



## PARK BEAT

*The Pulse of Greater Boulevard Park*

Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association ■ Box 163179, Sacramento 95816 ■ November 2020

### The CLAW is BACK

#### Seven Times This Season

It's official: Leaf Season begins on

**November 1, 2020 and ends on January 24, 2021.**

During that three-month period, the City's seventeen "claws" (leaf-loaders) will pass through each neighborhood at least seven times. Because the timing of this seasonal street cleaning ritual can vary according to the amount of tree debris in the streets, residents may want to check the SacRecycle Collection Calendar regularly. The same guidelines apply as in past years:

- Green waste containers should be refilled first. The City's Recycling & Solid Waste trucks will be stopping by 13 times—that is, on the usual weekly basis—to collect the contents.
- Leaf piles should be unbagged, no more than 4x4x9 feet in size, and placed at least six feet from any obstructions. Space also should be left between the leaf pile and the curb so that rainwater can flow easily into the storm drains.
- The leaf piles and the green waste containers should **ONLY** be used for green waste—please, **no** trash and **no** pet waste! Those materials belong in the garbage containers.

For the green waste collection calendar, waste-handling tips, and other information, go to:  
<http://www.cityofsacramento.org/Public-Works/RSW/Collection-Services/Yard-Waste/Leaf-Season>



### Especially for Readers Who Haven't Voted Yet

If you are reading this issue of *Park Beat* before 8 p.m. on Tuesday, November 3, there is **still** time to vote in the Presidential General Election. All you need to do is hand-deliver your sealed and signed pink VBM envelope to any one of several official Vote Centers and Ballot Drop Boxes. As of October 31, all of the County's Vote Centers are open. Their hours before November 3 vary, but on Election Day all Vote Centers will be open from **7 a.m. to 8 p.m.** Here are a few suggestions:

- Sac. County Administration Building, 700 H St. (enter from I St.): open daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- CLARA Auditorium, 1425 24<sup>th</sup> St. (enter parking from O St.): open daily 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Modoc Hall, Sacramento State, 3020 State Univ. Drive: open daily 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Ballot Drop Boxes also will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on election day (hours on other days vary). Here are three locations near Boulevard Park:

- Central Library, 828 I Street: open Tue.-Sat., 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Sacramento City Hall, 915 I Street: open Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- McKinley Library (outside, in front of the building): open Tue.-Sat., 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

If the hours listed above are not convenient for you, there is a drive-through Ballot Drop Box at the Voter Registration and Elections office, 7000 65<sup>th</sup> Street, that is open 24 hours a day until Nov. 3, when it will close at 8 p.m. For other Drop Box locations, refer to the County website listed below.

Residents concerned about standing in lines indoors at Vote Centers may be reassured by this statement that appeared in the *Sacramento Bee* on Oct. 8: "Anyone who arrives at a voting center with an already completed ballot . . . can hand it to the elections official at the entrance rather than wait in line." For information, contact the VR&E office by phone (916-875-6451), email ([voterinfo@saccounty.net](mailto:voterinfo@saccounty.net)), or by using the toll-free voter assistance hotline (800-762-8019). Information also can be found on the County website (<https://elections.saccounty.net/votecenters/pages/locations.aspx>).

## A Brief Report from the BPNA Board

At their October 1 meeting, held virtually, the Board members welcomed guest, David Slipher, who has lived in Boulevard Park the past 4 years (all of the monthly Board meetings are open to members and other interested residents). David's interests include history, culture, grass-roots activism, fairness for renters, and air quality issues, especially the environmental impact of the over-use of leaf blowers in our neighborhood.

Air quality and its measurement also were on the Board's agenda, because a local resident is planning to install a "Purple Air" sensor on his block in the next few weeks. For more information about this useful, crowd-sourced database, go to: <https://www2.purpleair.com/>

The topic receiving the most attention at the October meeting was homelessness, specifically its impact on Boulevard Park and adjacent neighborhoods. A City-sponsored and publicized "hot line" is needed so that residents will know who to call when seeking help for homeless individuals.

As also has been discussed at City Council meetings, public services to the homeless must be spread proportionately throughout the greater Sacramento City and County area. No single district or neighborhood should have an over-concentration of homeless camps. A homeless camp sponsored by Safe Ground Sac has been in operation at 12<sup>th</sup> and C Streets since this summer. More homeless camps and temporary shelters are planned throughout the region, pending approval by City Council. The sprawling encampment beside the freeway at 29<sup>th</sup> and C streets is a spontaneous development, with no sponsorship or guidelines. Residents living near this camp have been very concerned about its growth.

## EXTRA! EXTRA! BLOCK CAPTAIN NEEDED

We have recently been informed that a new volunteer Block Captain is needed to deliver copies of *Park Beat* in the 19<sup>th</sup> and G Street area of the greater Boulevard Park neighborhood.

If you can spare 15 minutes of your time each month and also would enjoy the opportunity to walk and talk with your neighbors, please contact our Block Captain Coordinator, Joe Cress, by phone or email (916-698-7938; [cressj@saccounty.net](mailto:cressj@saccounty.net)).



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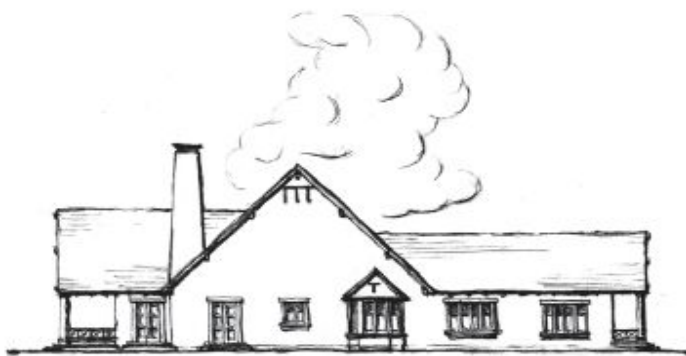
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# BPNA Board of Directors 2020

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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

## Park Beat Production Team

Newsletter Designer: Pete Bramson  
Newsletter Editor: Catherine Turrill Lupi  
Social Media: Sher Singh  
Block Captain Coordinator: Joe Cress, (916) 698-7938  
[josephmcress@yahoo.com](mailto:josephmcress@yahoo.com)

## November 2020:

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

**NOTE:** As of October 22, very few live public events were listed on the City's 365 website. Check it and other websites for updates. Below are a few events, programs, and dates to remember.

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

**Every Saturday:** Midtown Farmers' Market (8 a.m. to 1 p.m., 20<sup>th</sup> Street between J and L). Before you go, be sure to read the current health precaution guidelines posted on the Explore Midtown website (<http://exploremidtown.org/midtown-farmers-market/>).

**Online and streamed events in Sacramento:** The Sac 365 website offers information about virtual entertainment and activities (<https://www.sacramento365.com/categories/online-streaming/>). Also check the Online/Virtual space site for information about lectures or other programs being conducted online (<https://www.sacramento365.com/venue/online-virtual-space/>).

**Sun., Nov. 1:** Daylight Savings Time ends; Leaf Season begins.

**Sun., Nov. 1:** One day per week (Sat. or Sun.) watering starts today.

**Tue., Nov. 3:** Election Day: PLEASE VOTE (see article on **page 1**)

**Thu., Nov. 5:** BPNA Board Meeting, via Zoom (6:30-8 p.m.). Open to BPNA members and other interested residents. Contact Dave Herbert for information or to suggest agenda items.

**Fri., Nov. 6:** B Street Theatre's Six Feet Apart: Singer-songwriter Ashley Sofia (7 p.m., followed by a Q&A with the artist). Free, but advance registration is required. Website: <https://bstreettheatre.org/six-feet-apart/>.

## Places to Go, Things to Do (cont.)

**Sat., Nov. 7:** Hidden Figures of Voting Rights: Interactive webinar for girls in grades 4-12, hosted by the Girl Scouts Heart of Central California (8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.). Registration is required. Website: <https://www.gshccvirtual.org/girls/hidden-figures-of-voting-rights-And-advocacy>

**Sun., Nov. 8:** Deadline for filing for candidacy on the 2021 BPNA Board (see article on **page 4**)

**Sun., Nov. 8:** Sacramento Antique Faire, 21<sup>st</sup> and W Streets (under the freeway on the second Sunday of every month; 6:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.; \$3 per person admission). For information about COVID-19 safety protocols, go to: <https://www.sacantiquefaire.com/>

**Wed., Nov. 11:** Veterans' Day

**Fri., Nov. 13:** B Street Theatre's Six Feet Apart: Violinist Kelly Hall-Tompkins (7 p.m., followed by a Q&A with the artist). Free, but advance registration is required. Website: <https://bstreettheatre.org/six-feet-apart/>

**Fri., Nov. 20:** B Street Theatre's Six Feet Apart: Independent recording artist Kofy Brown (7 p.m., followed by a Q&A with the artist). Free, but advance registration is required. Website: <https://bstreettheatre.org/six-feet-apart/>

**Wed., Nov. 25:** Virtual Tree Lighting, sponsored by Downtown Sacramento Partnership: the lighting of the holiday tree at the Old Sacramento Waterfront will be live-streamed this year (6 p.m.; website: <https://www.facebook.com/OldSacramento/>).

**Thu., Nov. 26:** Thanksgiving Day

*... And, looking ahead to early December:*

**Thu., Dec. 3:** BPNA Board Meeting, via Zoom (6:30-8 p.m.). Open to BPNA members and other interested residents. Contact Dave Herbert for information or to suggest agenda items.



### A Reminder About 3-1-1, the City's Centralized Call Center Number

All **non-emergency** City service requests can be directed to the very useful 311 number, whether dialed, texted, or typed. The representatives working at the Call Center can help residents resolve a wide range of municipal problems. Among others, these include illegal dumping (such as discarded furniture and mattresses in the alleys), abandoned vehicles, backed-up storm drains, potholes, broken street-lamps, graffiti, etc.

Go to the 311 Customer Service website to request services, find answers, or check on the status of recent service requests (<https://www.cityofsacramento.org/Information-Technology/311>)

Requests also can be submitted to the City by email ([311@cityofsacramento.org](mailto:311@cityofsacramento.org)). Residents who write to the 311 email address will get an immediate, automatic reply with a case number and a few general suggestions.



Hodson in San Francisco  
after the quake (see page 5)



**BURTON M. HODSON.**  
A leading photographer of Sacramento and the State. His finished work is found in almost every home in Northern California. Served a term as school director and takes deep interest in all local affairs.

## The Trees of Midtown: The Alder

Alders are fast growing, deciduous trees, growing to about 50 feet in height. The red alder is the largest species and is found along the west coast of North America. The black alder is native to Europe. Both species of alder are mostly found near streams, rivers, and wetlands. Locally, alders grow along the American River parkway. A few are seen along our city streets and in parks. The alder tree in the photo stands outside the entrance to the State Indian Museum beside Sutter's Fort, adjacent to the duck pond.

Planting alders can improve soil quality, because the tree's roots contain a nitrogen-fixing bacterium that absorbs nitrogen from the air, making it available to the tree. In return, the alder provides the bacterium with sugars through photosynthesis. Alder wood has many uses. Most of the pilings that support the streets and buildings of Venice were made from alder. Alder wood also has been used for cabinets and other furniture. Because the wood can produce a tight, evenly balanced tone in stringed instruments, the bodies of electric guitars made by the Fender Corporation have been made from alder since the 1950s. Alders are beneficial in other ways too. Tannins extracted from the wood and bark are used to tan leather. Alder bark has been used by Native Americans to treat poison oak rash and other skin irritations. The wood of certain alder species is used to smoke coffee beans and some seafoods.



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## LAST CALL, Candidates for the 2021 Board of Directors (Nov. 8 deadline)

In the September and October issues of *Park Beat*, BPNA members in good standing (annual dues paid) were invited to consider serving on next year's Board of Directors. The deadline for informing a current officer of your interest in being a member of the 2020 Board is **Sunday, November 8** (for the officers' names and email addresses, see page 3). The personal statements submitted by all declared candidates for the 2021 Board will be printed in the December issue.

As a reminder, this is what being on the BPNA Board involves. All officers are expected to attend the Board meetings. These are held monthly, with each session lasting about 90 minutes. In collaboration with other BPNA members, the seven officers coordinate the four public events sponsored by the association each year—the general membership meeting in January (when voting takes place for the new slate of officers), the progressive dinner for National Night Out in August, the Spaghetti Dinner in September, and the Holiday Party in December. The neighborhood yard sale, usually held every other year, also is coordinated by the officers. In addition, they track issues of concern to the neighborhood and work with City officials to keep residents informed. Finally, the officers are the leading contributors to *Park Beat*, although submissions and suggestions from other BPNA members always are welcome.



# What Style Is My House?

## Neoclassic Rowhouse

by Jon Marshack

Residents of northern Midtown are fortunate to live among a variety of architectural house styles, which together create a rich heritage. Have you ever wondered about the style of your house? This is the fourth in a series to explore Boulevard Park and New Washington School house styles. In this article I present another frequently encountered style in our two historic districts, the *Neoclassic Rowhouse*, a simplified single-story relative of the Classic Box (American Foursquare) that was the subject of my October article. In Sacramento,

this style was popular from 1900 to 1920 and many Boulevard Park examples were built by its developer, Wright and Kimbrough. Local historian William Burg claims that these two Classical Revival styles set the overall tone for construction within Boulevard Park.



404 and 400 19th Street (built in 1908; first listed as rental properties early in 1909)

In this case, the term “rowhouse” is used to refer to detached houses that are built side-by-side in a line with limited side-yard spaces between. Neoclassic Rowhouses are often found in adjacent pairs or triplets. These one-story houses sit on raised foundations and are capped with rectangular hipped roofs with boxed eaves. Their front-facing hipped dormers normally are used to vent the attic spaces. Like houses in the Classic Box style, Neoclassic Rowhouses feature simplified wall surfaces with minimal ornamentation and Classical architectural features.

The partial-width front porch is recessed within one side of the roof perimeter, which rests on two or three shortened columns sitting atop a three-foot high wall enclosing the porch. Porch columns may be square and chunky with Doric capitals or slender and turned with Tuscan or Doric features. A shallow, angled three-part bay window normally occupies the remainder of the street frontage. Where space permits, shallow bays also appear on one or both side elevations. Exteriors may be clad in narrow wood clapboards, double or triple ogee siding, or shingles. Wide, flat trim frames windows and doors. Originally, a terraced or angled stoop flanks the front steps. The raised first floor of the Neoclassic Rowhouse may present the opportunity to add a basement apartment or garage.

### Hodson the Photographer, East Boulevard Park Pioneer

The Boulevard Park neighborhood has an historic connection with photography that dates back to the early 1870s, when Eadweard Muybridge set up his apparatus beside the Agricultural Park racetrack and documented the gait of one of Leland Stanford’s horses. Eugene Hepting, resident of 501 22<sup>nd</sup> Street from about 1922-46, was an amateur photographer whose many snapshots of Sacramento scenes are an important part of the collection at the Center for Sacramento History. Professional photographers also have resided in or near our neighborhood, among them David Roberts, Robert Sewell, and Jay Spooner. Further cementing the relationship between Boulevard Park and photography is the nearby Viewpoint Photographic Art Center (2015 J St.; open Thu., Fri., and Sat. from noon to 5).



2309 E Street in 1914

One of the first people to build a house in East Boulevard Park, a Wright & Kimbrough subdivision launched in 1912, was Burton M. Hodson, a prominent commercial photographer. His father, John R. Hodson, also was a photographer, operating “photographic art parlors” in Sacramento and San Francisco in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Burton (known as Burt) was based in Sacramento but spent some time in San Francisco after the 1906 earthquake (see the photo on page 4).



2309 E Street in 2020

Fifty-five of Hodson’s photographic views of the ruined city, all taken on April 21, 1906, were published in a memorial album in September of the same year. In a flattering profile printed two years later, one journalist noted that Hodson’s photographs could be found “in almost every home in Northern California” (*Sacramento Union*, Sept. 16, 1908). According to his obituary, Hodson himself “boasted proudly of taking the picture of every governor of the state since he entered business” (*Sacramento Bee*, Oct. 4, 1949).

Burt and his wife Lillian purchased their lot at 2309 E Street on August 11, 1913 and secured a building permit for the new house twenty days later. According to Wright & Kimbrough, who used photos of the finished residence in some of their newspaper advertisements for East Boulevard Park, the firm had built the house according to the “plans and specifications” of their client. It is noticeably different from the Craftsman-style bungalows located nearby. The Hodson house’s simple white exterior, hipped roof, and columned front porch, originally open to the air, contributed to its Neo-Classical look. A decade later, when having a new residence built in East Sacramento, the Hodsons chose a related style. Their house at 1117 38<sup>th</sup> Street, built in 1923, has several features associated with the Italian Renaissance Revival style popular in the 1920s, such as the arched openings and the smooth, stucco-clad exterior walls.



## Murals in Our Midst: New Washington School Neighborhood

In July of this year, SKK Developments, the company responsible for Eleanor Apartments, the new five-story building at the southeast corner of 16<sup>th</sup> and E Streets, announced that all four sides of the structure would be completely covered by an original mural by ASHOP Crew, a collective of graffiti artists from Canada. Upon completion, the mural, called *A Journey into Curiosity*, will be the largest mural in midtown Sacramento. It is expected to have its official debut in November.



*Washington Elementary School mural, as seen from F Street.*

The Eleanor Apartments mural is important not only for its size but also for the collaboration of the artists with the children enrolled at Washington Elementary School. According to an article in *The Sacramento Bee* (October 6), the students provided the inspiration for the mural, which will “depict a story of a mythical creature on a journey through land, air, and water.” One of the artists in the ASHOP Crew, Dorian (Dodo) Ose, painted a mural on the outside of a building on the school’s grounds in early October.

Both of these new mural projects are part of Sacramento’s 2020 Wide Open Walls festival, now in its fifth year (website: <https://www.wideopenwalls.com>).

## Remembering Dennis Brown (1951-2020)

Boulevard Park has had many memorable residents. Two who brought particular joy to our neighborhood were Louise Barbuto Barbosa, who died in her hundredth year in 2009, and Dennis Brown, who died at age 69 on October 17. Robert Sewell’s photo shows Dennis talking with Louise at her birthday celebration two years before her death (*see below*). She clearly was delighted to see him, all dressed up for her party. He greeted her, and everyone he encountered, with friendship and love. A resident of Boulevard Park since the mid-1950s, Dennis was a very familiar presence, and we will all miss him.



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## Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association Membership Form

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