



## Beresford/Hillsdale Neighborhood Association

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www.beresfordhillsdale.org

May 2013

### May General Meeting – Plans For The North Block at Hillsdale Mall

#### Hillsdale Mall Renovations

Robert L. Webster  
John Dewes

Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>  
7:30 PM

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

*note: member votes may be taken*

At our May meeting, Robert L. Webster, CEO of Bohannon Development Company, and John Dewes, Regional Development Manager of Target Stores, will speak to members about plans for the North Block at Hillsdale Shopping Center.

Mr. Webster will explain the details of the proposed redevelopment of the present Sears site, including the anticipated timing and scope of planned improvements. Bohannon's primary goal in redeveloping Hillsdale Mall is to create a more vibrant and pedestrian friendly environment. As announced in the April newsletter, the redevelopment will include a Target store, a luxury movie theater, and a restaurant. The plans, which are available at <http://www.cityofsanmateo.org/index.aspx?NID=2589>, also will be discussed at a Neighborhood Meeting on May 9 at Hillsdale HS cafeteria at 7:00 pm, and a Planning Commission Study Session at City Hall on May 28 at 7:30 pm.

Come to the May General Meeting, bring your questions, and learn all about the exciting new plans for Hillsdale Shopping Center!

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

### Upcoming BHNA General Meetings

**June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013** – Donna Mollenhauer, Filoli Docent, on the home, garden and exciting programs and activities at Filoli.

**July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013** – BHNA's Annual Summer Social

**August** – Summer Break

### April Meeting Recap

At the April General Meeting, we had two speakers, Sheri Costa-Batis from the San Mateo Department of Public Works, and Linda Burnside, who discussed the history of the San Mateo Garden Center.

Sheri Costa-Batis discussed the new ordinance banning single use plastic bags and Styrofoam. This ban currently covers grocery and retail stores, and is meant to encourage people to bring their own reusable bags instead of plastic bags, which are bad for the environment. She passed out reusable bags to the members.

Linda Burnside educated us on the history of the San Mateo Garden Center, which was founded in 1947. The Garden Center meetings originally were held at the fairgrounds, but were moved to the current location in 1974. The Garden Center building was dedicated to the city in 1975. As of today, ten garden clubs meet at the Garden Center, which also can be rented for weddings and other events.

### **Safety Tips From SMPD**

Also at the April General Meeting, Lt. Art Sanchez from the SMPD Crime Reduction Unit provided an update on recent trends in home burglaries in San Mateo. Most of the thieves are not local. They will knock on the front door of a house, and if nobody answers, will go around to the back to break in. Once inside, they will take things they can easily convert to cash, like gold jewelry.

His Tips: When strangers ring your doorbell let them know you are home, even when you do not open the door. Do not leave your home without locking all doors and windows. Do not leave a second floor window open for ventilation, especially if you have a ladder in your backyard. Report suspicious activity in your area to the SMPD by calling 911 or 650-522-7700. The SMPD wants to hear from you. If you see something, say something!

### **Removal of Heritage Trees**

In the April newsletter, we noted that a permit from the City Arborist is required before the removal, cutting or pruning of a Heritage or City Street Tree. This is City Law. The permitting process is in place to ensure that trees remain a part of our neighborhoods. Sadly, many Heritage and City Street Trees are removed and cut without permits from the City. However, you can help. If you see a large tree being cut that you believe is a Heritage or City Street Tree, call the City Arborist to confirm a permit is in place. Provide the Arborist with the address, and he can confirm in less than a minute whether or not the removal is permitted. If a permit is required but the City has not yet issued one, the Arborist will send someone out immediately to stop the cutting down of the tree and to address the missing permit. To contact the City Arborist call 650-522-7420; after 3:30 PM call 650-522-7300.

### **Verona Ridge Development Construction**

The 12.5 acre development site off Campus Drive on the hill just south east of Highway 92 and Hillsdale Blvd. was approved for 34 single-family homes over 10 years ago. Eight homes were built and sold and are currently occupied. Construction and sales stopped when the housing market collapsed. Now the developer, Taylor Morrison, LLC, has asked the City for permission to open a temporary sales trailer on the site. The goal is to begin construction on the remaining 26 homes this summer. The homes are on average 3,000 square feet and the lots range in size from approximately 4,000 to 8,800 square feet.

### **2013 City Services Academy**

The City of San Mateo is now accepting applications for the 2013 City Services Academy. The free academy will meet Wednesday evenings from August 28, 2013 to November 13, 2013.

Many graduates of the Academy can testify that the City Services Academy is an enlightening experience. The Academy features speakers, tours and educational lessons about the goals of many organizations in our community. Each week a dedicated employee from a different city department discusses its unique challenges and proudly speaks of its accomplishments. These presenters are articulate, engaging, and very knowledgeable. Among many topics, the Academy informs about the goals of the library and the complexity of the budget by finance department, and it takes participants on a behind the scenes tour of the police and fire departments. Many graduates of the Academy, encouraged by the City Manager Susan Loftus, have since found ways to continue helping their community.

To obtain a brochure or application go to [www.cityofsanmateo.org](http://www.cityofsanmateo.org) or call Laurie Strange at 522-7000.

## Upcoming Events

**May 11<sup>th</sup>:** 10 AM – 3 PM. The Peninsula Succulent Club and the San Mateo Garden Center hold plant sales, just in time for Mother’s Day, at 3112 Del Monte Street.

**May 13<sup>th</sup>:** 4:30 PM – 8:30 PM. The Urban Market is held on 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. in San Mateo. Come and enjoy live music and good food while shopping for fresh, organic produce! This event is held every Monday night until June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**May 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>:** 10 AM to 6 PM. The Annual Maker Faire takes place at the San Mateo Event Center. The Faire celebrates innovation, creativity, and the Maker movement; bring your whole family for a fun day of imagination and discovery!

**May 31<sup>st</sup>:** 6 PM – 9 PM. Ceramics Show and Sale on 5<sup>th</sup> Ave in downtown San Mateo. You’ll find beautiful hand crafted ceramic pieces for sale!

**June 1<sup>st</sup>:** 11:30 AM – 3:00 PM. The Spring Dance Show in Central Park features the Recreation Department’s inspiring Youth Dancers and the highly acclaimed Seniors in Show Biz.

## Support Our Neighborhood Merchants

The 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue Farmers’ Market, in the First Presbyterian parking lot on 25th at Hacienda Street, returns on May 7 from 4:00 PM to 7:30 PM. It will be held every Tuesday until October 15. The market is small but well stocked, and the prices are good. In the last few years it has become popular with our members, some of whom walk to the market and enjoy seeing their neighbors along the way and while shopping.

**If you have a favorite shop or business in our neighborhood, let us know. Call or email the newsletter editor (see below).**

### 2013 BHNA Officers & Directors

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*If you picked up this newsletter at one of our neighborhood locations, or a member shared this with you, we invite you to contact an officer to join our association.*