



Miraloma Life

www.miralomapark.org

Dear Miraloma Park Residents

Every January, the Miraloma Park Improvement Club (MPIC) encourages everyone to join or renew their membership in the MPIC. Many memberships expired on December 31, so please take a moment to renew. If you are not a member, please join to show your support for the high quality of life in our neighborhood. Membership is open to everyone who lives in Miraloma Park or owns a business or home here. This is not an organization for homeowners only.

The MPIC is dedicated to sustaining and improving quality of life in Miraloma Park. Since its founding in 1936, this all-volunteer organization has worked with SF government agencies to promote community safety and advocate for quality city services for our neighborhood.

The MPIC works closely with Miraloma Elementary School, our District 7 Supervisor's office, the SFPD, SFFD, City Attorney, and other city agencies. One of our ongoing initiatives is to help Miraloma Park prepare for disaster recovery. In 2015, the Resilient Miraloma Park (RMP) program brought NERT training to our doorsteps, with over 30 neighbors becoming newly certified. With your support, the MPIC will have a stronger voice in bringing resources to our community through programs such as the 2016 Participatory Budget Process for District 7.

The MPIC is also active in zoning conservation and community building. Miraloma Park is one of the few neighborhoods in San Francisco to have neighborhood specific residential design guidelines (adopted by the City Planning Commission in 1999).

We own our Clubhouse at 350 O'Shaughnessy at Del Vale which includes use of the parking lot in front. The Clubhouse is a great venue for MPIC-sponsored activities, community events, and rental for private occasions. Members receive special prices to rent the Clubhouse for private events. In the last year, many neighbors met and socialized at the Fall Festival and Holiday Party at the Clubhouse. The Club has also sponsored a Resource Fair for seniors, hosted a neighborhood meeting about traffic along Teresita, and held a community safety meeting.

MPIC Board meetings, held at the Clubhouse, are open to the neighborhood. All Miraloma Park residents are encouraged to attend. Board Membership is open to MPIC members. Members wishing to be on the meeting agenda may contact the Club at 415-281-0892 or miralomapark@gmail.com. Members are invited to join Club Committees and get involved with issues such as safety, disaster preparedness, and zoning and planning.

The MPIC publishes *Miraloma Life*, our monthly newsletter. Your contributions to the newsletter are welcome. Recent contributions have included poetry from the Miraloma Elementary school. You can find information about Club activities in *Miraloma Life* or on our website, www.miralomapark.org. The Club is expanding its presence on social media, including Nextdoor.com and Facebook.com.

We hope you'll support your Board's efforts on behalf of the neighborhood by joining the MPIC! The cost for a family is \$25 for one year—less than seven cents a day. Your membership helps keep our neighborhood clean and safe. To renew or join, complete and return the enclosed membership form or visit www.miralomapark.org/about/join.

Wishing you all the best in the New Year, Robert Gee, MPIC President

Events in January

7

MPIC Board Meeting*

Thursday, 7 pm,
Clubhouse

20

Resilient Miraloma Park

Working Group Meeting
5:30-7:30 pm,
Clubhouse

* Members wishing to address the Board of Directors should call 415-281-0892 to request placement on the agenda.

MPIC 2015 Holiday Potluck Party a Huge Success!

Despite threats of rain, the MPIC annual holiday party was extremely well attended. Those who have lived in the neighborhood for years welcomed many new residents. All appreciated the festive decorations assembled by the MPIC Board members. The band, led by Laura Lee Brown, played a variety of holiday tunes to set the mood of good cheer.

Young families with children of all ages delighted in the antics of clown Boswick Turnstile, III. He brought youngsters up on the stage and stayed to make balloon hats for all comers.

The variety of dishes was wonderful. It seems every year a new batch of cooks contributes more tasty dishes. Prizes for winning recipes were donated by merchants in our neighborhood and others nearby. Many thanks to these businesses. Let's all support them with our purchases!

Holiday Potluck Prizewinners

Appetizer

1st - Minced Turkey with Glazed Walnuts on Endive, Pam Chan

2nd - Mushroom Paté, Gary Isaacson

3rd - Blue Cheese and Bacon, Sheila Keating

Soup/Salad

1st - Potato Salad, Charles and Roxanne Frye; Twice boiled yams with bacon and goat cheese, Sue Kirkham

2nd - Green Bean Casserole, Sheila Keating

3rd - Shrimp Fried Rice, Wendy Lai

Entree

1st - Pepper Steak, Wendy Lai

2nd - Turkey Chili, Thomas O'Brien

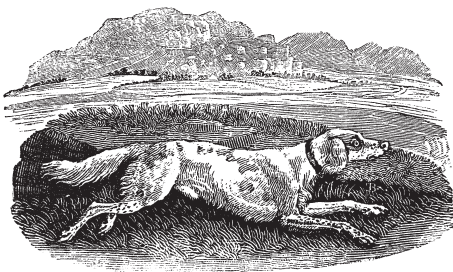
3rd - Penne with Sausage and Zucchini, Todd Siemers

Dessert

1st - Mango Pudding, Nancy and Daniel Louie

2nd - Frosted Brownies, Shannon Chu

3rd - Strawberry Almond Flan, Marilyn Grassman; Chocolate Dipped Coconut Macaroons, Mark Jawgiel; Tuxedo Bars, Bill and Becky Yee; Lemon Pie, Sheila Keating



(continued on page 3)

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SOLD, continued

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52 Marne	4/2.5	\$1,300,000
331 Teresita	5/4.5	\$2,229,000



MPIC 2015 Holiday Potluck Party

(Continued from page 2)

Favorite Prizewinning Recipes

Suju's Pepper Steak (prep time: 20 minutes; cook time: 20 minutes; serves 6-8)

Ingredients:

2 lbs sirloin/NY strip steak

1 onion

1 green bell pepper

1 yellow bell pepper

1 red bell pepper

4 tbsp vegetable or olive oil

4 tbsp soy sauce

1 tbsp brown sugar

1 tbsp cornstarch

3 tbsp beef broth

Salt to taste (1 tsp suggested)

Ground pepper to taste (1 tsp suggested)

4 cloves of garlic and 4 ginger slices (1 inch diameter rings)

Preparation:

1. Slice steak into 1/8 inch thin strips.
2. Marinate steak with soy sauce, brown sugar, and cornstarch for 5 minutes.
3. Slice onion and peppers.
4. Heat oil in a sauté pan until hot.
5. Add garlic and ginger over medium heat.
6. Add steak strips and turn the heat to high.
7. Sauté steak until done and remove to bowl.
8. Sauté onions and peppers in the sauté pan for 3 minutes over high heat.
9. Add cooked steak back to onion/pepper mixture, along with beef broth, and bring all to a boil.
10. Add salt/pepper to taste and voilà! Pepper steak!

Sue's Twice-Baked Sweet Potatoes with Bacon and Goat Cheese (16 servings/90 minutes)

Ingredients:

4 large (about 3 lbs total) orange-fleshed sweet potatoes, scrubbed and halved lengthwise

2 tbsp olive oil

8 oz bacon, cut into 1-in pieces

5.5 oz fresh goat cheese, divided

2 tbsp milk or heavy cream

1/2 tsp each of kosher salt and pepper

3 tbsp maple syrup, divided

1 tbsp chopped chives

Preparation (up to 1-day ahead):

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Prick cut side of potatoes with a fork in a few places. Rub potatoes all over with oil and put on baking sheet, cut side down. Roast potatoes until tender when pierced with a fork, about 45 minutes. Let cool until you can handle them easily, about 15 minutes (keep oven on).

Meanwhile, cook bacon in a large frying pan over medium-high heat, stirring often, until very crisp, 5 to 8 minutes, depending on

thickness of bacon. Drain on a paper towel. Roughly chop half the bacon.

Scoop sweet-potato flesh out of skins and into a bowl (reserve skins). Smash flesh with a fork until smooth. Add chopped bacon, half the goat cheese, milk, salt, pepper, and 1 tbsp maple syrup and stir just until blended. Spoon into reserved sweet-potato skins, dividing evenly and using all of it. Chill.

At the party, bake until potatoes are warm in the center, 15 to 20 minutes. Sprinkle tops of potatoes with unchopped bacon, crumbles of remaining goat cheese, drizzles of remaining syrup, and chives.

Roxie's Potato Salad

Mix 5 pounds of potatoes, 8 boiled eggs, sweet pickle relish to taste, mayo, a teaspoon of mustard, a dash of tobacco, salt and pepper to taste.

Pam's Minced Turkey with Glazed Walnuts in Endive Spears

Ingredients:

5 tablespoon grapeseed oil

1 cup fresh shitake mushrooms, thinly sliced

1/2 cup thinly sliced celery

1 tbsp minced garlic

1 tbsp minced ginger

1/2 cup thinly sliced green onions

1 lb ground turkey (or chicken)

1 tbsp seeded and minced serrano pepper

1 tbsp oyster sauce

3 tbsp granulated sugar

2 tbsp fish sauce

grated zest of 3 limes

1/4 cup freshly squeezed lime juice

2 tbsp rice vinegar

2 heads endives, spears separated

2 cups glazed walnuts(see recipe below)

1/2 bunch basil leaves, washed and dried

1/2 bunch cilantro, washed and dried

Preparation:

Preheat a wok or large sauté pan on medium-high until smoking hot. Add 2 tbsp of grapeseed oil to the pan and quickly stir-fry first the shitake mushrooms and then the celery. Set aside. Add 3 tbsp of the oil to the pan and stir-fry the garlic, ginger, and green onions until soft, but not browned, about 3 minutes. Add the ground turkey to the pan and sauté until the chicken is fully cooked. Transfer turkey mixture to a bowl.

(continued on page 4)

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MPIC 2015 Holiday Potluck Party

(Continued from page 3)

In a small bowl, combine the serrano pepper, oyster sauce, sugar, fish sauce, lime zest, lime juice, and rice vinegar. Once the chicken mixture has cooled, add the serrano pepper mixture. Fold in the reserved mushrooms and celery, and mix well. Spoon the turkey filling into the endives and garnish with glazed walnuts and herbs.

For Glazed Walnuts:

1 ½ cups water
2 cups sugar
3 tbsp ground black pepper
2 tablespoon kosher salt
2 cups walnuts
Preheat oven to 350F.

Stir water, sugar, pepper, and salt together in a medium saucepan and bring the mixture to a boil. Boil for 3 minutes and then add the nuts. Return the liquid to a boil and cook for 4-5 minutes.

Strain the nuts out of the liquid and place them on a sheet pan lined with a Silpat silicone mat. Bake nuts in a 350F oven until crunchy, approximately 10-18 minutes.

Contributing Merchants

The following merchants contributed prizes for the Potluck contest, as many have throughout the more than two decades of MPIC Holiday parties. We thank them for helping to foster our community spirit and identity, and encourage all our readers to patronize their fine stores.

Bird and Beckett Books and Records, \$25 certificate; Canyon Market, \$10 certificate; Cheese Boutique, \$15 certificate; Destination Baking Company, \$25 certificate; Glen Park Hardware, \$30 folding jab saw/utility knife; Glen Park Nails, certificate for manicure; Izabella's Beauty Salon, \$25 certificate; La Corneta Taqueria, two \$15 certificates; Le P'tit Laurent, \$50 certificate; Mollie Stones, four \$25 certificates; Papenhausen Hardware, \$25 gift card; Pop's Sandwich Shop, 2 sandwich certificates and Round Table Pizza, two \$25 certificates (both Pops and Round Table are owned by Jeffrey and Maria Spiegel).

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What's Trending?

by MPIC President Robert Gee

PG&E Gas Pipeline Replacement Project: Residents have been inquiring about the status of the PG&E gas line replacement project in Miraloma Park. Over the last year, many of us have been impacted by the construction and “no parking” signs as gas lines in our streets are replaced with flexible piping. These disruptions are a small price to pay for its huge benefits: safer homes and neighborhood. PG&E's Project Manager has advised us that customer outreach teams are working in their various departments to get us details with respect to the following items. We'll report back once we get answers:

- Schedule for gas line replacements still planned for Miraloma Park.
- Detailed explanation of safety benefits of moving gas meters outside the house.
- Safety benefits of the replacement project.
- A contact number to call if there are problems with the “no parking” signs or other issues involving installation.
- Plans for repaving of the streets after installation.
- Sidewalk replacement and how the pavement colors don't match.
- How and how far in advance will residents be notified that gas lines will be replaced on their blocks.

Disaster Resilience Summit at City Hall on December 1, 2015

Thanks to our Resilient Miraloma Park (RMP) representatives who attend this event on behalf of our community: Joanie Van Rijn, Guido Van Rijn, Louise Custer, Jean Perata, Bill Jeong. and Bill Kan (who also took notes). Other Resilient neighborhood groups also attended, including Bayview, Diamond Heights, Brotherhood Way, OMI, Sunset, Cayuga, and Merced Extension Triangle. The televised Summit, led by MPIC Board member Daniel Homsey, included as speakers Mayor Ed Lee; Councilmember LaToya Cantrell of the City of New Orleans with Felisia Thibodeaux, Resilient Bayview Steering Committee Member on the experience and lessons of Hurricane Katrina; and Naomi Keller, City Administrator.

We're Planning a Community Safety Meeting in February 2016: MPIC Board members recently met with SFPD Ingleside Station Captain Joseph McFadden to discuss safety issues in Miraloma Park. We will work with Captain McFadden and his staff to hold a community-wide safety meeting in February 2016 that will fo-

cus on ways our residents can identify and immediately report suspicious behavior. The meeting will be very interactive, using a video of an actual crime in progress to educate residents on the important details to observe and how to report them. Capt. McFadden's similar presentations to other neighborhood groups have been well received. Watch for announcements in the next *Miraloma Life* issue, on *NextDoor Miraloma Park*, and in emails to members.

Reporting a Problem to SF 3-1-1 Gets Results!: The MPIC thanks Sequoia Way resident Jim C. for recently identifying a serious safety hazard at the Miraloma Playground tennis court. One of the tennis net posts was lying on the court. The post was very rusted and the jagged base presented a danger to kids, who could get hurt if they fell on it while playing. At the suggestion of other neighbors, Jim installed the Mobile SF 311 app on his cell phone and then reported the problem using the app and attaching a picture. The very next day, a Recreation and Park crew replaced the broken net post! Using 311 WORKS to get problems fixed. Next time you see a broken swing or play structure at a playground or leaking sprinklers, don't hesitate to report the problem by dialing 3-1-1 within SF only, visiting www.sf311.org, or <http://www.sf311.org/index.aspx?page=797> to download and use the Mobile SF 311 app for I-phone or Android-based phone.

What is Participatory Budgeting?: Participatory Budgeting is a democratic process in which community members directly decide how to spend part of a public budget. It gives citizens the power to set budgeting priorities and make decisions on which community projects should be funded. The process involves brainstorming project ideas, developing initial proposals, and selecting winning projects by vote. This is the third year our District 7 Supervisor, Norman Yee, has held this program. Last year, over 1,000 District 7 residents voted on the final projects selected.

This year, District 7 residents will get to decide how best to spend \$300,000 allocated for Participatory Budget General Projects and \$200,000 for Pedestrian Safety Vision Zero Projects.

How can I apply?

Applications are available online at www.bitly.com/D7pbapplication. Project proposals must be for a single project that benefits the District 7 community, which includes Miraloma Park! They must also fall within one of

(continued on page 6)

What's Trending?

(Continued from page 5)

the following categories:

- A. Neighborhood Services: e.g., for youth, seniors, non-English Speakers, public safety
- B. Culture: e.g., events, art, beautification, parks and greening projects
- C. Small Business: e.g., supporting merchant organizations, commercial district revitalization
- D. Schools, Education, Youth: e.g., improving schools, libraries, after-school programs
- E. Pedestrian Safety/Vision Zero: e.g., helping improve safety of pedestrians and all road users
- F. Other: all bold and innovative ideas are welcome!

Single project budgets will range from \$5000 to \$25,000. The application is designed to be easy and quick to complete.

Deadline to Submit Applications: January 8, 2016

Questions? Contact Sup. Norman Yee's office at norman.yee@sfgov.org or 415-554-6516.

FREE Disaster Preparedness Training in Miraloma

Joan Van Rijn, Miraloma NERT Coordinator

On Thursday, February 4 at 7 pm, the first of six Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) training sessions will be taught at Miraloma Elementary School, 175 Omar Way.

NERT, sponsored and taught by the SF Fire Department, is designed to prepare residents to cope with a large-scale disaster, particularly a major earthquake. This is a perfect opportunity to get this FREE training in your neighborhood! Come meet your neighbors, learn about hazards and resources, practice skills, and plan for YOUR block to be ready for the Big Quake. Sign up after January 4 by calling the NERT office at 415-970-2022 or enrolling online at SFFDnert@sfgov.org. If you aren't a NERT yet, you should be! If it has been 2 years since you were certified, you can get recertified by attending sessions 5 & 6. Don't be inert; be a NERT!

Miraloma NERT Team Meeting

The Miraloma NERT team will meet on Thursday, January 28, 2016 at 6:00 pm at the MPIC Clubhouse. Meetings are open to all NERTS, those who are certified and individuals who need to be re-certified. We need you and your ideas to create a vibrant and effective team. See you there! For more information: joanvanrijn@gmail.com.



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Money Matters: Making Good on Resolutions

by Bill Kan, CFA, Principal of Candent Capital

We have all made our share of New Year's resolutions. For most, resolutions fall in the category of things that are more easily said than done. Over the last year, have you managed to (1) save more, (2) pay off debt, or (3) spend less? They are the most popular financial resolutions over the last 5 years according to the New Year Financial Resolutions Study sponsored by Fidelity Investments. Below are ideas to help you make them happen in 2016.

Give the resolution a meaningful purpose and momentum. In my experience, people are more motivated when they have a clear sense of purpose that matters to them. As you try to make good on the resolution, remind yourself why. For example, save more for a special vacation, a new car, wedding, college, retirement, etc. Give it

(continued on page 7)



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Money Matters

(Continued from page 6)

momentum by allocating tax refunds, bonuses, and pay raises that take effect at the beginning of the year. Once the ball is rolling, it is easier to keep it going.

Take baby steps, especially if the purpose is for the distant future. Saving for retirement that may be decades away can be daunting. Instead, establish attainable near-term goals as checkpoints to keep yourself on track. It could be as simple as participating in a 401(k) plan or contributing to an IRA.

Over time, fine-tune it with estimates of how much of your desired retirement can be covered by your savings. Stay on course as you would driving a car. The checkpoints help you keep your eyes on the road. Your hands should be steady on the wheel, making adjustments as needed to stay on course. Saving more is similar. Adopt a plan for saving that is appropriate. Try to keep it steady for a greater chance of success.

Be selective when paying off debts. High-cost debt left unmanaged can drain your savings. The price of credit on more expensive forms of debt, such as credit cards, is on average 13% for fixed rate and 16% for variable rate cards. In comparison, interest rates on bank CDs are in the low single digits. Taking more risk by investing in the stock market may bring higher returns. However, consensus estimates of stock market returns range between 5% to 10% per year for the next 10 years. Depending on the cost of borrowing and the expected returns from saving, it may be better to plug the drain into your bucket of savings than simply to add more money.

Develop good debt management habits to tame debt. Regularly review your outstanding debts, the cost or the interest rate charged, and the required minimum payments. Compare the terms of your credit cards, home equity lines, mortgage, student loans, and any other form of debt. Include accounts that you may have not used in a long time. Odds are that you will find major differences.

Simplify things for yourself. Consider cancelling credit cards and lines of credit that you don't use. This will reduce the chance of fraudulent use of your credit. Be sure to pay every period at least the minimum payment due, preferably more. Missing payments can trigger fees and terms that increase the cost of credit very quickly. Use extra cash to pay down the most expensive debt first. You

will know you are making good on your resolution when the amount you owe shrinks and paying down debt becomes habit.

Spend less by asking why and knowing the trade-offs. Before spending money (or time) on non-essential items, ask yourself why, and what do you have to give up in exchange? In my own experience, these questions have helped to prioritize my spending. I believe my decisions have become smarter and less wasteful.

(continued on page 8)

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Money Matters

(Continued from page 7)

Make an honest comparison to confirm that you are spending less. Compare your current spending to the prior year's numbers. This works best when your situation has not changed much. Life events such as a job change, health issues, or helping someone can make that comparison difficult. Another way to gauge your success is to see if both of these happened: your savings increased and your debt level decreased or stayed the same.



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Resilient Miraloma Park

Please join the Resilient Miraloma Park Implementation Working Group at our first quarterly meeting of 2016 as we report on the progress being made in community building, stakeholder engagement and disaster preparedness. We would like to share the projects we hope to get off the ground in 2016. These include developing concrete strategies for block captains, mass feeding, sheltering, waste management and power generation. Hope you can come and bring a few neighbors!

When: January 20, 2016

Time: 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Where: Miraloma Park Improvement Clubhouse

350 O'Shaughnessy Blvd at Del Vale

A light meal will be served



Summary of the MPIC Board Meeting of December 3, 2015

by Joanne Whitney and Dan Liberthson

Guest: District 7 Supervisor Norman Yee discussed participatory budgeting (see article in this issue); reviewed the traffic situation at Teresita and Fowler (still under discussion by neighbors and SF MTA); clarified density bonus legislation (if affordable housing is provided, 2 stories above zoning may be added, so buildings on the Portola strip could be 4-5 stories, as discussed by President Gee in the December Miraloma Life); said that demographic information about neighborhoods before the density bonus award would be desirable and is under discussion (though not currently in force); said he would check on police plans Miraloma Park coverage.

On-line Vote: Motion to spend \$95 for Coalition of San Francisco Neighborhoods (CSFN) sponsorship and ticket to annual dinner (approved).

Treasurer's Report Highlights (R Gee): During Novem-

ber, MPIC net worth increased from \$35,536 to \$37,170. From 1/1/2015 through 11/30/2015, total income exceeded total expenses by \$4,528.

Committees: *Membership* (B Kan)—MPIC had 445 members as of 10/31/15, down one from 9/30. Motion to spend up to \$400 for new supplies (passed). *Club-house Maintenance* (K Rawlins)—Exploring use of brighter LED lighting. *Events* (K Rawlins)—Gifts for Holiday Party obtained; thanks to Peter Renteria and Sue Kirkham for their help. Motions made to provide Holiday bonuses to various suppliers: gardener (\$400), rental agent (\$300), newsletter carriers (\$65 each) newsletter layout (\$100) all passed. *Zoning and Planning* (ZAP, T Armour)—279 Bella Vista, 234 Teresita, 795 Teresita awaiting reviews; 656 Teresita still needs a permit for secondary unit. Many thanks to Steve Whitney for de-

(continued on page 10)

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A few of our recent sales

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Exceptional Miraloma Park Tudor
905 Portola Drive (Represented Seller)
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MLS # 436740

Charming in Sunnyside
219 Hearst Avenue (Represented Seller)
Listed for \$888,000, Sold for \$1,175,000
MLS # 436456

Please contact us for a free, no-strings attached, market analysis of your home.

The Somsel-Tomassi Team is:



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MPIC Board Meeting of December 3, 2015

(Continued from page 9)

tailed reports of compliance/noncompliance of proposed building projects with Miraloma Park Residential Design Guidelines. P Tekkey suggested a Planning Commissioner address the Board re current issues. *Newsletter* (D Liberthson)—Per R Gee, J Ryckebusch and S Yeralan will form a Publicity Committee to monitor such issues as safety, Miraloma School, community events, building issues, research, and any others of interest to the community, and to find writers to do newsletter articles on such subjects (e.g., J Ryckebusch helped set up Kids Corner for elementary school students' poems and stories each month). J Whitney will monitor NextDoor for items of interest. *Traffic* (R Gee)—Thanks to the efforts of Del Vale resident Steve Hess, SFMTA confirmed they will install two modern speed humps to replace the series of small speed humps that were partially removed on Del Vale by PG&E during gas line replacement. Re Teresita/Fowler Y Intersection, R Gee contacted SFMTA for an update on the status of capital improvements for this intersection, which must be resolved first before moving forward on other pedestrian safety/traffic mitigation solutions along Teresita. So far, as no response received from SFMTA; Sup. Yee will be queried. *Resiliency* (D Homsey)—Resiliency and NERT meetings well attended and committees active. See notices in this issue.

Community Organizations: *Coalition for SF Neighborhoods* (CSFN, K Breslin)—Affordable Housing Bonus Program (AHBP) discussed: concerns neighborhoods not involved in program planning and the entire City may be upzoned. Plan to turn Palace of Fine Arts into a hotel discussed: this is SF Park and Rec property and should be for the public. Motion that SFMTA rescind permission for private, for-profit commuter shuttles to operate in SF public bus stops; recommit to the Bay Area Regional Express Bus Plan Study; and conduct an EIR on the remaining legal parts of the commuter shuttle policy (passed). *West of Twin Peaks Central Committee* (WOTPC, K Breslin)—AHBP discussed; concerns similar to those at CSFN.

Old Business: As applying to change the MPIC's non-profit status from 501(c)4 to 501(c)3 was approved by ballot at the September Fall Festival, K Rawlins will begin process of submitting the application.

New Business (R Gee, B Kan): Submitted 2016 Budget

and explained various details including a reserve account as dictated by good business practice.

What's Growing in Our Backyards Some Year-end Thoughts

by Denise Louie

The Paris talks around Climate Change have resulted in agreements to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. We can each do our part by reducing purchases of consumer goods, traveling less, and eating less meat, all activities that increase GHG. More positively, we can try to make do with things we already have, stay in or close to our golden state, and eat diverse fruits, vegetables, nuts, seeds, and tofu. Then we can grow edible plants and plants with deep roots that help sequester carbon. Native bunchgrasses have those deep roots.

As of December 13, 2015, the SF Chronicle reported we've had 2.17 inches of rain this season. Normal to date is 6.33 inches. US Climate Data reports average SF rainfall in October, November and December as 1.1, 3.15, and 4.57 inches, respectively. [<http://www.usclimate-data.com/climate/san-francisco/california/united-states/usca0987>] While digging in my backyard, I noticed the soil is bone dry about 5 inches deep. I believe we need to collect and give extra water to deep rooted plants, especially trees—even though we've had periods of seemingly good rain.

If you need buckets to collect water from your shower or washing machine, check Rainbow Grocery. They put their castaways in the blue bins in their back parking lot. I sometimes ask at the bulk food counter for any with lids that haven't yet been taken outside.

Winter pruning promotes growth. The angle of a cut and the distance to the main branch or trunk determines whether the cut will heal. The location of a cut determines where the next bud will form. After pruning it is important to disinfect tools (rubbing alcohol is a good choice) before using them to avoid inadvertently spreading disease.



Kids Corner

The Secret Circus

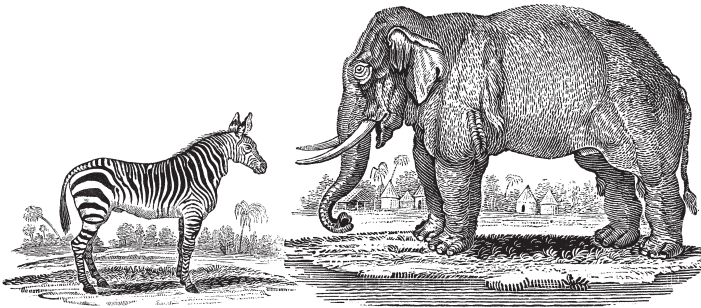
by Stella, Fourth Grader, Miraloma Elementary School

I wanted to show you the secret circus
at the center of the earth.

I wanted you to walk on the colorful
zebras and lions that race around the track,
and touch the metal trapezes swinging up to the sky.

I hoped you could hear the roars of the bears
riding unicycles to the clouds,
and feel the tiger's sunset orange mane.

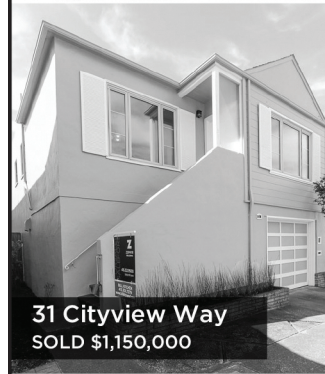
Most of all, I wanted you to dream—
about the elephants created from tiny brush strokes,
about how it would feel to be walking
on the thin tight wire, and swinging
from the trapeze with the wind blowing
in your face as you zoomed past
the audiences' surprised faces,
all at the secret circus at the center of the earth!



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Miraloma Park Improvement Club Membership Application

Please complete and mail with your dues to the Club address below. Make check payable to **Miraloma Park Improvement Club, 350 O'Shaughnessy Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94127**. (No cash, please). Thank you!

☐ New Member ☐ Renewing Member Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

☐ Please send me an email reminder to renew my membership.

Enclosed are my dues for the next twelve months (check one):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$12 Senior Member(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Single Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Family Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 Supporting Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Contributing Member | <input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ Other |

No MPIC membership information is shared with other parties or organizations.

Important Phone Numbers

EMERGENCY	9-1-1
All City Calls	3-1-1
Poison Control Center	1-800-222-1222
Non-emergency Police Dispatch	415-553-0123
Suicide Prevention Hotline	415-781-0500
Ingleside Police Community Room	415-404-4000
Parking Complaints	415-553-1200
Abandoned Cars	415-553-9817
Security Survey/Nbd.Watch	415-673-SAFE
Office of Citizen's Complaints Against SFPD	415-241-7711
Narcotics Tips (anonymous)	1-800-CRACKIT
SFPD Tip Line	415-587-8984
Domestic/Family Violence (24hrs)	415-864-4722
Stray, Abused, or Dangerous Animals	415-554-6364
Dumped Item Pickup – DPW	3-1-1
Vital Records	3-1-1
Code Enforcement Hotline	415-554-3977
Graffiti Cleanup – DPW	3-1-1
Police New Graffiti Hotline	415-278-9454
MUNI Shelter Damage/Graffiti	1-510-835-5900
Ingleside SFPD Hearing-Impaired line	415-404-4009
School of the Arts	415-695-5700
Norman Yee, Supervisor Dist. 7	415-554-6516

(norman.yee@sfgov.org)

RENT the MPIC Clubhouse



MPIC Members get a discount.

Trash and recycling available.

Free parking in the adjacent parking lot.

Call 415-281-0892 for rates/availability

Or E-mail: miralomapark@gmail.com

Miraloma Park Residential Design Guidelines:

Adopted in 1999 by the SF Planning Commission to promote preservation of neighborhood character by encouraging residential design compatible with neighborhood setting, these Guidelines facilitate the complex process of permit application and design review and can prevent costly, time-consuming Discretionary Review proceedings.

The Guidelines are at www.miralomapark.org.

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Clubhouse Rental Agent.....	415-281-0892
Website: www.miralomapark.org	
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Article Submission Policy

Deadline for February 2016 issue articles is Monday, January 11.

E-mail copies of your article to miralomapark@gmail.com, with "Miraloma Life" in the Subject line. Or mail to: Editor, Miraloma Life, 350 O'Shaughnessy Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94127.