



## Beresford/Hillsdale Neighborhood Association

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

May 2014

### **Michael Svanevik History of San Mateo**

**Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
7:30 PM**

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

*note: member votes may be taken*

### **May General Meeting**

Whether you are new to San Mateo or have lived here for decades, you won't want to miss our upcoming General Meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup>. BHNA is very excited to present Professor Michael Svanevik, a well known San Mateo County historian and professor-emeritus from the College of San Mateo, who will speak about our city's history. Professor Svanevik is a noted historical writer, columnist, lecturer, tour guide and author who has appeared on "Good Morning America." He also is recognized nationally as an "expert" on cemeteries in the

American West, including those in Colma. He and his wife Shirley have published numerous books in addition to countless articles for magazines and newspapers.

Professor Svanevik's topic will be "SAN MATEO - From Privileged Sanctuary to Humble Village." We will learn about a 25 year period in the City's history during which our community, previously dominated by the rich and well-born, was transformed.

Please join us as we proudly offer this rare opportunity to hear Professor Svanevik at no charge, and to learn more about our wonderful city!

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

### **Upcoming BHNA General Meetings**

**June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014** – San Mateo Police Department representative

**July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014** – Summer Social

### **April Meeting Recap**

At our April General Meeting, San Mateo's Director of Parks and Recreation updated us about developments in our San Mateo parks. Sheila Canzian spent most of the time speaking about the major renovation set to occur at Beresford Park, which is needed since upgrades are generally done every 20 years, and Beresford was last upgraded 24 years ago. This upgrade will also meet ADA and current safety requirements.

Input from local Fifth Graders helped shape the future of the Beresford playground, providing ideas about what is "fun." They lobbied for a more natural setting, tall slides and a water interaction area. The current area for small children will be integrated with the overall playground, bringing the areas for all kids closer together.

Sheila brought in drawings by landscape architect Jeff Miller showing the proposed improvements. The majority of funds have been set aside for this \$2.5 million project, but the City plans to reach out to its residents and ask for help to raise the remaining \$350K needed to realize this exciting new project for their children.

In other news: A new Master Plan – the old one dates back to 1982 – will be designed for Central Park. Meetings will be held in May for public input. Laurie Meadows will receive a fenced, off-leash dog area in August. Bayside/Joinville Park will have a formal dedication of the John Lee "Dog Park" on May 24<sup>th</sup>. Graffiti recently has appeared more frequently in Beresford Park near the covered, reserved picnic /BBQ area. Sheila encourages residents who see anything they think is an issue to PLEASE CALL THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

### **Outstanding Home Maintenance Awards**

Once again, San Mateo would like to recognize residents who put an extra effort into maintaining their homes. The appearance and maintenance of a home and its yard are considered. If you would like BHNA to consider an outstanding home in your neighborhood for the award please let us know at [newsletter@beresfordhillsdale.org](mailto:newsletter@beresfordhillsdale.org).

### **Pollution Prevention Program**

The Pollution Prevention Program of the San Mateo County's Environmental Health Department is dedicated to involve residents in a variety of environmental issues, such as water quality of local creeks and the Bay, and to inform them about services that are FREE to San Mateo County residents. These include safe disposal for household hazardous waste and pharmaceuticals and used oil recycling. Twice a year the Department publishes an electronic newsletter. The Spring 2014 edition of the Pollution Prevention Post features articles on coastal clean up, a new healthy nail salon program and more. Go to [www.flowstobay.org/newsletter](http://www.flowstobay.org/newsletter) to view the full newsletter.

### **Home Sharing in San Mateo**

HIP Housing is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping residents find affordable housing solutions. HIP Housing has given free, long-term support to those who need it most in San Mateo County for 42 years. It administers the Home Sharing program, which matches residents with extra space in their homes with those who are looking for an affordable place to live. Given the ever-increasing cost of housing in San Mateo, Home Sharing is an alternative that can be beneficial to both homeowners and renters in many ways.

Home sharing reduces housing costs by providing extra income for the homeowner and reasonable monthly payments for the renter. It also can provide companionship and increased security for both the home provider and the home seeker. If you know anyone looking for a housemate or renter, or trying to rent out a room in his or her home, HIP's Home Sharing program may be the answer. Call (650) 348-6660 or visit [www.hiphousing.org](http://www.hiphousing.org) for more information.

## What to Do If You Find Orphaned Wildlife on Your Property

Did you know the biggest cause of wildlife becoming orphaned is the cutting and trimming of trees during the spring & summer, before the wildlife are old enough to leave their nests? If possible, tree trimming should be avoided during the nesting periods of local birds. Should you find displaced birds and other orphaned wildlife, you may take them to the Peninsula Humane Society Wildlife Care Center. Go to <http://www.peninsulahumanesociety.org/services/wild.html> or call (650) 340-7022, ext.414 for information, and remember that performing tree maintenance in the fall promotes vigorous spring growth and reduces the incidence of orphaned wildlife.

## Getting to Know the San Mateo Dispatch Center

The San Mateo Dispatch Center is a division of the Police Department that operates 24/7, dispatching needed units using a computer-aided dispatch system, and responding to over 300,000 calls annually. It is one of the newest state-of-the-art communications facilities in the County. San Mateo Public Safety Dispatchers are responsible for determining the nature, location, and priority of an emergency, and for coordinating response from police, fire, ambulance or other first responders. They also compile statistics on calls, and their work is important in compiling crime trends, which the public may access at [www.crimereports.com](http://www.crimereports.com).

## Upcoming Events

**May 10<sup>th</sup>:** The Hungarian Heritage Festival takes place at Twin Pines Park in Belmont, from 11:30 AM to 9 PM. Savory dishes, divine pastries, music and dance for all ages.

**May 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>:** Maker Faire Bay Area 2014 at San Mateo County Event Center.

## Favorite Merchant

I recently tried The Spot on 25th for lunch. It's the new restaurant across from the post office, open from 10 AM to 5 PM. My soup, grilled cheese, and side cabbage salad selection sounds ordinary but was a cut above. And the variety of seating arrangements and bright "surfer" decor make the interior attractive. Be sure to check out the room in the back. Kaye, Del Ray Street.

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

### 2014 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.***