



PARK BEAT

The Pulse of Greater Boulevard Park

Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association # Box 163179, Sacramento 95816 # August 2021

38th National Night Out: Tuesday, August 3

This community-building event, traditionally held on the first Tuesday in August (last year was a notable exception), is a great way to see old friends and make new ones in the Boulevard Park neighborhood.

A few of the beat officers may be present, and one or two city representatives may show up too, as they make the rounds of the different National Night Out events throughout Sacramento (for more information, see the City website: <http://www.cityofsacramento.org/Police/Events-Notices/National-Night-Out-2021>).



Because we are still cautious about participating in public events, BPNA's observance will be scaled down this year. Instead of the usual three-course progressive dinner, we will have a single potluck course of appetizers and beverages. Please bring finger-food to share (garden bounty always is welcome!) and, if you like, a favorite beverage. BPNA will provide bottled water.

On **August 3, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.**, we will be gathering together in the shade of the gingko trees on the 22nd Street median, between Fat Alley and G Street. *This is BPNA's first in-person public event in over a year, so please come if you can!*

Three University Scholarship Awards Named After Boulevard Park Residents

In the past twenty years, three Boulevard Park residents have had university scholarship awards named in their honor. The **George Bramson Memorial Award in Historic Preservation** was established after the death in 2003 of George Bramson, a noted preservation activist and the owner of the Cranston-Geary House at 2101 G Street, the site of the annual BPNA Spaghetti Dinner for twenty years (1999-2019). This award is offered to Sacramento State students who have completed creative projects that document and celebrate historic events, sites, buildings, or other cultural resources in Northern California. BPNA residents may recall hearing the announcement of the names and projects of the awardees at the Spaghetti Dinner.

About a decade later, the **Juanita and José Montoya Memorial Endowed Art Scholarship** was established in honor of José Montoya (died 2013), an art educator at Sacramento State who designed the university's Barrio Arts Program, in addition to being co-founder of an internationally renowned art collective called the Royal Chicano Air Force (RCAF) and, in 2002-04, poet laureate of Sacramento. The Montoya Scholarship is awarded annually to an outstanding undergraduate Sacramento State Art student with an interest in teaching. For information about how to make donations in support of either the Bramson Award or the Montoya Scholarship, please go to this University website (<https://www.csus.edu/campaign/guide-to-giving/>).

This year, the California Farm Labor Contractor Association decided to honor Boulevard Park resident Guadalupe ("Lupe") Sandoval by assigning his name to the scholarship fund intended to benefit farmworkers and the children of farmworkers. Established in 2016 as the CFLCA Scholarship, it will now be called the **Guadalupe Sandoval Children of California Farmworkers Scholarship** (website: <https://calflca.org/scholarships>). Lupe was a co-founder and past executive director of the California Farm Labor Contractor Association and retired from the non-profit FLC association this year. The association's decision to rename the scholarship in his honor was announced at a fundraiser and retirement event in June.

A Brief Report from the BPNA Board

The Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association Board members were delighted to meet again in person on July 1st, with Zoom conferencing fast becoming a distant memory. This month's meeting began with a guest presentation by Michelle Pariset, Chief of Staff for District 4 Councilmember Katie Valenzuela, and Travis Silcox, BPNA representative on the D-4 Homelessness Task Force, which meets monthly in an effort to make Mayor Steinberg's Homelessness Master Plan a success. City Council members were scheduled to vote on this comprehensive master sitting plan at their July 27 meeting. In their presentation, Travis and Michelle told the Board that the list of potential sites for the homeless is growing. After some discussion of the points raised, Board members agreed to write a letter endorsing the concept of the Homelessness Master Plan, asking for proportionality among all of the City Council districts, and for full participation from the County. They also supported a call for increased funding for the Department of Community Response, which has not yet achieved necessary staff levels.

Following this presentation and ensuing discussion, the Board turned its attention to other issues, including the recent increase in traffic enforcement efforts in the Midtown entertainment district, neighborhood opposition to the proposed five-story, fifty-unit apartment building proposed for 20th and F Streets (see previous issues of *Park Beat*), and challenges faced by Sutter's Landing Park, where conditions have deteriorated over the past year or so. Members of Friends of Sutter's Landing Park met recently with District 3 Council Member Jeff Harris to discuss possible solutions to the problems that have arisen there.

Lastly, Board members agreed upon a scaled-down event for Boulevard Park's observation of National Night Out, scheduled on Tuesday, August 3 (see article on **page 1**).

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One of the longest-running and most popular festivals in Sacramento, **Chalk It Up!** has been held annually for over thirty years. It celebrates art and artists mainly by the creative use of chalk on any available paved surfaces (sidewalks, parking lots, driveways, etc.). Fremont Park will be the center of action over the Labor Day weekend (**Sept. 4-6**), with sponsored chalk artists, live local music, local food and craft vendors, and plenty of refreshments and fun for everyone. Funds raised by the Festival go towards arts education grants to teachers and organizations. For more information, go to: <https://chalkitup.org/>

BPNA Board of Directors 2021

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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
Newsletter Designer:	Pete Bramson
Social Media:	Sher Singh
Block Captain Coordinator:	Joe Cress, (916) 698-7938 josephmcrees@yahoo.com

August 2021:

Places to Go, Things To Do (Really & Virtually)

NOTE: For more information about virtual and live 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: Informal gathering on the 21st Street boulevard near F Street—no host, no agenda, just the opportunity to meet neighbors of all ages, orientations, and pronouns (5:30-7 p.m.; signs generally are posted around the neighborhood).

Every Wednesday: "Wednesdays at Winn," a certified farmers' market in Winn Park (28th and P Streets, **3:00 - 7:30 p.m.**; website: <http://exploremidtown.org/wednesdays-at-winn/>).

Every Saturday: Midtown Farmers' Market (**8 a.m. to 1 p.m.**, 20th Street between J and L; also, K Street between 19th and 21st). Local produce, flowers, pasta, meats, fish, wines, etc. etc. Bike valet service provided. Website: <http://exploremidtown.org/midtown-farmers-market/>

Every Saturday morning: Join other volunteers in tackling a variety of beautification tasks at Sutter's Landing Park. For exact time and more details, follow FOSSL on Instagram [@friendsofsutterslandingpark](https://www.instagram.com/friendsofsutterslandingpark)

Tue., Aug. 3: National Night Out: potluck appetizer event on 22nd Street between Fat Alley and G Street (6-7:30 p.m.). See article on **page 1**.

Thu., Aug. 5: Warehouse Creative Thursday Night Makers Market, Ali Youssefi Square, 705 K Street (local artists and artisans will have work for sale from 4-7 p.m.)

Places to Go, Things to Do (cont.)

Thu., Aug. 5: BPNA Board Meeting, conducted in person (6:30-8 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., Aug. 7: Virtual Harvest Day 2021, presented by UCCE Master Gardeners of Sacramento County (8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., with three keynote speakers and three 40-minute webinars). Free, but advance registration is required to get the participation link. Website: http://sacmg.ucanr.edu/Harvest_Day/

Sun., Aug. 8: Sacramento Antique Faire, now at Sleep Train Arena, 1 Sports Parkway (6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.; use east entrance off Truxel Road; park in Lot K; \$3 admission, but parking is free). Website: <https://www.sacantiquefaire.com/>

Sat., Aug. 14: Movie at the Fort: Midtown Association presents an outdoor screening of *UP* at Sutter's Fort (west side of building, 26th and L Streets; seating opens up at 7 p.m.; film starts about 8:45 p.m.). Free, but advance reservations are required. Website: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/movies-at-the-fort-tickets-154481374951>

Thu., Aug. 19: Warehouse Creative Thursday Night Makers Market, Ali Youssefi Square, 705 K Street (local artists and artisans will have work for sale from 4-7 p.m.)

Sat., Aug. 28: 21st Annual Race for the Arts 5K, Kids Fun Runs & Arts Festival: fundraiser for California nonprofit arts organizations and programs of all types, held in William Land Park. Website: <http://raceforthearts.com/>

Sat., Aug. 28: DOCO Makers Market (11 a.m.-4 p.m.): local artisans, crafters and makers, plus live musical entertainment, all at the pop-up in West Plaza, near Macy's.

... *And looking ahead to early September:*

Thu., Sept. 2: BPNA Board Meeting, conducted in person (6:30-8 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.

Sept. 4, 5, 6: Chalk It Up! Art & Music Festival, Fremont Park, 16th and Q Streets (10 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day). See article on **page 2**.

Pass the Word: Deliver Park Beat!

With his head tilted and with one hand on his hip, this dapper newsboy, photographed in Sacramento in 1915, seems to be inviting passersby to join him on his paper route.

And, in fact, Boulevard Park could use another volunteer Block Captain.

The route needing coverage is near **22nd and H Streets**. If you can spare about fifteen minutes of your time each month and would enjoy the opportunity to walk and talk with your neighbors, please contact our Block Captain Coordinator, Joe Cress, at **916-698-7938** (email: josephmcrees@yahoo.com)



No, You *Weren't* Bitten by a Brown Recluse Spider

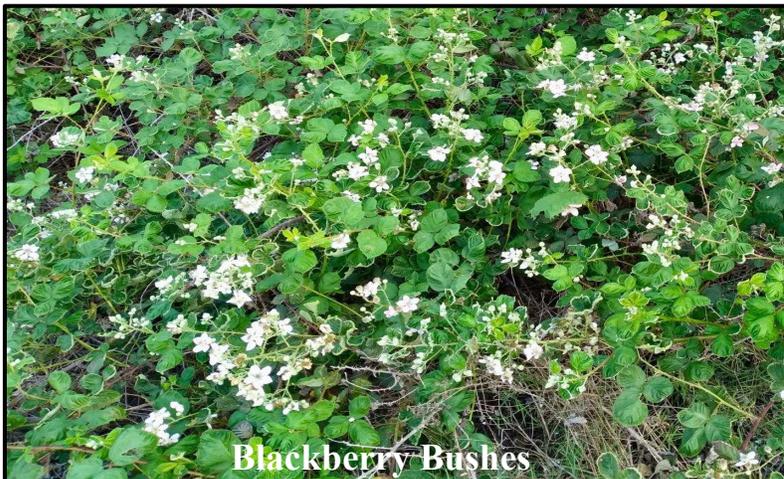
By Nita Davidson

If you live in California and suddenly have a burning, sore patch of skin that looks like a bite, chances are slim that you have a spider bite, and next to impossible that you were bitten by a brown recluse spider. Why? It is because brown recluse spiders don't live here. A few have reached California from their native Southern-Central Midwestern states, but have never established. Four species of desert-inhabiting recluses live in Southern California, where they are confined to remote areas.

Brown recluse spiders (*Loxosceles reclusa*) are medium-sized spiders with a body length just under a half inch and leg length of about one inch. To the untrained eye, the brown recluse looks like a generic brown spider, but has a unique violin-shaped mark just below its head and an unusual pattern of three pairs of eyes. This nocturnal spider lives up to its name by being reclusive. Indoors, it lives in dark, protected areas under furniture or in attics. Outdoors, it hides under rocks or bricks, not in vegetation.

About 90% of brown recluse spider bites cause only mild irritation and respond well to RICE therapy—rest, ice, compression, and elevation. Fewer than 10% of bite victims experience necrotic skin lesions, caused by a digestive enzyme in the venom that weakens blood vessels around the bite site, cutting off the oxygen supply. Necrotic lesions almost always have non-spider causes. Spiders don't transmit bacteria and their venom is actually anti-bacterial.

Two skin infections are especially important to diagnose correctly—**Staphylococcus** infections resistant to common antibiotics (MRSA) and **Streptococcus** infections that can lead to necrotizing fasciitis. When these infections are misdiagnosed as the result of brown recluse bites, valuable time is lost treating them. Brown recluses are sometimes blamed for tick bites and this can delay the treatment of Lyme disease, which is transmitted by ticks throughout California. What about those typical red, itchy bites that we find on our bodies? They're usually made by insects that like our blood, such as mosquitoes, fleas, and bed bugs. Spiders aren't interested in us as prey, and they don't sneak up on us and bite us while we're sleeping.



Blackberry Bushes

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The Trees (*and Other Plants*) of Our Area: Blackberry Bushes

When bicycling or walking along the American River Parkway, it is hard to miss the common blackberry bushes that grow beside the path. Also called California blackberries, Pacific blackberries, and by several other names, this species (*rubus ursinus*) is native to western North America. The wide, mounding shrub or vine has white, fragrant flowers. The dark purple, dark red, or black fruit provides food for birds, deer, bear, and many other creatures, including several species of butterfly larvae. Native Americans relied upon blackberry bushes for fruit and traditional medicine.

Wild blackberries are great to eat but may seem smaller and less juicy than the ones sold at supermarkets. To get those perfect looking, large, sweet berries requires a constant source of moisture, which is not typical of Sacramento summers. However, blackberry bushes are moderately drought tolerant once established. Their branches can even take root by simply touching the nearby soil. As a result, the plants can spread into large colonies when the conditions are right. The best conditions are a deep soil and full sun.

The photograph on the lower left was taken along the American River bike trail this past spring when the blackberry bushes were in full bloom. Now those same bushes may be laden with ripe fruit!

What Style Is My House?

Tudor Revival

by Jon Marshack

The eleventh article in this series about architectural styles explores **Tudor Revival**, a style that derives elements from Elizabethan-era architecture (reign of Queen Elizabeth I, 1558-1603). Tudor Revival homes were popular from the 1890s to about 1940. Identifying features of this style include steeply pitched, side-gabled roofs with prominent front-facing cross gables, and closely cropped eaves. Gable ends sometimes include heavy bargeboard edges. Walls can be clad in a diverse array of materials, including smooth or textured stucco, brick and/or stone, and wood clapboard or shingles.

Some examples have decorative half timbering—exposed wood framing infilled with contrasting materials, such as plaster or masonry. Windows are usually tall and narrow, in groups with multi-paned glazing. Massive chimneys are another character-defining feature, sometimes crowned by decorative chimney pots. Front doors and windows may have rounded or Tudor (flattened pointed) arch tops, while similarly arched features may also be found on entry porches. Most Tudor Revival homes in Midtown are somewhat simplified versions, expressing a few, but not all, of the above-listed characteristics.



2026 C Street (1929;
P. R. Opdyke, architect/builder)



2204 H Street (1930;
Brentwood Apartments)



607 21st Street (1932;
H. C. Kinney house)



Neighborhood Treat(s): Midtown Bakery

Some residents may not have discovered it yet, but a few months ago, the **Midtown Bakery** was opened on the ground floor of the historic Wiseman house, 2301 J Street. This space, which previously served a catering business, is entered from a blue door on the 23rd Street side of the building. It is just the right size for a “dessert boutique,” a beautifully fitted-out pastry shop with a European flair.

After stepping down into the shop, clients find themselves in a charming front room that has a sales counter with a display case at one end, and shelves with a range of dessert-themed china and glassware at the other.



The Midtown Bakery specializes in small batch, handcrafted cakes, cookies, and pies, but also offers a few savory treats, such as corn muffins laced with jalapeños, chives, and cheddar. The owner and chef, Angela Harris, welcomes custom orders, too, and can make sugar-free desserts on request. She enjoys preparing food that both tastes good and looks pretty, and she has the training to do just that. Her husband Thomas handles sales at the counter when she is busy in the kitchen just down the hall from the shop. Because the kitchen is so close at hand, shop visitors have the privilege of inhaling fragrant aromas and nibbling freshly baked items still warm from the oven. However, they only can do that on weekends. For the time being, the Midtown Bakery is open from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays (website: <https://midtown-bakery.com/> ; instagram @midtownbakery).



Dignity in Our Built Environments by Enzo Arona

Photos courtesy of
Inga Saffron



You've been there: you're looking for a place to sit, or somewhere to throw away your coffee cup (because you forgot your reusable one, of course), but you can't find any place to do it, even in some of our business districts. You also need to use the bathroom, but you'd have to buy something from a nearby business to be able to do so. How did we get here?

Municipal apathy and hostile design are to blame. Municipal apathy ignores the basic needs and bodily functions of people occupying the city, surrendering this responsibility to the private sector instead. Hostile design inconveniences everyone solely to exclude the destitute. Perhaps nowhere is this more visible than the recently opened Moynihan Train Hall in New York City.

The vast train hall has not a single public bench, and with only a tiny waiting room for ticketed passengers, hundreds of travelers have no choice but to sit on the floor, in the richest country on earth. The hall also doesn't have trash receptacles. One online commenter described it as "a hostile and acutely neoliberal space"; another wrote, "Ableist, anti-family, anti-child." To avoid accommodating even one hypothetical homeless individual, designers are willing to deprive everyone of adequate public seating (see: curbed.com/2021/07/viral-tweet-inga-saffron-shame-moynihan-benches.html).

Everyone needs basic facilities in order to lead dignified lives in the city, especially the elderly, those who are disabled or live with medical conditions, children, and pregnant people. The outcome of not providing the public with trash receptacles and restrooms are streets and spaces with litter and human waste left out in ways that threaten public health and sanitation. Moreover, depriving people of facilities will not make their needs disappear. The unhoused, just like the rest of us, need places to throw away their trash, use the restroom, and yes, sit a while. Isn't it better to offer this modest dignity than to relegate them, and the rest of us, to suffering?

I'd like to live in a city that's both capable and proud of treating its residents and tourists with respect. Would you? Share your thoughts on the matter with me at enzoarona@outlook.com

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