



## Beresford/Hillsdale Neighborhood Association

February 2012

[www.beresfordhillsdale.org](http://www.beresfordhillsdale.org)

### February General Meeting - Meet the 2012 Board

#### REFRESHMENTS!!

**No "social" meeting would be complete without snacks!**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21  
7:30 PM**

Beresford Recreation Center  
(28<sup>th</sup> & Alameda)

*note: member votes may be taken*

Did your returned BHNA questionnaire say that you come to meetings to support the neighborhood association? Or visit with fellow members? Here's your opportunity. At our February meeting we will take a break from our monthly speaker series and use the meeting as an opportunity get to know the new BHNA board and each other. The 2012 Board of Directors has four new members, so this seems a good time to have a more "social" meeting. We will share who we are, and what we believe is important for our efforts for BHNA this year. Even more important, we want you to share your thoughts about BHNA, and help us stay on the right track. Whether this is your first meeting, or you are a "regular", we hope to see you February 21st. We plan to welcome everyone with refreshments, so save room for something sweet provided by a local merchant.

BHNA general membership meetings are every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month, 7:30pm-9pm

### Upcoming BHNA General Meetings

**March** - Planning Department update - Bay Meadows II development, El Camino upgrades, redeveloping the old Police Station site on Delaware.

**Date TBD** - Visit to new Fire Station 23, Edison and 27th Avenue.

Come see San Mateo's newest and most advanced fire station! Serving the Beresford/Hillsdale neighborhood and the rest of San Mateo this is one meeting you won't want to miss!

### January Meeting Recap

Members in attendance were treated to great presentations by two strong community leaders. Cheryl Lawton, Co-Principal of Hillsdale High School and Sheri Costa-Batis from the San Mateo City Department of Public Works.

*The first speaker was Cheryl Lawton.* She noted that Hillsdale didn't have a very good reputation twenty years ago. However in the late 1990's the Hillsdale faculty got together and decided they wanted Hillsdale to be a better school. Today Hillsdale isn't your average neighborhood high school and is now a national model for school reform.

The Hillsdale students overall API scores have improved from 662 in 2002-03 to 797 in 2010-11. The percent of students enrolled in UC grade math and science classes has improved from 16-38% in 2002-03 to 85-95% in 2010-11.

In addition to academic changes there has been extensive remodeling in the last two years. All athletic facilities are new. The Little Theater has been remodeled. The cafeteria has been remodeled as a cafeteria/multi use room, and there is a new Special Education area for students with learning disabilities.

With all of these changes it is clear why Hillsdale has become a California Distinguished School, and why there is now a wait list for students wanting to get enrolled. Cheryl can be reached at [www.hillsdalehigh.com](http://www.hillsdalehigh.com) or 650 558-2603.

*Our second speaker was Sheri Costa-Batis.* She presented details on the new citywide private sewer lateral cost sharing program. A private sewer lateral is the connection from a house out to the sewer main in the street, and its maintenance is the homeowner's responsibility. The program was started on a test basis for a year in San Mateo Village and proved to be so successful that it was expanded to cover the entire city. The City will make a free sewer lateral inspection and provide an assessment of its condition. If repairs are needed the City will provide a list of pre-qualified contractors that can perform the work, including handling all necessary deposits, permits and inspections. Up to a 50% grant is available (maximums apply) for the repairs for all property owners regardless of income or property type. There are also low interest loans (maximums apply) available for owner occupied single family homes. Homeowners with questions can call 650-522-7334 or log onto [www.cityofsanmateo.org/privatesewerlaterals](http://www.cityofsanmateo.org/privatesewerlaterals).

## BHNA Board

The 2012 BHNA Directors and Officers were elected at the January meeting. Congratulations and thank you to all for your willingness to serve. The new Board is listed on the back page.

We also extend a big thank you to our retiring Board members. Margaret Edwards, Suki Martin, Annie Schlossman will be missed. Special gratitude to past presidents Mike Germano and Bruce Klafter, who have given our group untold hours of service over many years.

## Last call for 2012 dues

Members tell us that they love getting our newsletter. If you received this newsletter by US mail, and your label still says 2011, your membership has expired. Please don't let this be your last newsletter! Stay connected with our neighborhood by returning the enclosed renewal slip, and your \$12 check, today.

## Does your newsletter arrive late?

The newsletters are usually delivered to the USPS bulk mail facility the first Friday of the month, and should be delivered by the following Tuesday. If yours is coming later, please let the newsletter editor know. Or, you may want to consider email delivery – earth friendly, cost saving and reliable.

## Do you need a ride to BHNA meetings?

Contact Karen Herrel (see back page) if you are missing general meetings because you need help with transportation. We'll try to arrange a ride for you.

## President's Day City closure

City Hall and all other offices will be closed on February 20 in honor of President's Day. Keep in mind public safety will remain available for emergencies.

## Family Pajama Storytime

Join other families on February 14, from 6:45 – 7:15 PM at Hillsdale Library and be entertained by stories and finger plays! This fun event is designed for older preschoolers and their families. For more information call (650)522-7880.

## Favorite Neighborhood Merchants

The San Mateo Coffee Company café is located on 127 25th Avenue. The dedicated folks there bake their own zucchini bread, coffee cake, quiche and brew powerful coffee. If you're in need of a morning wakeup, a cup of their 'Black Magic' will stand you up straight and tall. The sandwiches are delicious and huge. Give this place a try - you'll always stroll out smiling and satisfied.  
*C&P, Alder*

**If you have a favorite shop or business in our neighborhood, write to us and tell us what makes it your favorite. email: [newsletter@beresfordhillsdale.org](mailto:newsletter@beresfordhillsdale.org) or BHNA, P.O. Box 6764, San Mateo, CA 94403.**

### 2012 BHNA Officers & Directors

President	Susan Rowinski	650.522.8584	president@beresfordhillsdale.org
Vice President	Kitty Van Beckum	650.573.6242	vicepresident@beresfordhillsdale.org
Treasurer	Karen Herrel	650.578.8597	treasurer@beresfordhillsdale.org
Secretary	Stan Shogren		secretary@beresfordhillsdale.org
Directors: Dirk Alvarado, Diana Mongini, Juliette Najjar, Heinz Plischke, Kaye Sharma			

*If you picked up this newsletter at one of our neighborhood locations, we invite you to join our association. Please visit [www.beresfordhillsdale.org](http://www.beresfordhillsdale.org) for more information.*