

# MIRALOMA LIFE

Issue No. 2

Celebrating, Informing, and Strengthening the Miraloma Park Community

miralomapark.org

February 6

## MPIC Board Meeting

Call 415-322-0211 to request  
placement on the agenda

7pm

February 8

## Clubhouse Clean-Up

Second Saturday of the month  
at the MPIC Clubhouse.

10am-noon

February 8

## Marietta Median Clean-Up

Sign-up to Volunteer:  
[bit.ly/mariettamedian](https://bit.ly/mariettamedian)

10am-noon

### FEATURE

## What's In a Name? Streets In Miraloma Park

by Kate Clements



In my walks around Miraloma Park, I noticed there are a number of street names in our neighborhood which are Spanish in origin. Here's a few:

Bella Vista: Beautiful view

Gaviota: Seagull

Arroyo: Stream

Reposa: Rest

El Sereno: The Serene

Teresita: Little Teresa

I was puzzled by Del Vale, which translated from Spanish means "of the voucher." My guess is that Del Valle (of the valley) was probably what was meant. I could not find any

reference to the street name "La Bica." Street names such as Stillings and Foerster are surnames.

Other street names I have been able to research are Stillings, Foerster, and O'Shaughnessey.

Stillings was named for Calvin and Ada Stillings, who built a farmhouse at the corner of Stillings and (what is now) Nordhoff after the 1906 earthquake, when their original home was destroyed. The remnants of the original farmhouse are currently under renovation. Foerster was named after Constantine (Stanley) Foerster, who eventually joined in partnership to form what became one of San Francisco's largest law firms, Morrison & Foerster. O'Shaughnessey Boulevard is named after Michael O'Shaughnessey, who was for a time the San Francisco City Engineer, and responsible for numerous projects in the City.

I am grateful to the work of the Glen Park History Project for information on the Stillings family, and to Amy O'Hair, who continues to do remarkable work researching the Sunnyside area. For a deep dive into those two name places, please visit the websites below, where this information was found.

<https://www.glenparkhistory.org/single-post/2016/12/28/Ada-Frances-Parker-Stillings-One-of-Glen-Parks-First-Civic-Activists>

<https://sunnysidehistory.org/2020/05/22/foerster-work-hard-die-young-and-leave-a-good-name/>

There will be a further article on Michael O'Shaughnessey in a future newsletter.

# Adopt a Drain!

by Jean Perata



Thinking of a way to support your community this year? Why not adopt a drain? If you adopt a drain, you'll make sure that rain and water run-off goes where it should – to a catch basin drain and then the sewer. You'll help reduce localized flooding, promote safety for walkers and help beautify our neighborhood.

My husband and I adopted a drain at the corner of Teresita and Stillings. Why that drain? One of my neighbors had already adopted a catch basin close to our home. (Thanks, Jonathan!) I visited the SF Adopt-a-Drain website (<https://adoptadrain.sfwater.org/>) to see if a catch basin at the west side of the Stillings and Teresita intersection was available. Why that catch basin? It's close to our home and the drain is in a crosswalk and near a 36 Bus stop. (Both the crosswalk and bus stop see heavy foot traffic.)

On the website I found that some Miraloma catch basins had been adopted, but many are in need of adoption. I also discovered that the catch basin at Stillings and Teresita was open for adoption. As part of the adoption process, we were

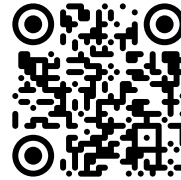
able to name the catch basin. I named it "Catch-22". My husband and I swept the gutters leading to Catch-22 and removed the pine needles, leaves and tree branches that had gathered at the catch basin. All went into the green bin.

Adopting a catch basin is easy. The interactive map at <https://adoptadrain.sfwater.org/> is easy to use and interesting. It shows which catch basins and sewers are adopted and which aren't. It identifies those that drain to the ocean or bay and those in need – drains that tend to get dirtier than their siblings and need more TLC. Caring for an adopted drain is also easy. You're advised to clear the drain before it starts raining; put leaves and natural materials in the green compost bin and trash in the black garbage bin and clear about 10 feet on both sides of the drain.

So, give some thought to adopting a catch basin. Joint custody (adoption by you and your neighbor) is possible. Consider a family adoption. It teaches children the importance of community involvement and taking care of their neighborhood.

You can join/renew by:

1. using the membership envelope that was included in



the January newsletter or

2. use the membership form in this newsletter or
3. join online at <https://miralomapark.org/join/> or use this QR code:

The MPIC is a qualified 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization. Your membership donation as well as any additional donations are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law. If you have any questions about your membership, send an email to [miralomapark@gmail.com](mailto:miralomapark@gmail.com) or leave us a voice message at 415-322-0211.



## President's Message

by Robert Gee,  
President

As we begin 2025, I want to thank all of you who have recently joined or renewed your MPIC membership.

*Please become a member of  
MPIC and/or renew your  
annual membership!*

Your annual MPIC membership donation supports our mission of Celebrating, Informing and Strengthening the Miraloma Park Community. In addition, your membership gives you the important responsibility of voting to support the annual election of our all-volunteer MPIC officers and board members each year. Through their advocacy and efforts, our MPIC officers and board members work tirelessly to ensure that we have a great community to live in and be safe. Moreover, having a strong and actively participating MPIC membership reflects positively with our city leaders and agencies.

## SAVE THE DATE RESILIENCY COMMITTEE EVENT

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**March 20, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm**  
**MPIC Clubhouse**

Spring into action!!  
Get your household disaster-ready!

Each household takes home a  
door prize!

*Sponsored by MPIC Resiliency Committee*

# Are You Looking to Hire a Contractor?

by Robert Gee, MPIC

We see many residents posting on the social media platform Nextdoor seeking recommendations for a wide variety of repair and construction work. In addition, some individuals go door to door in our neighborhood offering repair services for cash. Sometimes, seniors are targeted. These individuals offer to do a repair job for a small amount to be paid in cash and return later, demanding a much larger amount of cash. This scenario was discussed at one of the SFPD Ingleside community meetings.

So, before you hire anyone, we wanted to share with you these tips from the Contractors State License Board:

Some things to keep in mind when hiring a contractor:

- Must be a licensed contractor to do work on your home that exceeds \$500.
- A contractor cannot request or accept a deposit for work for more than \$1000 or 10% of the contract price, whichever is less. So if the contract price is \$5000, the maximum deposit would be \$500.
- You should always check if the contractor's license matches their name and is active on the CSLB website. <https://cslb.ca.gov/OnlineServices/CheckLicenseII/CheckLicense.aspx>
- A contractor can only request progress payments for work that has already been done. A contractor can not ask for "progress payments" if the total payments exceed the value of the work done.
- Always get multiple bids and don't get pressured into signing a contract.

It's always best to get a contract in writing with the names of the contractor and the homeowner, the scope of work to be performed, and the price agreed upon. Any change orders should also be in writing and agreed upon by the parties.

For more information, you can check out the CSLB website and California Business and Professions Code section 7159 et seq. Here's a helpful video from the CSLB: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sish\\_2oIDLQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sish_2oIDLQ)

CSLB website: [cslb.ca.gov](http://cslb.ca.gov)

# 10 Tips

Make Sure Your Contractor Measures Up



- 1 Hire only state-licensed contractors.
- 2 Check a contractor's license number online at [www.cslb.ca.gov](http://www.cslb.ca.gov) or by calling 800.321.CSLB (2752).
- 3 Get at least three bids.
- 4 Get three references from each bidder and review past work in person.
- 5 Make sure all project expectations are in writing and only sign the contract if you completely understand the terms.
- 6 Confirm that the contractor has workers' compensation insurance for employees.
- 7 Avoid paying more than 10% down or \$1,000, whichever is less. \* Avoid paying in cash.
- 8 Avoid letting payments get ahead of the work.
- 9 Keep a job file of all papers relating to your project, including all payments.
- 10 Avoid making the final payment until you're satisfied with the job.

\* There is an exception to this rule for about a dozen contractors who have filed a blanket performance and payment bond with the Registrar. This information is noted on the contractor's license detail page on CSLB's website.



CONTRACTORS STATE LICENSE BOARD

[www.cslb.ca.gov](http://www.cslb.ca.gov) • CheckTheLicenseFirst.com

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# February 8 Volunteer Opportunities!

## MPIC Clubhuse Second Saturday



MPIC's Second Saturdays to clean up the Clubhuse grounds continues. The event takes place from 10 a.m. to noon on the second Saturday of each month. This month's date is February 8. Come join in! Meet your neighbors and see the native plants that have been newly-planted. Rain cancels.

## Marietta Drive Beautification Day

Marietta Drive neighbors invite you to a Neighbor Beautification day on February 8, 2025 from 10 AM to Noon. In conjunction with the San Francisco Department of Public Works Department's District 7 "Love Our City" event on February 8, 2025, all neighbors are invited to volunteer to help beautify Marietta Drive's median. Volunteers should meet at 10 AM directly across from 396 Marietta Drive (near the large rock outcropping).

Sign Up to Volunteer: [bit.ly/mariettamedian](https://bit.ly/mariettamedian)

Questions? Contact Molly Sterkel, [molly@tirpak.com](mailto:molly@tirpak.com)

Learn about San Francisco's DPW Love Our City Events: [sfpublicworks.org/LoveOurCity](https://sfpublicworks.org/LoveOurCity)

### ADVERTISING PARTNERS

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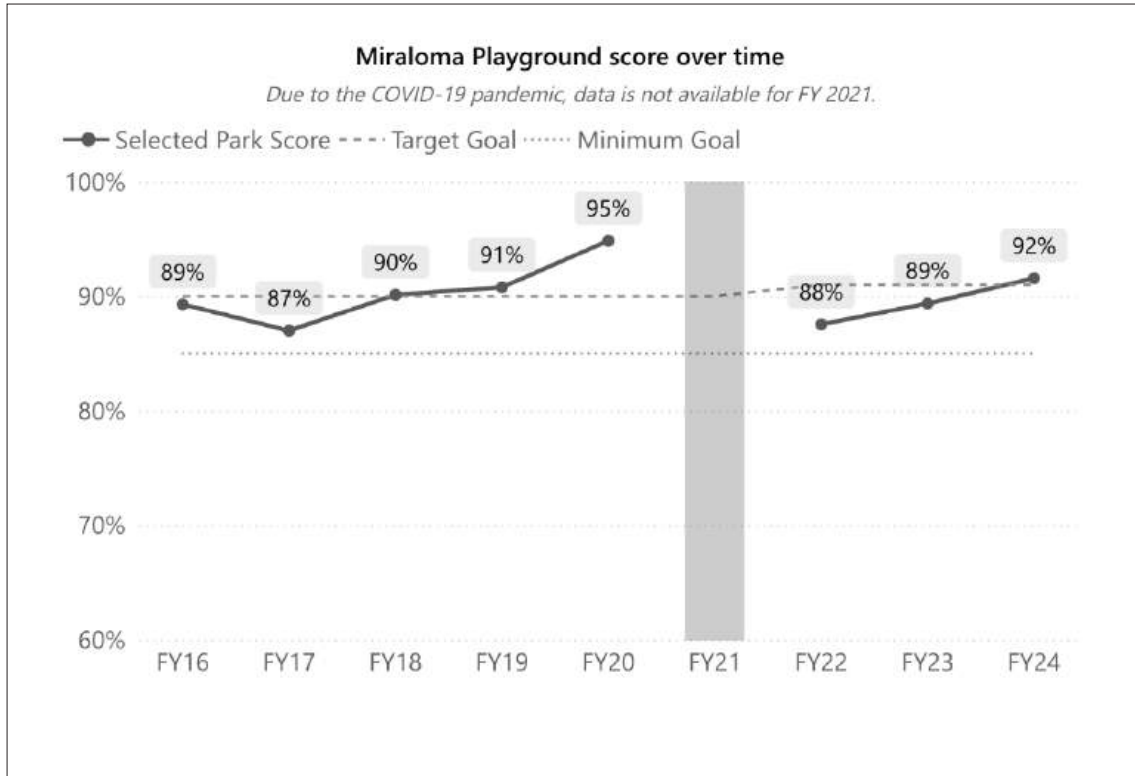
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# Miraloma Playground Scores a 92% in the City’s Annual Park Maintenance Standards Evaluation Report

Robert Gee, MPIC



In November 2024, the City released its annual Park Maintenance Standards Evaluation Report for Fiscal Year 2024. City voters added a requirement to the City Charter in 2003 to establish standards for park maintenance. The charter also requires that the Controller’s Office and Recreation and Parks Department (RPD) evaluate how well the City’s parks meet those standards each year.

Each park is given a score based on almost 300 different standards. The city-wide average park score is 91%, the same as last year. The average score is also above the minimum goal of 85%, which RPD establishes as the benchmark for a well-maintained park. More than 85% of the 171 parks meet or exceed this threshold, meaning that more than four-fifth of parks across the City are well-maintained.

So most importantly, how was our Miraloma Playground rated? It received a score of 92%. We dug into the City database so you wouldn’t have to:

Feature Name	Feature Score
Athletic Fields	94%
Buildings and General Amenities	93%
Children’s Play Areas	83%
Hardscape	97%
Lawns	88%
Ornamental Beds	87%
Outdoor Courts	95%
Restrooms	100%
Trees	93%

You can view the latest Park Maintenance Standards report at <https://www.sf.gov/sites/default/files/2024-11/FY%202024%20Park%20Maintenance%20Standards%20Evaluation%20Report.pdf>



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# HOW MUCH COULD YOUR HOME SELL FOR? CALL TODAY FOR AN EVALUATION!



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PARKNORTH.COM



*Katie was very knowledgeable about the property's location and market value. She was always reachable for consulting and answering questions either in person and/or via email during the sales. Katie was instrumental in scheduling all the necessary work (with cleaners, contractors, inspections, etc.) needed to present the property on the market. The whole sales process was streamlined and completed in a shorter amount of time. -Belle A.*



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# BECOME AN MPIC MEMBER OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

ONLINE AT:

[miralomapark.org/join](http://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!



Hello, are you 55 or older? We invite you to join us at Community Connectors, our senior program in Miraloma Park! We have a weekly program that is worth checking out. We have many exciting gatherings this fall and don't miss our Holiday Celebration - Cookie Swap and Holiday Party. We also have a bi-monthly Healthy Aging and Nutrition Class on the Community Living Campaign Website: [sfcommunityliving.org](http://sfcommunityliving.org). Let's strive together for better health and aging in 2024. Here's the schedule.

**Upcoming Events**

February 13, 2025 – Valentine's Party

**Tai Chi** on Tuesdays

**Always Active** exercise on Thursdays  
10:30 am at Cornerstone Church

If you are interested in attending, please contact Darlene Ramlose: [Darlene@sfcommunityliving.org](mailto:Darlene@sfcommunityliving.org) or by phone at 714-423-8844. You must sign up in advance as walk-ins are not accepted due to limited space.

**Miraloma Senior Walks in San Francisco**

Contact Darlene (see details above)

We are looking for someone to lead the walking program. Please contact Darlene if you are interested.

**Ukulele Class**

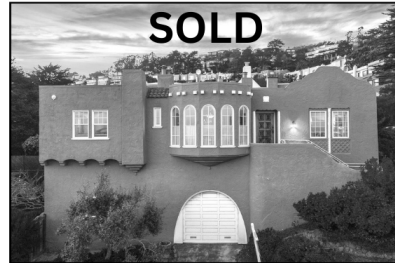
Miraloma Clubhouse  
Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m.



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



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# MPIC Safety Committee Update

Crime Stats from December 1-December 31, 2024

Date	Time	Incident #	Description	Status	Intersection
12/3/2024	9:00 AM	240748533	False Personation to Receive Money or Property	Open or Active	OMAR WAY \ SEQUOIA WAY
12/10/2024	9:00 AM	240765305	Fraudulent Game or Trick, Obtaining Money or Property	Open or Active	FOERSTER ST \ TERESITA BLVD
12/10/2024	8:11 PM	240764012	Vehicle, Stolen, Auto	Open or Active	LOS PALMOS DR \ STANFORD HEIGHTS AVE
12/11/2024	7:00 AM	240764012	Vehicle, Recovered, Auto	Open or Active	LOS PALMOS DR \ STANFORD HEIGHTS AVE
12/16/2024	6:20 PM	240776891	Theft, From Locked Vehicle, Att.	Open or Active	MELROSE AVE \ TERESITA BLVD
12/16/2024	11:00 PM	246164834	Malicious Mischief, Vandalism to Property	Open or Active	LULU ALY \ MELROSE AVE
12/14/2024	12:00 PM	240778875	License Plate or Tab, Theft of	Open or Active	MARIETTA DR \ MOLIMO DR \ TERESITA BLVD
12/19/2024	2:26 PM	240780159	Vehicle, Recovered, Auto	Open or Active	ARROYO WAY \ MARIETTA DR

*prepared by* Mathew Wong, MPIC Safety Committee

ARTICLE

## SF Crime Drops in 2024

On January 7, 2025 Mayor London N. Breed and Police Chief Bill Scott announced San Francisco’s 2024 crime rates reached numbers not seen in over 20 years as the City made gains confronting major crime trends. Here’s the breakdown, comparing 2023 to 2024:

Crime	Percentage drop from 2023
Property Crimes	-31%
Violent Crimes	-14%

### Subcategories Below

Human Trafficking	-45%
Larceny Theft	-37%
Homicide	-31%
Robbery	-22%
Motor Vehicle Theft	-21%
Arson	-21%
Burglary	-11%
Assault	-6%
Rape	-2%

# RENT YOUR MPIC CLUBHOUSE



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415 322 0211 or [miralomapark@gmail.com](mailto:miralomapark@gmail.com)



MIRALOMA PARK  
IMPROVEMENT  
CLUB

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## MPIC Board Of Directors

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<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Stephanie Boudreau Ma
<b>Corresponding Secretary</b>	Cary Matthews
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Todd Siemers	Darlene Ramlose
Daniel Louie	Stephanie Boudreau Ma
Mary Fitzpatrick	Cary Matthews
Patti Moran	Tina McGovern
Kate Clements	Jessi Harrison

## MPIC Directory

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### [www.miralomapark.org](http://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

## Miraloma Life Staff

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**Contact:** [miralomapark@gmail.com](mailto:miralomapark@gmail.com)  
(415) 322-0211

Editor	Jean Perata
Advertising	Kate Clements
Graphics/ Layout	Butler Looney

### **Article Submission Policy:**

Email submissions to: [miralomapark@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## Programs at the MPIC Clubhouse

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### **Jazzercise**

Wednesday and Saturday 9:00am  
Monday 5pm  
650 888 6129  
[sbjazzercise@comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://Fortmasonartists.org)

### **Ukulele Class**

Tuesdays 2:00pm–3:00pm  
[Bawheeler46@yahoo.com](mailto:Bawheeler46@yahoo.com)

### **Mary L. Harden Botanical Drawing**

Monday 10:00am–1:30pm  
[maryharden@me.com](mailto:maryharden@me.com)

### **Figure Drawing from the Live Model with Linda Hope**

Saturday 11am–2:30pm  
415 334 3603  
[Lindahope.art@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:info@gdbsanfranciscopuppyraisers.com)  
or [guidedogs.com/puppy](http://guidedogs.com/puppy)

## Miraloma Park Improvement Club

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350 O'Shaughnessy Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94124