MAY 2024

MIRALOMA LIFE

Issue No. 5

Celebrating, Informing, and Strengthening the Miraloma Park Community

miralomapark.org

May 2

MPIC Board Meeting

Call 415-322-0211 to request placement on the agenda *7pm*

May 11

Clubhouse Clean-Up Second Saturday of the month

at the MPIC Clubhouse. 10am-noon June 6 MPIC Board Meeting

Call 415-322-0211 to request placement on the agenda 7pm June 20 Members' Meeting & MPIC Election

See page 9

FEATURE

Neighbors Get the Scoop!

by Guido Van Rijn



The Miraloma Park Improvement Club and Resilient Miraloma's Block Champions have recently launched a monthly Ice Cream Social program. The first Ice Cream Social occurred on a cold and windy day in late March. It was hosted by Anne and Carlos at Del Vale and Encline Court. Residents from more than 25 households participated! At the Social, neighbors learned about the Block Champion program and met their own Block Champions.

Resilient Miraloma Park's Block Champions are an integral part of supporting MPIC's mission to strengthen the Miraloma Park community. The Block Champions protect the health and well-being of residents, especially the vulnerable, during times of stress. Resilient Miraloma Park has given Block Champions emergency supply bins; the contents are to be used for the block in a disaster. (MPIC obtained a grant from the Participatory Budget program to purchase the emergency supplies.) During a catastrophic event we immediately become interdependent. Emergency Responders may not come to our aid for days or even weeks. We must rely on ourselves.

One of the main outcomes of the Ice Cream Socials (besides meeting neighbors and eating ice cream!) is to generate an emergency contact list of phone numbers and email addresses in order to create something like the old phone tree where neighbors help neighbors. At the March Ice Cream Social, 25 households signed up to form one of the first block-level emergency response networks. The entire event lasted about one and a half hours. Not a bad way to meet your neighbors, learn something about resiliency, and of course, eat ice cream!

LETTERS



President's Message

by Robert Gee, Acting President

Greetings Miraloma Park,

I use my monthly President's message to relay neighborhood information and acknowledge the efforts of my fellow volunteer MPIC Board and Committee members who are working on many issues for the benefit of the Miraloma Park community. I want to remind everyone of the MPIC mission statement: Celebrating, Informing and Strengthening the Miraloma Park Community.

Supervisor Melgar's Office updates the MPIC Board

At our April 4 MPIC Board Meeting, we were joined by Mike Farrah, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Myrna Melgar. He gave the Board an update on the major issues for District 7 and the City that Supervisor Melgar's office is working on.

The biggest issue of concern collectively for West Side neighborhoods is the SF Planning Department's latest rezoning plans which aim to increase building height limits across large parts of the City including the West Side mainly in high transit corridors. There are advocates who say the rezoning plans don't go far enough and opponents who are concerned about how increased height and density impact neighborhoods. There is a lot of polarized feedback on the proposed locations for increased height and density in the West Side. Here in Miraloma Park, the City's rezoning plan is limited to the Portola Boulevard commercial blocks where the building height limits would be increased up to 6 stories. Over the coming months, the Planning Department is modifying their recommendations. *If you live on Portola or behind the commercial buildings, MPIC would like to hear your thoughts on the proposed height limits.*

Mike Farrah also gave us an update on the Participatory Budget program; the deadline to submit projects has closed. The Supervisor's office is now evaluating the many projects submitted. Here in Miraloma Park, the MPIC Board voted to support a project submitted by a group of Marietta Drive residents that proposed major maintenance work along the 200-400 block of Marietta Drive. The proposal would promote public safety and beautification. Voting on District 7 projects is expected to open between May 31 and June 14.

Downed tree blocking Mt. Davidson trail has been cleared

Since sometime in March, if you tried to hike up on Mt. Davidson on the Rockdale trail you probably encountered a large, downed tree blocking the trail about 150 yards from the Rockdale trail entrance. Normally, we would see many 311 requests to remove the downed tree. It turns out that there were no 311 reports on the blockage until MPIC submitted a request in early April. The day after our request was submitted, the downed tree was cleared. I want to thank Barbara Blair for her persistence in checking to make sure all of the mountain trails remain open for everyone to enjoy.

We are moving forward on our Block Response Team Playbook!

My fellow MPIC Resiliency Committee members and I recently attended a City-wide Resilient Neighborhood leaders' meeting with the SF Department of Emergency Management (DEM) where we discussed next steps on advancing the Block Response Team playbook that we have been working on for a very long time, as well as the status of funding for other Resilient programs. These programs include the popular Neighborfest block party program.

Over the next few months, MPIC Block Champion lead, Guido Van Rijn, myself and three other Resilient neighborhood leaders will work with DEM to finalize the content in the draft playbook. We will also validate the information with City department subject-matter experts. This will ensure that the document that we have worked so hard to put together is accurate and consistent with existing San Francisco emergency plans and operations. DEM remains committed to all of our Resilient initiatives. DEM is building a new three-person team dedicated to community engagement and integration of community stakeholders into the City's official emergency response protocols. The new DEM team will be responsible for establishing strategy and prioritizing community projects across the City. This includes working with Miraloma Park and other neighborhoods on a path forward on how to make our neighborhoods more resilient.

Update: Traffic and safety issues at the Stillings-Teresita intersection

MPIC continues to work with the SFMTA on their commitments to improve the safety at the intersection of Stillings Avenue and Teresita Boulevard, as we first reported in our February newsletter. One suggestion made during MPIC's January 11, 2024 meeting with SFMTA and SFPD representatives and neighbors was adding "Stop Ahead" on the pavement of Teresita Blvd. near Los Palmos Drive. This part of Teresita curves, and drivers may not be able to easily see the upcoming Stop sign at the Stillings intersection. Participants at the meeting thought that this warning would notify drivers of their obligation, giving them a "heads up" that they are approaching the Stop sign. On April 18, "Stop Ahead" was painted on the pavement.



Another issue brought to our attention and that we are following up on has been the impact of navigation apps such as Apple Maps, Google Maps and Waze as well as the Uber and Lyft apps that provide directions to their drivers. These navigation apps consistently direct cars to turn from Teresita Blvd. down to Stillings Ave. to get to the freeways. Apple Maps' audio instructions do not mention the stop sign at Teresita Blvd. Some of these apps may give the false appearance that drivers going downhill on Teresita Blvd. can simply veer left onto Stillings Ave.



Miraloma Beautification Day at Los Palmos Gardens

by Sky



Photo: Christopher Heredia

Los Palmos Gardens is our community garden In Miraloma Park located on Los Palmos Drive at Verna Street. Viewed from Los Palmos Drive, one would not know that the garden is quite extensive since it goes down the hill to the paved section of Verna. This garden has been here since 1995. We have benches and a Little Library. Neighbors work together caring for the garden, weekly when we can.

The City sponsors an annual Neighborhood Beautification Day every year, where people from the San Francisco Public Works Department work with volunteers to help clean up in the City. They work in every district throughout the year, and on April 13 they were in our District 7.

On April 13, as part of "Love our City Clean Up Day",

the Public Works team and volunteers went to 9 different locations in District 7. And one of them was our own Los Palmos Gardens. There was a lot of work to be done in our Garden, so we were grateful to have help. Unfortunately, it rained that morning, so there were few volunteers. But Jimmer from Public Works came with tools and wood chips, and loads of energy.

Jimmer, and neighbors Norm and Sky, were a mighty team of three. They worked hard carrying mulch throughout the garden, and also some weeding was done. And the City provided yummy sandwiches! Thanks very much to San Francisco Public Works. The garden looks so beautiful with its fresh layer of mulch. The Public Works Neighborhood Beautification Day was a success!

We Need Volunteers for Our Resilient Care and Shelter Team!

The MPIC is starting to build our all-volunteer neighborhood Resilient Care and Shelter team to be prepared to respond in case of a disaster. The MPIC has acquired an extensive amount of care and shelter supplies and equipment to be deployed at the neighborhood level. We want to bring skilled volunteers together now to meet each other, show you our equipment and share how we plan to respond in the event of a disaster. We don't want to wait until a disaster happens and then must rely on spontaneous volunteers.

If you have the following skills or talents and would like to volunteer to be part of this team, please leave us a voice message at 415-322-0211 or email us at miralomapark@gmail.com with your interest and contact information.

- Medical (doctors, nurses, EMT's)
- Mental health workers
- Social workers
- Construction or handyman
- Lighting specialist
- Sanitation

- Food service (chefs, cooks, servers)
- Able bodied people to help move and set up the care and shelter unit
- Transportation- trucks to help move our equipment
- Runners (to secure injured persons, supplies, etc.)

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Neighborhood Upgrades

by MPIC



Were you wondering about that huge crane that was blocking one lane of Teresita Blvd. in April? A neighbor sent this photo to the MPIC, and commented: " I was walking recently and I saw this crew replacing a utility pole. Because the poles are behind the houses in unreachable areas, the task of replacing even a single pole is very serious... as is evidenced by the size of this crane! I thought neighbors reading Miraloma news might enjoy seeing how our local utility company keeps the lights on in Miraloma."

Miraloma Life loves your photos and feedback! If you have any photos, current or historical, we would love to publish them. Please send your submissions to: miralomapark@gmail.com ARTICLE

Learning about San Francisco History (with lots of photos)

by Kate Clements



For those of you not on NextDoor, I recently posted a link to the blog of Woody LaBounty, which is called San Francisco Story: https:// www.sanfranciscostory.com/ Woody wrote a charming piece called, "Lost in Miraloma Park" which you can find at his website, along with a treasure trove of other writings. I am not including the direct link in an effort to get you to explore his posts.

You may become so intrigued you even join his mailing list, and donate a few dollars towards keeping the website going. As a quick preview, Woody found a photo of the original Meyer Bros. sales office at West Portal Avenue and Portola Drive from the 1920's, courtesy of Open SF History.

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Volunteer to Help Prepare the Monthly Miraloma Park Crime Stats

The MPIC is seeking a volunteer to join our Safety Committee to help prepare the crime stats that you see in the monthly newsletters. If you have data-analyst skills and the ability to work with large databases to extract information, we can use your help!

See our April newsletter article "How the Monthly Crime Incidents Report is Compiled" to learn more.

If you would like to volunteer, please leave us a voice message at 415-322-0211 or email us at miralomapark@gmail.com with your interest and contact information.

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Crime Statistics Show Improvement

by MPIC

With the implementation of Prop E, approved by voters in March, and new police officers in the pipeline, San Francisco as a whole has seen a decent reduction in crime from 2023. While those are not the only factors in the reduction of crime, there seems to be less local reporting of crime to the MPIC and on NextDoor.

In comparison to the first quarter of 2023, the following crimes, as reported by the Mayor's office, show the following City-wide reductions:

- Car break-ins down 51%
- Motor vehicle theft down 10%
- Larceny down 18%
- Homicide down 27%
- Robbery down 18%
- Gun violence down 38%

We at the MPIC urge anyone who is the victim of a crime to report it to the police. The statistics we see are only as good as the data they are drawn from.

Clubhouse Clean-Up



The next Second Saturday Clubhouse clean-up takes place on **May 11 at 10am to noon**. Join your Miraloma Park neighbors and tidy the grounds around our historic Clubhouse. The plants (and weeds) are thriving, as we've been experiencing warmer weather. The April Second Saturday clean-up was cancelled due to rain, so now there is twomonths' worth of work to do. Please consider volunteering two hours of your time—it's a great cause, and an opportunity to connect with neighbors. Rain cancels!

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SAVE THE DATE!

June 20 MPIC Members' Meeting and Election

The MPIC is holding a Members' Meeting the evening of Thursday, June 20, 2024 at the Clubhouse. This meeting will also include the election of certain MPIC Officer and Board Member positions.

Meeting Information

All Miraloma Park residents are invited to attend the June 20 meeting to learn about MPIC's activities that support the neighborhood and how you can be involved, and meet current Officers and Board Members. Refreshments and food will be served. Board Member Todd Siemers and the Merry Miralomans will entertain. Attendees will automatically be entered into a drawing; gift certificates for local businesses will be awarded.

Election Information

The election will be conducted by online and inperson voting, with in-person voting taking place on June 20. MPIC dues-paying members are eligible to vote in the election. Details regarding voting procedures, as well as information on candidates running for office, will appear in the June issue of Miraloma Life. Also, MPIC dues-paying members will receive voting information by email, if MPIC has an email address for them. ADVERTISING PARTNERS



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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 714423-8844. 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



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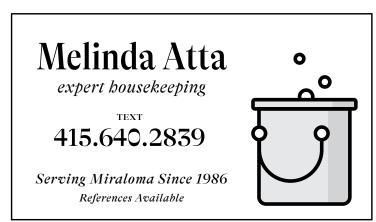
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10 May 2024

MPIC Safety Committee Update

Crime Stats from March 1-March 31, 2024

Date	Time	Intersection	Description
3/1/2024	9:00 AM	MELROSE AVE \ STANFORD HEIGHTS AVE	Vehicle, Stolen, Auto
3/9/2024	11:00 PM	TERESITA BLVD \ FOERSTER ST	Vehicle, Stolen, Auto
3/10/2024	9:10 PM	MELROSE AVE \ STANFORD HEIGHTS AVE	Theft, From Building, >\$950
3/13/2024	10:50 AM	TERESITA BLVD \ PORTOLA DR	Theft, From Locked Vehicle, \$200-\$950
3/14/2024	12:00 AM	AGUA WAY \ LA BICA WAY	Theft, From Locked Vehicle, >\$950
3/15/2024	9:15 PM	FOERSTER ST \ LOS PALMOS DR	Malicious Mischief, Vandalism to Property
3/17/2024	6:30 PM	TERESITA BLVD \ PORTOLA DR	Theft, From Unlocked Vehicle, >\$950
3/18/2024	7:00 PM	WOODSIDE AVE \ OSHAUGHNESSY BLVD \ PORTOLA DR	Malicious Mischief, Vandalism to Property
3/19/2024	5:30 PM	TERESITA BLVD \ MARIETTA DR \ MOLIMO DR	Burglary, Residence Under Constr, Forcible Entry
3/27/2024	4:00 AM	BELLA VISTA WAY \ ARROYO WAY	Theft, From Locked Vehicle, <\$50
3/30/2024	9:26 AM	SYDNEY WAY \ FOWLER AVE \ PORTOLA DR	Theft, Shoplifting, >\$950

ANNOUNCEMENT

Spring Has Sprung In Miraloma Park



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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

Learn to sculpt, paint and draw Monday 6:15–10:15pm 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

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



Figure Drawing from the Live Model with Linda Hope

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



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MPIC Directory

www.miralomapark.org

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Webmaster: Ron Proctor	(415) 322-0211
Miraloma Elementary School	(415) 469-4734
Miraloma Playground	(415) 337-4704

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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.