



PARK BEAT

The Pulse of Greater Boulevard Park

Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association

Box 160811, Sacramento, CA 95816

June 2022

Bald Eagles Return to the Sacramento Area



Really, bald eagles over *E Street*? Boulevard Park and East Sacramento residents could hardly believe their eyes this Spring. Although these regal raptors are not a common sight in our area, a few bald eagles have established themselves along the American River over the past few years. A nesting pair of eagles spotted near Lake Natoma was the subject of a CBS news story back in February (<https://sacramento.cbslocal.com/2022/02/21/lake-natoma-folsom-bald-eagle-group-nesting-disturbed/>). Then, in the months that followed, reports began to circulate about bald eagle sightings in and near Midtown. Boulevard Park resident Robert Sewell photographed a bald eagle soaring high above the Two Rivers Bike Trail in April (photos on the left and right). The eagle perched in the cottonwood tree was photographed in May by Mark Baker, a member of Friends of Sutter’s Landing Park, the group of volunteers who help out at the park (see the calendar entry on **page 3** of the newsletter).

Bald eagles were on the brink of extinction in the late 1900s, but their populations have been recovering. As explained in the CBS program mentioned above, they prefer minimal human disturbance while nesting. They usually build their nests in tall old growth trees near large bodies of water with an adequate supply of fish, their preferred food (followed by water fowl). The nests are big—up to 8 feet wide and 13 feet deep—and very heavy. Selfless providers committed to their family, both parents, which mate for life, often hunt from dawn till dusk to feed their young. An eaglet can gain up to 6 ounces a day, the fastest growth rate of any North American bird, and is ready to fly at about the age of 13 weeks. Adult bald eagles have a seven-foot wingspan and powerful talons with a gripping power 10 times greater than that of human hands.

Please Join Us: Renew or Start Your BPNA Membership Today

With June bringing us to the midpoint of calendar year 2022, it is time to take stock and review your “to do” lists. Renewing members of the Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association, have you had a chance to pay your dues yet? New residents, have you considered joining BPNA? Founded in the early 1990s, it is one of the oldest continuously active neighborhood associations in the city and, in non-pandemic years, hosts a variety of community gatherings from January through December. It also is one of the few neighborhood associations to produce a monthly newsletter.

All these events and activities are partially subsidized by membership dues and the income earned from the periodic neighborhood yard sale. So, please don’t hesitate—fill out the membership form on page 6 of this newsletter and send it to the BPNA. Alternately, you can go to the BPNA website and pay online (<https://www.boulevardpark.org/membership-form>). Please note that the annual dues are minimal: only \$5 to \$15 per adult member of the household, or whatever amount you feel you can afford. When you fill out the membership form, be sure to indicate whether you wish to receive the newsletter by email (printed copies are delivered throughout the neighborhood), and also if you are able to volunteer.

We look forward to seeing you at our next two public events—National Night Out on Tuesday, August 2 and the neighborhood Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, September 10. More details about both events will be shared in future issues of *Park Beat*. Members and non-members alike can keep up with BPNA’s activities by going to our website or Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/BPNABoardMember/>).

A Brief Report from the BPNA Board

The Board meeting on May 5, conducted in person, opened with two “good news” items: the renovation of the three former fraternity houses on 21st Street near Q Street is finally underway, and the boarded-up lighting store at the southwest corner of 21st and K Streets has been reopened as a new bike shop called Paco’s. The first two items on the agenda were advance planning for the annual Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, September 10, and a discussion of ways in which BPNA might benefit from more collaboration with other neighborhood organizations, especially when dealing with City-level issues that concern us all. A recent memo from Captain Ethan Hanson informed Board members about the results of increased enforcement of traffic-related issues in Midtown over the last two months. Jon Marshack reported on the draft of a new set of objective design standards that is slated for inclusion in the Consent Calendar of the City Council meeting on May 24. These standards, adopted in response to Senate Bill 35, would apply to new, multi-family housing projects (two or more units) in historic districts.

Summer Activities for City Youth

Sacramento offers many summer programs for local kids. Two City-sponsored camps are described below.

- **Summer Oasis Camps:** Two sessions for ages 6-12 (June 27-July 22; July 25-August 12). Website: <https://www.cityofsacramento.org/ParksandRec/Youth-Division/Youth-Sports-and-Summer-Programs/Summer-Oasis>
- **SK8 Camps** at the skateboard facility in Sutter’s Landing Park, 20 28th Street: Three sessions for ages 5-15 are being offered (June 28-July 1, July 10-22, and Aug. 9-12; 10 a.m. -1 p.m. each day). Website: <https://www.cityofsacramento.org/ParksandRec/Youth-Division/Youth-Sports-and-Summer-Programs/28th-and-B-Skate-Park>

Share Your Stories

Park Beat is a neighborhood newsletter, and neighborhood stories are a staple for our pages. We would like to have more of them—especially stories shared by local residents. We also welcome suggestions for article topics. Are you curious about a particular house or past event in the greater Boulevard Park neighborhood? Is there a building or place in our neighborhood that means a lot to you, and which might interest other *Park Beat* readers as well? Can you suggest any “neighborhood treats”—special places or unusual sights in the vicinity that have caught your attention on your daily walks? What sorts of stories, topics, and news items would you like to see covered in *Park Beat*? Please send your ideas or suggestions to the editor, Catherine Turrill Lupi (turrill@csus.edu). If you are interested in writing a short article, please let her know that too.

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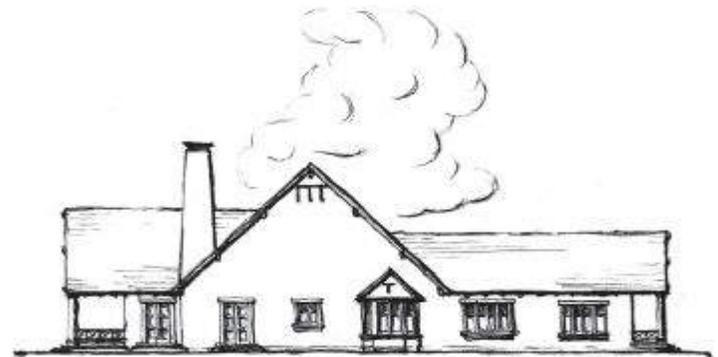
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Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association's purpose: The BPNA was created to support, promote, and improve the quality of life for the residents of the greater Boulevard Park neighborhood. By achieving this goal we strive to improve the quality of life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

Committees

Membership:	Ellen Hunt
Preservation, Planning, and Land Use:	Jon Marshack
District 4 Homelessness Task Force:	Travis Silcox silcox5@gmail.com

Park Beat Production Team

Newsletter Editor:	Catherine Turrill Lupi
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June 2022: Places to Go, Things to Do

NOTE: For more information about public events being held this month, go to the city's Sac 365 website (<https://www.sacramento365.com/>). Be sure to check individual organization websites for announcements and updates. Below are a few events, programs, and dates to remember.

Every Wednesday: "Wednesdays at Winn," a certified farmers' market in Winn Park (28th and P Streets, **3 - 7:30 p.m.**); website: <http://exploremidtown.org/wednesdays-at-winn/>.

Every Wednesday: Informal gathering on the 21st Street median between E and F Streets—no host, no agenda, just the opportunity to meet neighbors of all ages, orientations, and pronouns (5:30-7 p.m.).

Every Saturday: Midtown Farmers' Market (8 a.m. to 1 p.m., 20th Street between J and L; also, K Street between 19th and 20th Street). Website: <http://exploremidtown.org/midtown-farmers-market/>

Most weekend mornings: Join other volunteers in tackling a variety of beautification tasks at Sutter's Landing Park. For more details, go to: <https://www.instagram.com/friendsofsutterslandingpark/>

Wed., June 1: "Pride Celebration: Progress Flag Raising at City Hall," with remarks by community and City speakers; 915 I St. (in the courtyard between the two City Hall buildings; 8-9 a.m.).

June 2-12: 21st Sacramento French Film Festival. Article on **p. 5**. Website: <https://sacramentofrenchfilmfestival.org/email/>

Places to Go, Things to Do (cont.)

Sat., June 4: American Fuchsia Society Show & Sale, Shepard Garden and Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd. (10-4).

Sat., June 4: "Take Me Out to the Ballgame," baseball-themed walking tour in the Historic City Cemetery (5-6:30 p.m.; \$5 fee). Website: <https://historcoldcitycemetery.org/tours-events/>

Sun., June 5: Walking tour in Oak Park, hosted by Preservation Sacramento (starting at noon). See article on **page 4**.

June 7-12: "Opening Doors," 2022 California Preservation Conference, with on-line and in-person components. See article on **page 6**.

Tue., June 7: Primary Election. Polls are open from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. Mail-in ballots must be postmarked by **June 7** and received by **June 14**.

Tue., June 11: Community Rummage Sale, Shepard Garden and Arts Center parking lot, located off Park Way (9 a.m. -2 p.m.).

June 11-12: Sacramento Pride 2022, Capitol Mall (between 7th and 3rd Streets; 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. each day): For more information and to order tickets, go to: <https://sacramentopride.org/festival/>

June 14-19: *Kinky Boots*, Music Circus, 1419 H St. Website: <https://www.broadwaysacramento.com/broadway-at-music-circus>

June 17-19: Sacramento Juneteenth Festival, William Land Park. See article on **page 5**.

June 18-19: Bromeliad & Carnivorous Plant Society Show/Sale, Shepard Garden and Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd. (9-4 each day).

Sat., June 18: Juneteenth Block Party, 40 Acres Art and Cultural Center, 3408 3rd Ave., Oak Park (4-9 p.m.). See article on **page 5**.

Sat., June 18: East Sacramento Pops in the Park: Big Crush will perform at McKinley Park (starting at 6 p.m.). See article on **page 4**.

Mon., June 20: BPNA Board Meeting. (6:30-8:00 p.m.). Open to BPNA members and other interested residents (completion of COVID vaccinations required). Contact Dave Herbert for information or to suggest agenda items.

Sat., June 25: Sacramento Center for the Textile Arts Sale, Shepard Garden and Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd. (10-3).

Sat., June 25: East Sacramento Pops in the Park: Rich Estrin & the Nightcats will perform at East Portal Park (starting at 6p.m.). See **p. 4**.

Sun., June 26: Curtis Fest Artisan Fair, William Curtis Park, 3349 West Curtis Dr.: local vendors will be selling handmade art, crafts, and goods. Website: <https://sierra2.org/event/curtis-fest-artisan-fair/>

June 27-July 1: California Time Traveler Camp, California Museum, 1020 O Street (9 a.m.- 4 p.m. each day). For information, go to: <https://www.californiamuseum.org/event/california-time-travel-camp>

... And looking ahead to early July:

Mon., July 4: "Fourth on the Field," presented by Sacramento River Cats at Sutter Health Park, West Sacramento. Entertainment for all ages. Website: <https://www.sutterhealthpark.com/fourthonthefield>

Thu., July 7: BPNA Board Meeting (6:30-8 p.m.). Open to BPNA members and other interested residents (completion of COVID vaccinations required). Contact Dave Herbert for information.

Sacramento's Jane Jacobs Walks Start in June



Usually held in May, these “walking conversations” in city neighborhoods were first offered in Toronto in 2007 and honor the late Jane Jacobs (died 2006), “an urbanist and activist whose writings championed a fresh, community-based approach to city building” (quoted from <http://www.janejacobswalk.org/about-jane-jacobs-walk/meet-jane-jacobs>). Jacobs is best known for her 1961 book, *The Life and Death of Great American Cities*. In accordance with her belief about the importance of being familiar with the places where we live, work, and play, the walks are free for all, are usually led by local residents, and use walking, biking, and/or public transit to bring groups of people in touch with their community. They are now held around the world, and can occur at any time of the year.

Preservation Sacramento will be offering its first Jane Jacobs Walk at noon on **Sunday, June 5**. This event will serve as a test run for new interpretative signage that is being created for the Oak Park neighborhood. As described in a recent email from Preservation Sacramento, the June 5 tour “will include both guided and self-guided elements, telling stories of Oak Park’s history from the 1880s through the 1970s.” Feedback from walking tour participants will be used to revise the signs, which will be reinstalled on June 19 in conjunction with Oak Park’s Juneteenth celebration.

More information about the tour, including its starting location, will be provided on Preservation Sacramento’s Facebook site once the details have been finalized (<https://www.facebook.com/PreservationSac/>).



Launched in the 1990s, this concert series has been a staple in our summer calendars for three decades, entertaining residents while raising funds for neighborhood parks and other worthy community causes. Admission to the concerts is free; the income is generated not by ticket sales but by sponsorships, advertising dollars, and the sale of refreshments at the concert. There will be two concerts this month, starting on **June 18**, when “**Big Crush**” performs in McKinley Park. One week later, on **June 25**, “**Rick Estrin & the Nightcats**” will be performing at East Portal Park. Both concerts start at 6 p.m. Residents are encouraged to bring blankets or lawn chairs for seating, but to leave canopies and umbrellas at home, because they can block the view for other people. For more information go to the event’s website (<http://eastsacpopsinthepark.com>).

The 2022 poster features a reproduction of a painting by the late Wayne Thiebaud, *Watermelon and Knife* (shown in the photo above). The artist also is being honored with a retrospective at the Crocker Art Museum (“Wayne Thiebaud: A Celebration, 1920-2021,” May 29-Aug. 7).

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New Roma Bakery: *Nearly a Century Old*

The one-story brick building at the southeast corner of 18th and E Streets has housed a bakery almost continuously since 1926, making it one of the oldest businesses in the Boulevard Park and Washington School neighborhoods. Manuel and Florence Mento bought the vacant lot in March 1925 and secured a permit to build a store on the site the following month.



Later that same year, Emil L. Diedrich opened the Golden Poppy Bakery, selling bread (including his famous Raisin Bran Bread) and pastries. However, he made the bad decision to operate a very illegal brewery in the basement of his home next door, 505 18th Street. Not only was he going against Prohibition, he was also making beer right across the street from the Washington elementary school and distributing it around the city in his bakery trucks. The brewery was raided by the police department's "dry squad" in August 1929 and more than a thousand bottles of beer were confiscated. Diedrich was fined \$350 after being taken to court in 1930. He put the house up for rent and then closed the bakery a year or so later. For much of that decade, Annie's Lunch, an Italian-style restaurant owned by Joseph and Annie Piazza, occupied the space. Then, in 1941, the building was reopened as

Roma Bakery, a name that had been used by other stores as far back as the 1890s. According to its ads, the new business specialized in "sour French bread." In fact, in the early 1950s, it was called the New Roma French Bakery. By 1956, it was known as the New Roma Bakery, the name still displayed in the vintage neon sign over the entrance. It is very much a neighborhood place, and a description offered by its owner in the 1990s still applies. As she said, it is "a 1950s-style American bakery with cakes, pies, doughnuts, breakfast pastries, and cookies," in addition to the multiple types of bread that have remained its main product. And the bakeries at 1800 E Street have had another traditional American aspect, too: the diversity of their owners and employees. Over the years, people of several different ethnicities have worked there, including German, Yugoslav, Portuguese, Mexican, and Italian.



Celebrating Juneteenth in Sacramento

Originating in Texas, the holiday known as **Juneteenth** honors the day in 1865 when people still enslaved in Galveston were formally notified that they had finally been freed, two years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation. Made a federal holiday only last year, Juneteenth has been celebrated around the country for much longer. The **Sacramento Juneteenth Festival** is now in its 19th year. It will be held in William Land Park from **June 17-19**, starting with a gospel concert on Friday night (6-9 p.m.). Saturday, June 18, will offer a full day of events, programs, and activities, including two stages of live entertainment, a talent show, an arts/education pavilion, and more. The festival will end on June 19 with a golf tournament at the William Land Golf Course. On Saturday afternoon, **June 18**, St. HOPE will present its second annual **Juneteenth Block Party** at the 40 Acres Art and Cultural Center in Oak Park (Esther Park, 3408 Third Avenue; 4-9 p.m.). There will be food, music, art, entertainment, a kids' zone, and a variety of local vendors. Admission to both festivals is free.

Websites: <https://sacramentojuneteenthinc.org/festival/>
<https://www.sthope.org/juneteenth-block-party>

21st Sacramento French Film Festival

Three different city theatres—**Tower, Esquire IMAX, and Crest**—will provide the venues for the in-person screenings at this four-day festival (**June 2, 5, 11, and 12**). There also will be virtual screenings, with films presented on the organization's Streaming Platform during the Festival and at other times during the year. All films shown will have English subtitles. Zoom lectures by film experts and filmmakers will complement the screenings and enrich the audience's experience. As of this writing, the Festival's calendar is as follows: Opening night at the Tower Theatre on Thursday, June 2 (7 p.m.); a full day of films at the Esquire IMAX Theatre on Sunday, June 5; and two full days of films at the Crest Theatre on June 11 and 12, concluding with a champagne and dessert reception on Sunday evening, June 12.

For more information and to access the French Festival's Streaming Platform go to the website: <https://sacramentofrenchfilmfestival.org/>

Preservation Sacramento's Forty-Sixth Historic Home Tour

Save the date! Preservation Sacramento is bringing back its in-person historic home tours on **Sunday, September 18**. A hybrid event is planned, with both in-person tours (on September 18) and virtual ones (videos that can be watched online over a limited period of time). There will be at least six houses on view, three in each category (three actual tours, three virtual ones). More information and updates for the tour will be posted on Preservation Sacramento's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/PreservationSac/>). Watch for more articles in future issues of *Park Beat*, too. If you are curious about the historic home tours offered between 2016-2021, go to the organization website: <http://www.preservationsacramento.org/hometour> (the photo below is a souvenir of the 2017 home tour).



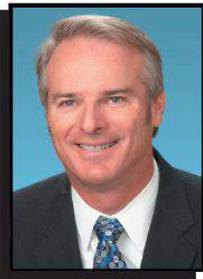
Doors Open California: Local Sites to Explore (June 11 and 12)

This year's **California Preservation Conference** has both virtual and in-person events, with an exciting array of historic buildings that can be visited as part of "Doors Open California." Open to everyone, the tour component costs only \$20 per person, no matter how many sites you decide to visit. Days and hours vary from site to site, and the entire state is represented, so be sure to check the website for full details (<https://californiapreservation.org/doca/>). As of May 18, the Central Valley tour sites include the **Foulks House in Elk Grove** (1853), the city's oldest house; the **Stockton Gurdwara** (1912), the first Sikh institution in the United States; the **Chew Kee Store Museum & Home** in Fiddletown (mid-1800s); **Preston Castle** (1894), an historic reformatory in Ione (originally called the Preston School of Industry); and **Truckee Jail** (1875).

Participation in the virtual components of the California Preservation Conference also is open to all, although the topics covered are of particular interest to professionals in historic preservation. The conference is divided into two parts: Preservation Practice, with online programs on June 7-8; and Technology Toolkit, with online programs on June 9. Participants can register for the entire conference package or for single days. For more information, go to: (<https://californiapreservation.org/programs/conference/>).

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