the Goethe Mansion on T Street or the Public Market on J Street, two women “house designers,” Anna Crabbe Walters and Alma D. Winn, advertised their professional services in the architects’ section of the *Sacramento Union*.

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Mrs. A. Winn (as she was called in the advertisements and articles about her work) specialized in “artistic bungalows,” designing homes in the San Jose area before moving to Sacramento in February 1911. According to one journalist, she was attracted to our area by “the large amount of building in prospect.” Her arrival coincided with the development of Boulevard Park and several other new subdivisions in the city and its suburbs.

During her short career—she stopped practicing several months before her death in January 1914—Alma Winn designed two buildings in the Boulevard Park neighborhood. Her clients were Peter C. and Alice C. Hanssen (for a house at 2514 E Street) and David and Lillie Erwin (for a two-flat residence at 401-403 21st Street). Building permits were issued for both projects in 1911. Each is a two-story frame building with some of the Colonial Revival features that are often found in domestic architecture from this decade. Alma Winn also designed houses for Sutter Terrace (Poverty Ridge), Oak Park, Curtis Oaks (Curtis Park), and Crescent Park (East Sacramento).

Text-to-911: Call If You Can, Text If You Cannot

As reported by *The Sacramento Bee* and other local news services in mid-October, it is now possible to text 911 for emergency service anywhere in Sacramento County. Although calls to 911 are still the recommended mode, emergency dispatch also will receive, and respond to, text messages.

A 911 text should explain the emergency, should include the person’s address, and should be words only (no photos or videos). Emojis and abbreviations also are discouraged, because they can make it harder for the recipient to decipher the message. Users of the **Text-to-911** service must have a phone with a working data plan and cannot have their phone set to roaming. Also, as of this writing, the Police Department has not yet set up a translation service, so 911 text messages should be in English.

According to the article appearing in *The Sacramento Bee* on October 17, **Text-to-911** will be a boon not only to people who are deaf or hard of hearing but also to anyone who is in a situation where they cannot or should not speak aloud.

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The Return of THE CLAW



Sacramento is a **five-season** city: Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall, and **Leaf**, the last of which will be observed from **November 1, 2018** through **January 27, 2019**. During Leaf Season, city residents may rake leaves, branches, grass clippings, and other garden debris into piles in the street after they have filled their green waste bins.

Leaf piles will be picked up by the city crews about every two weeks, and may happen more often as leaf volume grows. Effective **October 29**, the collection calendar was posted on the city website—be sure to check for updates throughout Leaf Season, as the schedule can change. For leaf pile guidelines (size, placement, acceptable materials, etc.), go to the city website:

<https://www.cityofsacramento.org/Public-Works/RSW/Collection-Services/Yard-Waste/Leaf-Season>.

*Please remember that **pet waste** must not be dumped onto leaf piles or placed in green-waste containers. It belongs in garbage cans instead.*

SMUD's New "Time-of-Day" Rates



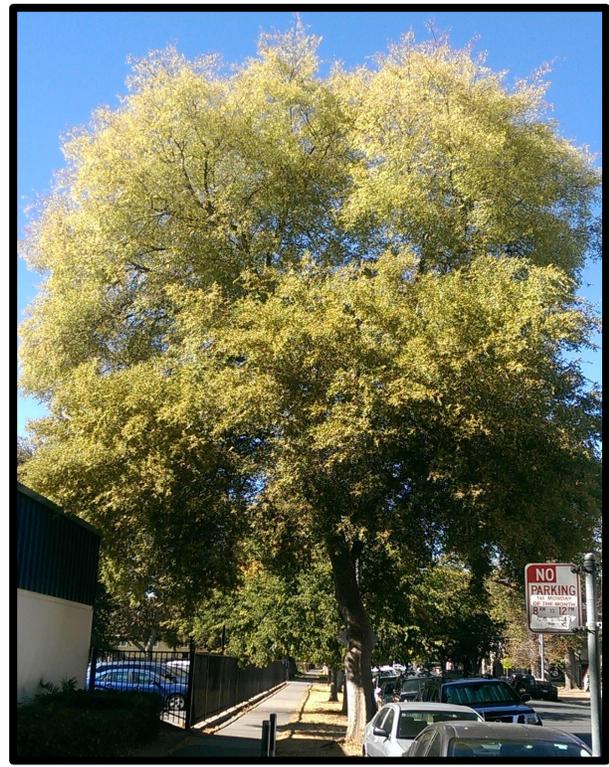
To encourage customers to reduce their power usage during peak hours on weekdays, SMUD is introducing new "**time of day**" rates in Summer 2019. Higher rates will be charged during the four summer months (June 1 through September 30). The "summer days" will be divided into three rate periods (off-peak, mid-peak, and peak), whereas the "non-summer days" (October 1 through May 31) will be divided into two rate periods (off-peak and peak). For both the "summer" and "non-summer" months, the "off-peak" classification also will be in effect all day on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.

To learn more about the new program, go to the SMUD website (<https://www.smud.org/TimeOfDay>) or attend one of the free public workshops hosted by the Sacramento Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce. Two workshops were held in October; the third and last workshop will be on **Wednesday morning, November 14** (Large Conference Room, Stockton Blvd. Partnership, 5625 Stockton Blvd.; 9-10:30 a.m.). To register, go to: <https://smudtod.eventbrite.com>

The Trees of Midtown: The Chinese Elm

The Chinese elm is a fast growing, medium-sized elm variety, semi-deciduous, and quite graceful in appearance. It is a hardy landscape tree, suitable for parking lots and for small planters along streets. This variety of elm is highly resistant to, but not immune to, Dutch elm disease. It is also very resistant to the elm-leaf beetle, an insect that defoliates many elm trees late in summer, including the larger elm tree varieties in midtown Sacramento.

Like other elms, the Chinese elm has very hard, tough wood that is suitable for tool handles, bows, and baseball bats. Its lumber also is used for furniture, cabinets, veneer, and hardwood flooring. Freshly cut, the wood of the Chinese elm has a peppery or spicy odor. Owing to its ability to tolerate light, humidity, and a wide range of temperature, as well as its high tolerance for pruning, the Chinese elm is a popular choice for bonsai trees. Chinese elm leaves are smaller than those of the more common American and English elms. The trunk has a handsome flaking bark of grays, tans, and reds. Small numbers of Chinese elms are scattered around midtown Sacramento. You can see a nice example on the south side of F Street between 17th and 18th Streets (*shown in the photo on the right*).





If you look up “New Era Park” on the web today, you will find a map of a long, narrow neighborhood bordered by 16th, 29th, B, and E Streets, very different from the subdivision whose launch in early January 1907 was preceded by an avalanche of advertising in the December 1906 issues of *The Sacramento Bee*.

The developer, Daniel W. Carmichael, boasted that this would “**positively be the last BIG subdivision in the City of Sacramento,**” while also noting its close proximity to the very popular Boulevard Park neighborhood, then in its first years of development. The original New Era Park, bordered by 25th, 29th, B, and F Streets, featured 264 lots, all priced to sell (“\$175 and up”). And sell they did—in just four hours time, every property went to a buyer on the morning of January 2, 1907. In the evening paper that day the Carmichael Company boasted that the rapid sale of New Era Park lots had broken all state records. The plan of the new subdivision, put on display at the State Fair that year, also was a hit, according to the developers, who claimed: “**Immense crowds gaze upon the plat of New Era Park, THE RECORD BREAKER, with awe.**”

B	I	N	G	O
B 17	32	53	S	
4	O	44	K	67
12	20	O	46	72
5	O	38	K	68
B 28	37	59	S	

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Washington Elementary School (520 18th Street) invites everyone to its combined bingo, book fair, and community dinner on **Tuesday evening, November 13 (5:30-7:30)**. Tamales and *pozole* will be for sale. Kids can win books by playing bingo, and the book fair also will be open so that families are able to browse and shop.

EDMONDS AND PHILIPP: *Your Way Home*

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