



Miraloma Life

www.miralomapark.org

Juanita Way Safety Meeting

Robert Gee, MPIC Safety Committee

From November 2016 thru January 2017, there were 5 burglaries reported in the vicinity of the 200-300 block of Juanita Way and nearby Miraloma and Casitas. Residents in that area expressed their concerns in NextdoorMiraloma Park about what they could do to prevent future burglaries and to increase police patrols.

Robert Gee of the MPIC Safety Committee reached out to one of the victims, Carolyn Selig, to find out how the MPIC could help the residents in that location and learned that the residents wanted a local block meeting with city officials and SFSAFE to discuss the safety issues in their area. The MPIC then contacted Capt. McFadden of the Ingleside Station, Adam Cuadra of SFSAFE and Archie Wong of the District Attorney's office to have them attend this block meeting.

On February 16, 2017, 32 neighbors from the 200-300 block of Juanita, Marne, and Lansdale got together in the garage of the hosts, Mike and Carolyn Selig. For an initial block meeting, the attendance was exceptional and clearly showed that the residents were engaged

in problem-solving. A big thank you goes out to Carolyn Selig who took the lead to coordinate this effort and publicize it with her neighbors as well as to provide nice refreshments. There were many residents who met each other for the first time. Lt. Paris Deshong from the Ingleside Station came on behalf of Capt. McFadden; Assistant DA Archie Wong, Adam Cuadra from SFSAFE, and Robert Gee and MPIC President Bill Kan represented MPIC.

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32 residents of the 200-300 block of Juanita, Marne, and Lansdale gather for a block meeting.

Events in March

Thursday, March 2, 2017 (also announced in February MLLife)

Help Wanted

Miraloma Life
Delivery Carrier
see page 12.

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

President's Update

Bill Kan

I am often asked what is the MPIC and what does it do. The breadth of activities can make this hard to describe in simple terms. My short answer would be that the MPIC is a volunteer neighborhood organization dedicated to improving the quality of life in Miraloma Park.

The MPIC's activities may not always be top-of-mind for everyone. However, you would be amazed at the level of time and effort that many people have volunteered to help Miraloma Park. Many Board members are working hard developing special and on-going projects for Miraloma Park and would welcome your participation. If there is something that you believe would benefit the community, let's discuss how the MPIC can work with you to make it happen. Everyone benefits when more people get involved and get to know each other better. Here are some examples.

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We Need Your Vote: help to bring exciting Projects to Miraloma Park!

Joanie van Rijn, Miraloma Park NERT Coordinator

In mid-March, District 7 residents will vote on how \$550,000 in Participatory Budgeting funding will be allocated to community proposals. Participatory Budgeting is a community-driven process in which District 7 residents create ideas for projects, a Neighborhood Council made up of residents from different District 7 areas reviewed and ranked proposals, and residents vote on which projects will be funded. The February Miraloma Life described one of the proposals, “One Block at a Time”. A total of four Miraloma Park projects were submitted and their summaries are described below. Great news! Supervisor Yee’s office has told us that all of our (4) proposals have made the ballot. Two of our projects are focused on pedestrian safety and two are neighborhood services. You will be able to vote for more than one project. Our projects will not be in competition. Vote for all of Miraloma Park projects.

Proposals submitted by other neighborhoods focused on pedestrian safety, neighborhood services, culture, schools, education, youth, and small businesses.

This is the fourth year Supervisor Yee has secured funding for the Participatory Budgeting process.

In mid-March, we’ll need all District 7 residents over 16 to vote for our four projects. Voting will take place online as well as in-person voting at certain locations. Voting will be open for 1 to 2 weeks. We will post the voting link on miralomapark.org, announce the vote on Next Door Miraloma Park, and notify our MPIC members and those who are on our Resilient Miraloma Park distribution list. The final winners will be announced in April.

These are the projects that were submitted:

- **Traffic Calming Measures for Myra Way.** Install two speed cushions on Myra Way between Molimo Dr. and Reposa Way to reduce vehicular speeds to a safe level for the neighborhood. Myra Way is a narrow thoroughfare around the south side of Mt. Davidson. It is part of the MUNI #36 route. Situated on this road is Miraloma Elementary School. The neighborhood has families with children and senior. It is also frequented by dog walkers and hikers headed to Mt. Davidson. From Molimo Dr. to Reposa Way, there is little to deter cars from speeding through the neighborhood. We are in need of better traffic-calming measures for Myra Way. Please support the installation of two speed cushions to reduce vehicular speeds. The Miraloma Park Improvement Club supports this project.

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- **Melrose Avenue Traffic Calming.** This project would install two mid-block speed humps on Melrose Avenue between Genessee Street and Mangles Avenue, where vehicles often travel well beyond the 25-mile per hour speed limit. Melrose Avenue is long and relatively flat, which allows drivers to build up speed, and has a bend with obscured visibility. This project would benefit residents in Sunnyside, Westwood Highlands, and Miraloma Park, especially the elderly and young children. It would also benefit all pedestrians especially those who may not have access to a vehicle and walk to and from the bus stops along Monterey Blvd. The Miraloma Park Improvement Club supports this project

- **Miraloma Park’s Disaster Preparedness Program: *One Block at a Time*.** This program will improve disaster preparedness at the block level by training at least 50 new block captains, who are volunteers from the neighborhood. Block captains will organize the block for disaster preparedness and will identify the elderly, the disabled, and families with young children to that they can be checked on first after a disaster. The project will purchase and distribute 50 emergency supply bins to block captains and to neighbors who are providing a “gathering site for comfort and care” in their garage. A Gathering site is a home on the block that is pre-registered by the resident neighbor as a place where people can come to for comfort and care immediately following a disaster. There will be a first aid training class to better support the “gathering sites for comfort and care.” The Miraloma Park Improvement Club, Resilient Miraloma Park, and the Miraloma Park NERT Team support this project.

- **Miraloma Park Community Connector, an inter-generational aging in place model.** Miraloma Park does not have a Senior Center. However, this project will be a “community center without walls” modeled after a successful program in the Cayuga neighborhood. (cayugaconnector.org). This project will encourage neighbors to help each other, reduce older adult isolation, promote socialization, and offer programs and activities so that neighbors stay active, engaged and remain in their homes for as long as possible. The program is 10-15 hours a week; a neighborhood resident coordinates exercise and other social and educational programs. The programs will be located in Miraloma Park. Resilient Miraloma Park supports this project

Note to Miraloma Park residents: You have the opportunity to vote for the best ideas. Participatory Budget voting begins March 17 and ends March 31:

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We Need Your Vote

(Continued from page 2)

online at Sfpbd@sfgov.org/d7/vote or, in person, at the West Portal or Ingleside branch libraries. You can vote for more than one project. Our projects will not be in competition. Please consider voting for all 4 Miraloma Park projects and help bring these exciting projects to our neighborhood!

Safety Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

Here are our notes on Lt. Deshong's comments at the meeting:

- There are 5 patrol car sectors in the Ingleside police district which includes Miraloma Park. Not all sectors are staffed 24/7. New recruits have joined the station. [Miraloma Park is in Sector 4.]
- The Taraval District Station also provides coverage to the area. If you feel a threat- call 911. When in doubt- call 911. The non-emergency number is 415-553-0123. When talking with the dispatcher, they will ask specific questions.
- Motion activated lighting is good to have but you want to make sure it's adjusted properly.
- 99% of burglars entering a house hearing that someone is home will quickly exit.
- Don't go into a house if you find your front door or windows open upon arriving.
- Police don't monitor Nextdoor.
- The MPIC has asked Capt McFadden for passing calls in the Juanita/Marne/Lansdale area. Residents say they haven't seen additional patrol cars, but Lt. Deshong says that they passing calls are made if requested. Officers are given a list of passing calls to make. The MPIC will continue to advocate with Capt. McFadden for passing calls and for 24/7 staffing of our (Sector 4) car.

Assistant DA Archie Wong explained his work Ingleside station to spot crime trends. He reminded everyone that if they see something - to say something. He urged everyone to register their video cameras through the District Attorney's office website, so that if a crime should occur, the DA and SFPD can check to see who has video

cameras nearby. He also emphasized the importance of everyone serving on juries so that the right verdicts are reached. He said that the DA's office will follow up with victims to keep them apprised of the process of prosecuting defendants. Also, it is good for the community to submit impact statements to the DA. These can be shared with the judge. The MPIC has done this in regards to the defendant involved in a hot prowler burglary in the 200 block of Juanita and in the cases of defendants arrested in connection with crimes occurring in Miraloma Park.

Adam Cuadra of SFSAFE described SFSAFE and its long history and connection to the SFPD. He mentioned the following:

- Everyone should take advantage of their free residential security survey that involves an inspection of your home and recommendations on how to make it more secure.
- 50% of burglars enter through unlocked doors and windows.
- Residents should form a neighborhood watch group; he commended the residents for attending the meeting, saying that this group was already a third of the way into the formal process of forming a local watch group.
- Burglars do not like light and noise at or around a house: identify dark spots on streets and between houses where additional lighting could be installed. For additional street lighting, contact PG&E and DPW.
- Security system signs should be conspicuously posted.
- Mapping a block is an important part of getting to know neighbors.
- Some residents wanted to find out more about local crime statistics. Crime stats can be found at www.crime-mapping.com where you can search by zip code and time period.

The attendees all agreed on the importance of getting to know neighbors. Someone made a comment about seeing garbage cans sitting out for days and not knowing if someone was home or away of if the house was vacant. Another resident asked about holding a neighborhood block party. There's a great tool called the Neighborfest Host Toolkit published by the city's Neighborhood Empowerment Network. It can be found at <http://empowersf.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/Neighborfest-Host-Toolkit.pdf>. The Toolkit provides all of the information you need to get your block party off to a great start.

MPIC thanks all of the residents who attended, asked great questions, and are motivated to build a strong and safe community.

President's Update

(Continued from page 1)

At any given moment, the three members of the **Safety Committee** are working vigorously on prevention or response to crime or other concerns that affect our safety and peace of mind. As discussed in this month's article by Robert Gee, the Safety Committee brought the DA's office, SFPD, and SF SAFE together to help a fellow Miraloman host a home meeting on Juanita Way attended by over 30 neighbors. The purpose was clear: collectively, what can be done about burglaries in Miraloma Park? I was amazed by everyone's level of engagement. In addition to helping facilitate the meeting, the MPIC sent a letter to District Attorney Gascón advocating for aggressive prosecution in the case of the suspect arrested in connection with the recent Juanita Way hot prowler burglaries. (See copy on page 8.)

The 5-member **Publicity Committee** is responsible for all aspects of publishing *Miraloma Life* monthly, September through June each year. The Committee also recently started updating the MPIC's vintage website and is exploring enhanced use of social media to keep Miraloma Park informed and facilitate MPIC receiving your feedback.

Thank you, all who've submitted articles and ideas over the last couple of months. They are gems that highlight the diversity of the people and interests of Miraloma Park. (See next page.) Contributing articles can be a fun and beneficial way of getting to know your neighbors, sharing your experiences, and strengthening our community.

Keeping up with the all the happenings at the MPIC is easier than you think. We have been trying give an overview in this column and more color in articles in *Miraloma Life*. You can also email me or other Board members at miralomapark@gmail.com.

Much of the discussion at the February 2nd meeting focused on the past, present, and future needs of families in Miraloma Park. The MPIC Board also discussed participating in a Historical Context Statement for Miraloma Park (an idea originating with a Club member), which would document the architectural development of Miraloma Park, thus highlighting one of the special features of our neighborhood.

The discussion then moved on to consider 1) how the MPIC can help address the needs of young families mov-

ing into Miraloma Park, as well as those of long-time residents, with relation to zoning and planning issues and disaster preparedness programs. 2) NERT classes are starting again, and the One Block at a Time Disaster Preparedness program is rolling out. (See the February ML-Life for details.) 3) Miraloma Park District 7 Participatory Budget proposals will appear on the 2017 District 7 Participatory Budget online ballot: see Joanie van Rijn's article (page 2) summarizing the four projects that directly impact Miraloma Park and be sure to vote! 4) The Board voted to approve the 2017 annual organization budget which includes an increased funding allocation to support community events. 5) Some ideas also discussed include using the MPIC Clubhouse for family movie nights, dancing, and informational presentations. Send us ideas or your interest in planning an event.

There is room on the MPIC Board for up to three (3) additional members. (MPIC Bylaws limit Board capacity to 17.) The benefits of joining the Board include the opportunity to help shape the future of Miraloma Park, to work with some of the most caring and dedicated people you will ever meet, and to have fun building community. New Board members can be new or long-standing residents. At present, MPIC Board members are working people, parents of school-age children, and retired people. The MPIC is evolving and will benefit from your participation. Note: the annual MPIC elections are in June.

To learn more, contact me at miralomapark@gmail.com or 415-281-0892.

Irene Poon and Charles Wong- Miraloma Park Artists

Robert Gee, MPIC Board

Many of us have used Kodak film, disposable cameras, Polaroid pictures, and digital cameras. Today, it's smart phones. Irene Poon and Charles Wong are two photographers with deep roots in San Francisco who have documented 50 years of urban street life and still only develop their black and white pictures the old fashion way: in the darkroom.

I talked with Irene, 74, a long time Miraloma Park resident and one of the foremost Chinese American photographers, and with Charles, 94, her friend and collaborator. Irene moved to the "wilderness" known as Miraloma Park in 1971.

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Irene Poon and Charles Wong

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Irene and Charles met in 2000 through a shared love of photography. “Most people don’t understand a photo, they only see it, they don’t read it,” Irene says. “Charles and I are fortunate in what we can think and see outside the proverbial box telling our stories.” Through their photos, they encourage viewers to go beyond the photograph and read into its unknown spaces, to contemplate and see with open minds.



Irene Poon and Charles Wong today.

Irene is also an art historian, curator, and cultural activist, born and raised in San Francisco’s Chinatown. Her father operated an herbal store in Chinatown where Irene spent her formative years. He had an interest in taking family pictures and had his own darkroom in the basement of the Chinatown building that was their home. Irene used to watch him and prints in tubs of liquid and became fascinated with the idea that images can come out of the dark. Her life behind the camera began 1964. Why black and white photos? Because “they have a better abstraction from reality than taking pictures in color,” says Irene.

Irene explained that her photos isolate those brief and telling instances she calls “the decisive moment” that captures critical moments and aspects of life that we don’t readily see. She said she loves working in the confines of her home darkroom and seeing images magically appear slowly while listening to opera at a rather high volume.

Irene received her Master of Arts in photography in 1967 at San Francisco State University (SFSU) where she studied photography with Don Worth. She retired from SFSU after 45 years as a visual resource person in the Fine Arts Department.

“Virginia” is a 1965 photo of Irene’s late sister standing at in a Chinatown family store. Irene said she took the picture of Virginia who was very social but here so in

control at her appointed job as clerk.

Irene has exhibited at the Crocker Art Museum (1967), De Young Museum (1968, 2008-9), San Francisco Museum of Art (1971), Smith Anderson North (2012) and SFMOMA in 2016 where she also has a photo collection. In 2001, she published “*Leading the Way: Asian*

American Artists of the Older Generation”, a book of photographic portraits of older Asian American artists.



“Virginia” (1965) image by Irene Poon

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Irene Poon and Charles Wong

(Continued from page 5)



Memories of the Universal Cafe” (1965) image by Irene Poon (poster image for an exhibition at the De Young Museum, 1968.

In 2015, Irene and Charles published “*Read the Photograph*” a volume of their images and texts ranging from the 1950s to the present.

Charles was also born and raised in San Francisco’s Chinatown. He received a scholarship to the California School of Fine Arts (now SFAI) in 1940. WWII interrupted, and he joined the Air

Force, returning to the Fine Arts school from 1949-1951 to enroll in the photography program newly founded by Ansel Adams. He studied with Adams, Edward Weston, Minor White and Imogen Cunningham. Charles focused his photos on the Chinese community as well as the

larger world and always wanted to create stories with his pictures.

Charles took this picture of a young couple in 1952 in Chinatown. He said, “They looked fabulous, and I couldn’t get over how satisfied she was with her quince. The gentleman’s looking at his plant — he’s thinking about putting it in a porcelain pot. It’ll grow the next year and the year after that. He’s looking at the future, and she’s thinking about how her flower’s going to bloom the next day. The whole concept of Chinese New Year is in this image.”



*Charles Wong:
Our Treasure (1952)*

Charles’ brief but prolific photographic career was defined in the Chinatown streets of the 1950s where his work was featured in a 1952 edition of *Aperture* magazine. Charles then went to work with Bethlehem Steel Shipbuilding (later, Bechtel) doing mechanical drawing where he “used art to design ships since photography doesn’t pay the bills.” After a hiatus of 40 years, Charles has resumed photography and is still looking for that ultimate picture.

Charles has exhibited at the San Francisco Museum of Art (1951, 1954), the Museum Folkwang in Germany (1984), Gordon College (2001), the de Young Museum (2008-9 2009) and SFMOMA in 2016 where he also has a photo collection.

I thanked Irene and Charles for sharing their experiences with me and then sheepishly asked if I could take a picture of them....using my smart phone.



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The 5 Rs: Your Roadmap to Reducing Waste

Catherine Homsey, Miraloma Park Resident and
Miraloma Elementary Parent

Our family has always been pretty environmentally conscious. We bought organic produce and natural products; we recycled everything we could and composted every scrap of food. I was proud to live in San Francisco, a city that shares my values. Our town even provided us with

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The 5 Rs: Your Roadmap to Reducing Waste

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compost bins! How many places do that? I thought we were doing a really good job.

Still, I was disappointed each week when our recycling bin was full to the rim. Most of it was plastic food containers and boxes from ordering stuff online. I had read that a lot of the plastic we put into the bin wouldn't end up being recycled, but I didn't know what to do about it.

Then I read about a family in Marin who had reduced their trash to just a quart a year. As I read about their practices and habits, a whole new world opened up for me. We were not powerless over the amount of waste we produced after all!

We started making changes and followed the **5 Rs: Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rot**. Refuse means to say no to things we don't need, whether it's free swag giveaways, samples or buying something new for ourselves. Reduce means we get rid of the things we don't love, use or need. We release them to free up space in our homes and to enable others to use them instead of buying something new. Reuse means that when it makes sense, we repurpose something instead of throwing it away or buying a new item. Recycle refers to the things that can't be refused, reduced or reused. Rot is the last option, which means it goes into the compost. If you follow the Rs in order, you'll be able to reduce your consumption and as a result, your waste. It's ok to make changes gradually and it's ok if some changes don't work for your family. Every bit counts!

By following the 5 Rs, our family has been able to reduce our trash by about 90% and our recycling by about 75%. Reducing our waste has so many benefits. Not only do we keep trash out of the landfill, but we use fewer resources such as oil, energy and water to make, package and ship new products. We also end up spending less money in the process.

We each have the power to make small changes that have a big impact. Check this space for tips and ideas to reduce your waste and consumption. Together, we can make a difference.

Tips to Get Started:

Refuse Disposables. Invest in a reusable water bottle and a reusable travel cup. Get into the habit of filling your water bottle before you leave the house and bring

your travel cup to the coffee shop. Or, if you have time, ask for your coffee or tea in a real cup and sit down to drink it.

When grocery shopping, bring your own reusable bags, including bags for produce. Bring a few clean food containers and use them to stock up on dry goods from the bulk bin rather than buying pre packaged items.

Reduce. Do a little spring cleaning in your closet. Go through every single item and keep only the ones you really love and wear regularly. Donate the rest. (No cheating! Don't wear it tonight just so you can say you use it!)

Reuse. Keep those glass jars from the grocery store. Clear one shelf to store them and bring them shopping with you so you can use them to buy from the bulk bins. You just have to write the weight of the jar down before you fill it. I use a washable crayon and write directly on the jar, but you can also enter it into your phone.

Recycle. Before you toss something in the recycle bin,

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The 5 Rs: Your Roadmap to Reducing Waste

(Continued from page 7)

think twice. Can you reuse it? You probably can. Jars and food containers can be washed and used to store leftovers or to shop in bulk. Plastic produce bags can be washed and reused on your next grocery run. Paper printed on one side can be made into a notepad or for kids to draw on. Newspaper can be used to wrap gifts. Get creative!

Rot. Dedicate one container to collect compost scraps. If you can't Reuse or Recycle it and it's food or natural materials (like wood chips, soiled paper, garden cuttings, etc.) then it can Rot. Put it in the compost bin. Our city gives you a bin – no excuses!

Thanks so much and please follow me on Instagram @joyofzerowaste for more tips.



Zero waste: using only reusable containers at our picnic



February 16, 2017

Ms. Laura Carwile
Assistant District Attorney
District Attorney of San Francisco
850 Bryant Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Case No. 16020016

Dear Ms. Carwile,

I am writing on behalf of the Miraloma Park Improvement Club concerning the November 10, 2016 hot prowl burglary attempt at [addresses redacted] in Miraloma Park. (Case No. 16020016). We are deeply grateful to the officers of Ingleside Stations for their efficient investigation of this crime and for having made a timely arrest due to the cooperation of residents who provided video camera evidence of the defendant, [name redacted].

The MPIC, in continuous operation since its incorporation in 1935, represents more than 2,000 homes on the slopes of Mt. Davidson and has a voluntary annual membership of approximately 400 residents. We collaborate with many City departments to promote a high quality of life in our neighborhood and work with Ingleside Station to optimize community policing and citizen safety. MPIC has as stated policy of zero tolerance of illegal activity and we do our utmost to prevent and to respond appropriately to criminal activity in our neighborhood.

Miraloma Park's burglary rate has historically been relatively low, but in recent years, we have experienced an increase in the number of residential burglaries and these crimes have been of an increasingly brazen nature. This defendant attempted to force entry into two houses in the early morning when residents were home. Thus, we urge

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Letter to Asst. District Attorney Carwile

(Continued from page 8)

you to prosecute this case to the fullest extent under the law. We fully support the presumption of innocence. But we hold it imperative that we as a community communicate to those who commit crimes that they may not do so with impunity in Miraloma Park and that if they do, police will aggressively investigate, and the District Attorney will prosecute.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

William Kan
President

O'Shaughnessy Hollow and the Disappearing Sign

Bryan Forman, Miraloma Park Resident

We all know Mount Davidson and Glen Canyon, but you might be surprised to learn that right here in Miraloma Park we have a hollow, O'Shaughnessy Hollow. San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department (RPD) calls it a "significant natural resource." Geologically, it's part of the western slope of Glen Canyon but it's bisected from the rest of the Canyon by O'Shaughnessy Boulevard.

Visitors enjoy the hollow; people like to explore the rocks and walk their dogs, have lunch, or just enjoy the view. However, other people dump garbage, garden clippings, and furniture there. Some dog walkers don't pick up after their dogs. Worse, some people sit in their cars

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Weathering the Storms

Kathy Rawlins, Miraloma Park Resident

Disappearing Signs

(Continued from page 9)

and drink, do drugs, and then throw their bottles, needles, plastic bags, and condoms into the open space.

About a year ago, with the guidance of San Francisco S.A.F.E., the neighbors on the 400 block of Marietta Drive formed a neighborhood watch group. Although we live in one of the safest neighborhoods in the City, on our block alone, we've had a number of car thefts, car break-ins, and a couple home burglaries.

Our goals in forming the group were to help deter crime, promote communication among neighbors, and create a sense of community. We had already been working on the latter: one of our neighbors graciously hosted two potluck get-togethers at which we formed a list of names, phone numbers, and email addresses that we could use to contact each other in emergencies. Sean MacNabb from San Francisco S.A.F.E., facilitated our meetings, and one of his suggestions was to post our own sign along O'Shaughnessy Hollow.

We designed an official looking sign and had it made by a professional sign company. Before we installed it, we had PG&E check the area to make sure we wouldn't damage any underground lines. Then we had the sign post pounded two feet down into the clay and rocky soil. Three days later the sign was stolen.

Neighbors contacted me and said they'd pay for a new sign. I was embarrassed because I had asked them to chip in for the first one. Then I thought about it and realized that the RPD was responsible for the area and that they should put up a sign. Next I contacted Lisa Wayne of RPD. She proposed a sign showing park regulations, but those regulations did not address our concerns. She went on to say that since most of the problems are caused by people while sitting in their cars, I should contact San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency. I have a feeling we'll be going back to plan A. **In the meantime come join us on Saturday April 1 between 10 am and Noon to help cleanup O'Shaughnessy Hollow. We're planning some surprises.**

To learn more about the San Francisco S.A.F.E program or to start your own Neighborhood Watch group, check out <https://sfsafe.org>. For tools and tips for organizing a block party go to <http://empowersf.org/neighborfest/>.

Wow, what a winter this has been! The rain was welcome and we are all glad that the drought is finally coming to an end. At times, though, it was a whole lot more than the soil or storm drains could handle. My house has a steep backyard and the overflow runs through the garage during downpours. Fortunately, very little damage happens to the garage as we've taken steps to put items that can be damaged in plastic bins and up on shelves. We, also, use commercial floor-flood barriers to try to divert the water to a drain and away from major traffic areas. It is a bit of an inconvenience, but at least we avoid costly damage to our possessions.

The most troublesome issues arise when we have a power outage. During the daytime this isn't so bad, as there is still daylight to light the place. However, when an outage stretches into the evening there can be challenges. Since the Loma Prieta quake, I've stockpiled emergency supplies which I learned about from my SFFD NERT training. Be sure to have lots of candles and flashlights, a battery operated radio and food that doesn't require much preparation. Fortunately, I have a gas range so I can light the top burners and cook. If I had an electric range, I would use the sterno cans to cook or heat food as when camping. I wouldn't want to use the barbecue in the pouring rain, so the sterno set-up would be best. One just have to be aware that the sterno container gets VERY HOT, so it must be placed on a surface that can take the heat and in a well ventilated area. Also, all flammable material, like napkins and paper plates have to be kept clear of it and its flame.

Darkness is a challenge as carrying a flashlight or candle around is a nuisance. Instead, I have battery operated motion sensors. There are some commercial power outage lights available but they only work on a live electrical outlet and they last just 90 minutes. The battery operated motion sensors placed strategically will light stairwells, bathrooms, etc., and only come on when motion is sensed, so they last a long time. This eliminates the need for candles, which are a fire hazard when left unattended.

As a power outage continues into evening hours, if furnace function relies on an electrical source, we'll need blankets to stay warm. So I have what used to be called space blankets. These come in a variety of shapes and durable materials. They have a silver side that will contain body heat around you to provide "self-generated" warmth. REI sells them as Space Emergency Blankets

(continued on page 11)

Weathering the Storms

(Continued from page 10)

for as little as \$3.95 each. When placed between the top sheet and cover it keeps you toasty. I have added these to my emergency supplies at home and in my car.

PG&E advises that during a power outage, refrigerators and freezers should be accessed as little as possible to preserve cold and prevent spoilage. They said that if you are told the outage may continue for long, transferring food from the refrigerator to the freezer could prevent spoiling of foods. My outage lasted 8 hours and I didn't open the freezer until it was over. The ice cream had not melted at all! So we celebrated with a treat.

On the up side, it looks like the Spring flowers will be putting on a glorious show this year as a result of the rain. I hope no one has any serious problems because of the large amount of water on our mountain. Prior preparation is worth the trouble to have peace of mind and enjoy the storms instead of dreading them. Good Luck and stay dry!



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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	Land Line 9-1-1 or Cell Phone 415-533-8090
All City Services	3-1-1 or www.mysf311.org
Online Police Reports	http://sanfranciscopolice.org/reports
Call Before You Dig (PG&E)	8-1-1
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)	

Announcements

Marietta Overlook Clean Up. Come join your neighbors as we clean up the beautiful (but currently littered with glass) overlook on Marietta Drive April 1 at the Marietta Overlook from 10-12. All neighbors are welcome to help! The City will provide supplies, and we will have drinks and snacks.

Help Wanted. Newsletter Carrier (paid). We are looking for someone who is responsible to distribute *Miraloma Life*, which is distributed 10x per year at the start of the month. Contact MPIC at miralomapark@gmail.com for additional information.

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Miraloma Elementary School.....	415-469-4734
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Article Submission Policy

The submission deadline for the April 2017 Miraloma Life is March 8.

Email submissions to miralomapark@gmail.com with Miraloma Life in the Subject line. Articles submitted must be 800 words or less in length. Anonymous submissions will not be considered for publication.