

MIRALOMA LIFE

Celebrating, Informing, and Strengthening the Miraloma Park Community

OCTOBER 2023 - ISSUE 8

Upcoming Events

5 OCTOBER
MPIC Board Meeting*
7:00 pm - In Person

14 OCTOBER
2nd Saturdays cleanup
at the Clubhouse
10am

21 OCTOBER
NEW DATE!
Neighborfest, Detroit-
Melrose Garden
Block Party

31 OCTOBER
Trunk or Treat,
Cornerstone Church
480 Teresita
6-7:30 pm

*Members wishing to address the Board should call (415) 322-0211 to request placement on the agenda.

In This Issue

TEA TIME

BATTALION 9 NERT TEAM

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

CLEANUP VOLUNTEERS

STOP SIGNS

REMEMBERING DISASTERS

311

TRUNK OR TREAT



DATE CHANGE: MELROSE/DETROIT NEIGHBORFEST

The Neighborfest Block Party announced in the September issue of Miraloma Life has been rescheduled to Saturday October 21st. Party time is 11:00 A.M to 3:00 P.M., now with streets closed 10-4.

It's a great opportunity to meet your neighbors and other Miralomans, as well as have a good time. There will be lots of space for bikes and scooters – riders young and old. We have secured more exhibitors, including the Glen Park Library and Vial of Life (a nationally recognized program for emergency events) sponsored by the Community Living Campaign. We will supply brats, hot dogs, buns and condiments, and fresh lemonade. Please bring along something for 6-8 you'd like to share – a side dish, salad, dessert.

Volunteers to help out are always welcome. Please text Tom Whitehead at 415-336-9386

When

Sat. Oct. 21st, 2023.

Time

11:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M. Streets open 10-4

Where

The corner of Melrose Avenue and Detroit Street by the Melrose-Detroit Garden, Miraloma Park.

Who

The Neighborhood

What

A Neighborfest Block Party in Miraloma Park!

TEA TIME FOR SENIORS

Darlene Ramlose

It was a grand day on August 31, 2023 at the Miraloma Community Connector Annual Tea Party.

Favorite hats, bow-ties, fancy dress and fancy tables were enjoyed by those that attended. Fellowship Hall at Cornerstone Trinity Baptist Church was decorated with ten tables beautifully set to accommodate four seniors. Many Connectors participated by preparing delectable tea sandwiches, scones, cakes, and savory items. Each table had a tiered plate stand containing each of the delicious items to choose from. Our bow-tied servers Daryl Browne and Guido van Rijn helped keep tea pots filled with hot water, and replenished the plates with goodies. Community Connectors resident photographer Michael Williams took the photographs accompanying this article.

Our annual Tea Party brings our seniors together to share a cup of tea, enjoy delightful food, and spend time sharing great conversation and stories. Miraloma Park Community Connectors thanks Cornerstone Trinity Baptist Church and Jennifer Okano for hosting the Tea Party in their Fellowship Hall. This is an annual event that our Connectors look forward to each year. A big "Thank You" to the Community Living Campaign for supplying funds for the table settings, food, and helping to make this event special each year. Thank you, Joan van Rijn and Barbara Wheeler for helping in so many ways to ensure this cherished event happened this year and for next year too!



Michael Williams

MPIC HOSTS THE FIRST SFFD BATTALION 9 NERT TEAM MEETING

Robert Gee



The San Francisco Fire Dept. has reorganized the City's Neighborhood Emergency Response Teams (NERT) teams into Battalions. Miraloma Park is in Battalion 9 which also includes NERT teams from Mt. Davidson Manor, Balboa Terrace, Sunnyside, Park Merced/Stonestown, Lakeside, Oceanview, Ingleside, Excelsior and Visitacion Valley neighborhoods. MPIC's Joanie van Rijn is the Miraloma Park NERT coordinator and has been elected the Batt 9 Lead Coordinator and will be responsible for hosting and designing the Batt 9 meetings for the year.

The first NERT Batt 9 meeting was held on July 27th and hosted by the MPIC at the MPIC clubhouse. We met the new NERT Fire Dept. representative, Capt. Brandon Tom and Tracey McTague, Outreach Coordinator for NERT. The meeting was attended by 36 NERT members from all over Batt 9. MPIC hosted a light dinner for everyone.

The agenda was packed and the highlight was playing a true or false game testing everyone's knowledge of NERT techniques as well as a game of team work balancing a ball while racing across the room. MPIC gave out headlamps as prizes and everyone won!

The next Batt 9 NERT meeting will be at the MPIC clubhouse on September 28th at 6pm.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Cary Matthews



Thank you to Karen Breslin and Thomas O'Brien!

I'd like to extend a big thank you and appreciation to outgoing MPIC Board members Karen Breslin and Thomas O'Brien. Karen has served on the board since 2005 including

as President and Chair of the Transportation Committee, and most recently as the Chair of the Zoning and Planning Committee and MPIC delegate to the Coalition of San Francisco Neighborhoods and the West of Twin Peaks Central Council. Thomas has served on the board since 2018, and as Membership Chair has increased MPIC membership from 340 to a high of 840.

MPIC is always looking for community members to get involved! If you're interested in joining a committee or the MPIC Board, or volunteering in the neighborhood, please email miralomapark@gmail.org, fill out the contact form at www.miralomapark.org, or leave a message at (415) 322-0211.

MPIC Board Update

At our Board meeting in September, Jen Low, Chief of Staff to Supervisor Myrna Melgar, joined us to explain

and answer questions about the housing legislation sponsored by Supervisor Melgar and passed by the Board of Supervisors in September. Look for an article by Robert Gee on the specifics of the legislation and its potential impacts in Miraloma Park. We appreciate the Supervisor's staff's willingness to meet with the Board, and Joanie Van Rijn's hard work to maintain a relationship and keep the Board informed of the Supervisor's agenda.

We also discussed the current proposed changes to Frida Kahlo Way as part of the City's Vision Zero initiative at our September Board meeting. To learn more about the quick-build project, please visit: sfmta.com/projects/frida-kahlo-way-quick-build-project

Update on District 7 Participatory Budget Grants Previously Awarded to MPIC

MPIC Native Plant Garden: MPIC is close to signing an agreement with SFPUC to move forward on the grant awarded in 2020.

Traffic Calming at Teresita and Reposa: The SFMTA has informed MPIC that they plan to create a traffic island at the intersection to slow traffic down.

School is back in session! Please be aware of parents and students walking to school in the mornings and afternoons when you're driving in the neighborhood, and watch behind you when backing out of your driveways.

THANK YOU TO OUR CLUBHOUSE CLEANUP SECOND SATURDAY VOLUNTEERS!

MPIC

Thank you to our Clubhouse Cleanup Second Saturday volunteers who came to help on September 9: Greg Gadwood, Bryan Corr, Hans Hoch, Barbara Blair, Robert Gee, Mia Waller and Todd Siemers. The team did a fantastic job working at the back of the Clubhouse removing a large amount of ivy and thorny strands of blackberry and then laying weed control fabric topped with wood chips.



DO DRIVERS OBEY THE STOP SIGNS AT THE INTERSECTION OF TERESITA BLVD AND STILLINGS AVENUE?

Robert Gee—MPIC

That's the concern expressed by neighbors who shared their observations that drivers are not obeying the 3 stop signs, especially cars that are approaching southbound on Teresita. Requesting SFPD traffic enforcement is not an option as they have told us they don't have the resources. The SF Chronicle recently reported that traffic enforcement has declined 97% over the last 8 years! Driver education is not a solution since all drivers know they are required to obey stop signs.

In response to neighbor concerns, the MPIC in March 2023 submitted a 311 request for SFMTA to conduct a traffic study of the intersection at Teresita Blvd. and Stillings Ave. to confirm that drivers are not obeying the stop signs and to determine how to engineer the intersection to ensure drivers obey the stop signs.

SFMTA must first conduct a traffic study of the intersection. Assuming SFMTA agrees (but that isn't a guarantee) that a substantial percentage of drivers do not comply with the stop signs, possible solutions could include one or more of the following:

- (1) consider whether to place flashing solar powered signs notifying drivers of upcoming stop signs,
- (2) at the intersection consider placing white plastic no hit posts on the wide white pavement striping to narrow the lane towards the intersection so that cars would slow as they approach the intersection,
- (3) consider painting the approaches to the intersection between the wide white pavement striping and the curb a different color to give the visual appearance of a narrower street so that cars would slow as they approach the intersection,
- (4) consider installing warning pavers, grooves or low studs at an appropriate distance before the stop signs to alert distracted drivers and refocus driver attention on the approaching stop signs. Warning pavers such as the yellow Armor Tile are commonly used at crosswalks. This novel idea was suggested by a resident who previously submitted a 311 ticket,
- (5) consider whether a solar operated sign flashing the speed of the vehicle should be installed to alert drivers of their speed. SFPD has previously placed their mobile speed radar unit on Teresita Blvd. We think a flashing speed sign does little to deter speeding.

Since March of 2023, SFMTA has taken no action on our 311 request. In July 2023, MPIC asked Supervisor Melgar's office to follow-up with SFMTA. SFMTA responded that the 311 request is in the SFMTA traffic engineering team's queue for evaluation but that the team is currently working through a number of other safety requests throughout the City. Supervisor Melgar's office then asked for an estimated time of completion. SFMTA responded that their engineering team is stretched thin and currently evaluating Brotherhood Way and that they intend to focus their attention on the Teresita Blvd. and Stillings Ave. intersection once they've completed their assessment on Brotherhood Way.

MPIC will continue to follow up with Supervisor Melgar's office and SFMTA.



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TRUNK OR TREAT! WITH CORNERSTONE TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH

Trinity Cornerstone Baptist Church

Being a part of the Miraloma Park Community has been a joy for us for all these years. Last year, we had our 1st annual "Trunk or Treat" in our church parking lot at 480 Teresita Blvd. We had candies, treats, hot chocolate and dog treats for the community and would like to continue that tradition this year.

If any of our neighbors are interested in participating this year with a decorated trunk, please contact Jennifer Okano at 415-566-5756 or at info@cornerstonetrinity.org. We will have prizes for the Top 3 creatively decorated trunks. We will have limited spots open so contact us by Friday, October 14th.

We do welcome all of you to come and join us for "Trunk or Treat" on October 31st from 6pm-7:30pm in our church parking lot, 480 Teresita Blvd.



BEWARE!

**Please help keep wildlife safe this
Halloween!**

Some decorations can harm wildlife, so please avoid using fake spider webs or other decorations with entangling materials;

decorations which loop or have closed circles, which can easily trap birds and other wildlife so that they can't escape; those with small, dangling, edible-looking parts, which can be ingested by wild animals and cause death.

Have a great Halloween—continued pandemic notwithstanding! Remember pumpkins are edible, and often attract rodents post-Halloween as a supplement to their diet. Thank you for helping wildlife to keep safe.

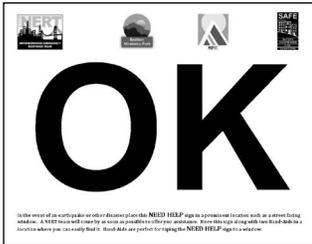
For more information about Halloween and wildlife, visit discoverwildcare.org/keep-halloween-safe-for-wildlife.

REMEMBERING PAST TRAGIC EVENTS, NOT AS EASY AS IT SOUNDS

Guido van Rijn

Please place your OK sign in the front window for the first three weeks in October. Remember October 17th, 1989

Is it just my aging brain or are other Miralomans suffering from the same malady? Long term memory, particularly of events I did not directly experience, drift off into the distant past much too quickly. October 17th, 1989, I still vividly remember as our house on Los Paltos "vibrated" violently. My wife and I huddled with our two children huddled in what was perceived to be safe space for the duration of the shaking and well beyond. It was intense and incredibly scary. Our story and that of others who lived in San Francisco at the time are still being told today.



The fire that recently leveled a good part of Lahaina, Hawaii, has resulted in a death toll that seems to have stabilized at 97 as of this writing. Sixty-six residents are still unaccounted for. Around 2200 buildings, mostly residential, were

destroyed. However, much of the damage included Historic Lahaina where restaurants and local shops were burned to the ground. Lahaina has been the "go-to vacation spot" whenever my wife and I go to Hawaii. Sadness still clings, and will continue to cling, in our hearts.

But more remote disasters, though horribly real to those who experience them, are erased, at least from my brain, all too quickly. What comes to mind are two recent hurricanes in Florida, as well as the very intense heat waves in Arizona, Texas and the Midwest. Remember the devastating earthquake in Turkey and Syria only a year or so ago? So very distant in my mind. Now Morocco has been seriously impacted by a major earthquake in which early counts indicate over 2800 deaths, and Libya had an extraordinary rainstorm and subsequent dam collapse wiping out thousands of buildings, with incredible loss of life in an instant, as of this writing. I wasn't there, I did not experience it. How long will that horrible disaster affecting so many people stay with me? Long enough to where I can help in some way, even with a small donation. But if I don't personally experience it, memory is fleeting indeed.

Placing that OK sign in the window for the first three weeks of October is an active response to what has happened and will most certainly happen again. Participating is food for the brain that will keep reminding us as a collective to be prepared and ready for any disaster that might befall us be it large or small. It helps remind all of us of the resilient community we are, both as individual households and as a collective Miraloma Park.

Copies of the OK Sign may be found at the Miraloma Park Website. Click on "What We Do" and "NERT". Copies will also be posted on Nextdoor for the first week of October.

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THE CITY'S 311 SYSTEM IS FOR YOU TO REPORT QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES

Robert Gee—MPIC

We want to remind everyone that the City's 311 service is there for citizens to easily report quality of life issues by sending pictures, a brief description and a map based location. The requests are routed to the appropriate City agency. You can report your issue by:

1. calling 311 or
2. submitting the request on the updated website at <https://sf.gov/topics/311-online-services> or
3. using the SF311 mobile app that you can download to your mobile devices.

Whichever way you submit your request, make sure you write down the service request number so that you can track your request. We've seen many 311 requests just get closed with the issue not getting fixed. Residents have reported that they didn't know that their requests were closed without any action.

Here are some of the more popular 311 requests we've seen in Miraloma Park:

Trash, Graffiti and Street Cleaning

The City does a pretty good job of responding to these requests quickly within a day or two.

- Request street or sidewalk cleaning. The response is usually quick especially when there is human waste involved!
- Report illegal dumping activity. This is a regular occurrence in Miraloma Park.
- Report street garbage containers that are overflowing.
- Report graffiti issues especially on bus shelters, street poles, mail boxes and other structures.

Parking Concerns

The City does a pretty good job of responding to the following requests quickly.

- Report an abandoned vehicle. Unfortunately, there are stolen cars abandoned in Miraloma Park all the time.
- Report broken traffic signs.

Street and sidewalk maintenance

- Report pothole and street issues. The City usually responds quickly to these types of requests including repainting faded red zones.
- Report sidewalk issues such as sidewalks that are cracked or raised by tree roots. This is a very common reported issue in Miraloma Park. Unfortunately, our experience is that the City is very slow to respond to sidewalk issues supposedly because they don't have the staffing.
- Report a damaged or fallen tree. The City will remove the fallen tree quickly especially if it blocks a street. But they are very slow to respond to dealing with trees that are uprooting sidewalks.
- Report flooding or water leaks and sewer backups.

Residential building concerns

- Report neglected or run-down houses where there is blight on properties that have significant visible damage, deterioration, or debris. There are a fair number of vacant houses in Miraloma Park. The City has a law where the owner of a vacant house is required to annually register with the City and continue to secure and maintain vacant property. The registration cost is \$818 per year.
- Report illegal unpermitted work or other code enforcement issues. The Dept. of Building Inspection will usually send someone out to the property but inspectors can't enter the buildings without being let in by the occupants.

Please contact the MPIC if there is a 311 service request that is a community wide issue or just doesn't get resolved after a long period of time. The MPIC will follow-up with the City agency as well as with Supervisor Melgar's office.

MPIC CLUBHOUSE CLEAN-UP ON SECOND SATURDAYS CONTINUES!

The next Second Saturday Clubhouse clean-up takes place on **October 14 at 10am**. Join your Miraloma Park neighbors and tidy the grounds around our historic Clubhouse. The plants (and weeds) are thriving in the warmer weather. The Winter rains have caused a growth spurt! Please consider volunteering two hours of your time – it's a great cause.

Sign up at tinyurl.com/mpicsecondsaturdays. If you have difficulty signing up and want to join June 10th Second Saturday cleanup, please send an email to miralomapark@gmail.com or leave a message at **415-322-0211**. Thanks to all who volunteered their time in May!



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ONLINE AT:
<https://miralomapark.org/join>

OR BY MAIL:

Complete this form and mail with your dues, check payable to:

MIRALOMA PARK IMPROVEMENT CLUB, 350 O'SHAUGHNESSY BLVD, SF, CA 94127. No cash, please.

The MPIC is a qualified tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization – tax ID 94-6092576. Your membership donation is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. MPIC does not share membership information with other parties or organizations.

NEW MEMBER RENEWING MEMBER Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Enclosed are my dues for the next 12 months (check one):

- \$12 Senior Member
 \$15 Single Member
 \$25 Family Membership
 \$35 Supporting Member
 \$50 Contributing Member
 \$100 Sustaining Member
 \$ _____ Other

PLEASE SEND ME AN EMAIL REMINDER TO RENEW MY MEMBERSHIP!



Karl the Fog paying his usual visit to Miraloma—Kate Clements



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**MIRALOMA PARK SENIORS
COMMUNITY CONNECTORS
SENIOR PROGRAM**

Tai Chi on Tuesdays
Always Active on Thursdays
10:30am at Cornerstone Church

If you are interested in attending, please contact Darlene Ramlose: Darlene@sfcommunityliving.org or by phone at 714-423-8844. You must sign up in advance as we will not accept walk-ins as space is limited due to COVID restrictions.

Miraloma Senior Walks in San Francisco

Contact Darlene Ramlose at Darlene@sfcommunityliving.org

Ukulele Class

Tuesdays at 2:00 PM
Contact Barbara Wheeler for details at bawheeler46@yahoo.com

Connectors Zoom Social Hour

Fridays at 4:30pm
See all current activities at
sfcommunityliving.org

• • •

Also visit us on our Facebook page:
Miraloma Park Community Connectors



AETHOS
REAL ESTATE

In 2022 we helped quite a few neighbors buy and sell their homes:

- 990 Monterey Blvd \$4,150,000 Buyers
- 966 Teresita \$1,510,000 Sellers
- 453 Teresita Blvd \$1,630,000 Sellers
- 1 Brentwood Way \$2,100,000 Sellers
- 263 Staples St \$1,360,000 Sellers

2023 Looks like it will be a busy year as well. We have several listings coming soon (please call for more info) in the neighborhood.

We also offer some very creative options to buy before selling and/or to renovate and stage your property quickly, affordably and pay for it at close of escrow through our Aethos Revive program. Please call or email for more info.

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MPIC SAFETY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Crime Stats from August 1, 2023 - August 31, 2023

Incident Date	Incident Time	Intersection	Incident Description
8/3/2023	00:10	MYRA WAY \ REPOSA WAY	Burglary Tools, Possession Of ,Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Peace Officer Duties
8/5/2023	11:59	MIRALOMA DR \ JUANITA WAY	Vehicle, Stolen, Auto
8/9/2023	02:22	WOODSIDE AVE \ OSHAUGHNESSY BLVD \ PORTOLA DR	Burglary, Store, Forcible Entry
8/10/2023	21:00	PORTOLA DR \ KENSINGTON WAY \ MIRALOMA DR	Burglary, Hot Prowl, Unlawful Entry
8/15/2023	15:00	EL SERENO CT \ RIO CT	Burglary, Residence, Att. Forcible Entry
8/16/2023	21:00	MOLIMO DR \ DORCAS WAY	Burglary, Residence Under Constr, Forcible Entry
8/20/2023	00:30	BELLA VISTA WAY \ GAVIOTA WAY	Officers Der and Dungca were sent to a hot prowling burglary on the 100 block of Bella Vista Way. The homeowner told the officers that he entered his garage this morning and found the garage door open. He said he was sure that his garage door was closed and secure last night before going to sleep. He then looked around and saw that two bicycles had been stolen. He then noticed that the driver side window to his vehicle had been shattered. He told officer Dungca that his vehicle was parked outside of his home and that his garage door opener was inside his car. The officers determined that the suspect broke into the victim's car, used the remote garage door opener to gain entry into the garage area and proceeded to steal the two bicycles before fleeing the area.
8/22/2023	16:00	EVELYN WAY \ JUANITA WAY	Officers Watts and Hoge responded to a residence on the unit block of Juanita Way regarding a report of a burglary. The victim stated to officers that the known suspect, who was still on scene, attempted to gain entry to her home by drilling a hole into the front door key lock. As a result of their initial investigation, the suspect was arrested for burglary and other associated crimes.
8/22/2023	17:00	ENCLINE CT \ DEL VALE AVE	Vehicle, Stolen, Auto
8/24/2023	03:00	LOS PALMOS DR \ LULU ALY	Burglary, Residence Under Constr, Unlawful Entry
8/25/2023	17:00	JUANITA WAY \ DEL SUR AVE	Vehicle, Stolen, Attempted
8/28/2023	18:32	EVELYN WAY \ MARIETTA DR	Officer Watts and Hoge responded to investigate a burglary on the 200 block of Evelyn Way. The victim told officers that while upstairs, he heard a crashing noise coming from downstairs. The victim went downstairs and confronted a suspect, who had smashed the front glass door and was attempting to steal the victim's electric bicycle. The suspect fled to a getaway vehicle and left the scene empty handed.
8/28/2023	22:30	SYDNEY WAY \ FOWLER AVE \ PORTOLA DR	Malicious Mischief, Vandalism to Vehicle



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MPIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Mary Fitzpatrick	Cary Matthews
Patti Moran	Tina McGovern



GOOD TO KNOW: MIRALOMA PARK RESIDENTIAL GUIDELINES

The purpose of the Miraloma Park Residential Design Guidelines is to promote quality design and preserving as much as possible, the neighborhood's architectural character.

miralomapark.org/neighborhood/design-guidelines

PROGRAMS AT THE MPIC CLUBHOUSE

JAZZERCISE

Wednesday and Saturday 9:00am
Monday 5pm
650-888-6129
sbjazzercise@comcast.net

CHANGS INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

7:00-10:00pm Friday
One hour lessons on the first and second Fridays of each month.
changsdancers@aol.com

FORT MASON ARTISTS

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Friday 10:00am-2:00pm,
2:30-5:30pm
Konrad Dunton; 650-868-6336
Fortmasonartists.org

UKULELE CLASS

Tuesdays 2:00pm-3:00pm
Bawheeler46@yahoo.com

MARY L. HARDEN BOTANICAL DRAWING

Monday 10:00am-1:30pm
maryharden@me.com

LINDA HOPE - FIGURE DRAWING

Saturday 11am-2:30pm
(415)334-3603
Lindahope.art@gmail.com

GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday 11:00am-1:30pm; Pre service coffee followed by community lunch
(415) 753-9931

GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND

2nd/4th Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:30pm
info@gdbsanfranciscopuppyraisers.com or guidedogs.com/puppy

MPIC DIRECTORY

www.miralomapark.org

General Inquires for MPIC	(415) 322-0211
Clubhouse Manager + Rentals	(415) 322-0211
Webmaster: Ron Proctor	(415) 322-0211
Miraloma Elementary School	(415) 469-4734
Miraloma Playground	(415) 337-4704

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Graphics/ Layout	Butler Looney

Article Submission Policy:

Email submissions to: miralomapark@gmail.com with **Miraloma Life in the subject line.**

Articles submitted must be 800 words or less in length and should not be selling or promoting a product or service. Anonymous submissions will not be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions are the 12th day of the month prior to publication.

Submitted articles become the property of MPIC.