



## Beresford/Hillsdale Neighborhood Association

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

January 2015

**San Mateo Mayor  
Maureen Freschet**

and

**Board Elections**

**Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015  
7:30 PM**

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

*note: member votes will be taken*

### January General Meeting

**(NOTE THE DATE: 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, not 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday!)**

At the first General Meeting of 2015, on *Thursday*, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, BHNA will be hosting San Mateo's new mayor, Maureen Freschet! Our new mayor will be speaking about upcoming plans for the city of San Mateo. The year 2015 will see exciting new developments and the continuing implementation of long term plans for the City. Don't miss this important meeting.

BHNA members also will be electing directors and officers for the year 2015. If it is your new year's resolution to become more engaged in your community,

it is not too late. There is still the opportunity for those who are interested to join the Board in 2015. Joining the board means you will get to know your neighbors better, help represent their interests as our city grows and changes, and keep members up to date on the City's plans for the future. If you are interested, please contact BHNA president Lisa Taner at (650) 504-8181 or at [president@beresfordhillsdale.org](mailto:president@beresfordhillsdale.org), or contact any other member of the board.

You won't want to miss the first BHNA meeting of the new year, so come with your questions for Mayor Freschet on Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

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

### Upcoming BHNA General Meetings

**February 2015** - Mimi Steel, president of Citizens Alliance for Property Rights and Councilman David Lim will discuss the impact on San Mateo of *Plan Bay Area*, the long term transportation and land-use/housing strategy for the Bay Area.

### November 2014 General Meeting Recap

At the November General Meeting we learned about the services provided by Ombudsman Services of San Mateo County (OSSMC) and HIP Housing. The charter of the OSSMC is oversight in order to monitor the quality of life and care provided to approximately 9,000 residents in the

515 care facilities in the County, and to resolve complaints. OSSMC staff and volunteers make between 4,500 to 6,000 visits per year to care facilities. OSSMC has a great amount of information about the facilities and, while they cannot make recommendations, the OSSMC staff will be happy to share their knowledge if you are researching care facilities.

HIP Housing has operated its Home Sharing program for 35 years. The program matches people in need of a home with people with extra room in their homes. Screening and support programs are offered, and home owners set rental rates with guidance from HIP. With average rents of \$800 the program provides an affordable alternative to our high housing costs, and a good source of additional income for homeowners. Historically, matches arranged by HIP Housing last about three years. HIP's pre-match process and living together agreements are the keys to avoiding problems and making the program so successful.

### **Membership Dues for 2015**

All members of BHNA by now will have received a little blue membership renewal slip for the new year. Annual dues are still only \$12 per household. If you have not yet renewed there will be another renewal slip in this newsletter. Please turn it in as soon as possible! We sincerely appreciate the support of our neighborhood community.

### **Holiday Drawing**

Thanks once again to Piazza's Fine Foods in the Laurelwood Shopping Center for contributing a gift certificate for our Holiday Drawing at the November general meeting. Piazza's generously has made a donation to BHNA for the drawing for many years. Another thank you for a gift certificate goes to the relatively new shop on the north side of 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue called Reach and Teach, which has an amazing assortment of gifts. Two lucky BHNA members had an early start to the holiday season.

### **Opportunity for Your High Schooler!**

The BHNA will be losing its newspaper intern. She has done a marvelous job for three years, but will be off to college soon. We need your son or daughter to help edit our monthly newsletter, which is published ten times a year. Our intern will work with the editor to remind contributing writers of deadlines, collect and organize submissions, do online research and verification, and prepare a first draft of the newsletter. Knowledge of Word is required. This is an opportunity for someone who understands the importance of deadlines and the correct use of the English language, and wants to serve the community. Think how good it will look on your student's college application. Contact [president@beresfordhillsdale.org](mailto:president@beresfordhillsdale.org) or the editor at [newsletter@beresfordhillsdale.org](mailto:newsletter@beresfordhillsdale.org).

### **Changes for Elementary and Middle Schools**

The San Mateo-Foster City School Board of Trustees approved one common school calendar beginning in the 2015–2016 school year. The new calendar contains features of both traditional and year-round calendars. The first day of school will be August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015, with two week breaks in October, December, and March/April. The last day of school will be June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The schedule is designed to maximize student learning time, provide professional development for teachers, and minimize interruptions to instruction.

### **Bring Your Own Bag!**

We've all been getting in the habit of bringing our own bags to the grocery store, but sometimes we forget. Here is another incentive to remember! The Public Works Department reminds San Mateo residents that the cost of a paper bag at the store increased on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015, to 25 cents, pursuant to the 2013 ordinance.

## Rain Barrels

The Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency, in cooperation with the City-County Association of Governments of San Mateo, offers rebates of up to \$100 dollars to those who install rain barrels at their home. Rain barrels provide a low cost way to help homeowners supplement their water supply with a sustainable resource. Applicants for rebates must provide receipts for rain barrels and photos of installation, and must purchase rain barrels by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Check out the BAWSCA website at <http://bawasca.org/conservation/rain-barrel-rebate-program/> for an application and additional information. Join the movement to protect our community from pollution while conserving water!

## The City Wants To Hear From You At The “Community Needs” Workshop

Each year the City of San Mateo prepares an Action Plan that tells HUD what projects are important to the San Mateo community and how we plan to spend the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership funds. Workshops will be on January 17, 2015, 10:00 a.m. to noon at the Martin Luther King Jr. Center, and on January 21, 2015, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at City Hall.

## Hillsdale Mall Development

A new development plan is being proposed for the North Block Hillsdale Shopping Center. <http://www.cityofsanmateo.org/DocumentCenter/View/43867>. Target is no longer involved, but there are plans for an 870 seat theater, a bowling alley, fitness center, new stores and restaurants. Many aspects of the proposal, particularly traffic and parking, require careful study. Don't miss the chance to learn more and to add your input, either at the Neighborhood Meeting, **January 12**, 2015, 7:00–9:00 pm at Hillsdale HS Cafeteria or the Planning Commission Study Session, **February 10**, 2015, 7:30 pm at City Hall. <http://www.cityofsanmateo.org/index.aspx?NID=1176> , the City's "What's Happening in Development?" page will have updates.

## Support Our Neighborhood Merchants!

San Mateo Neighborhood Pharmacy, at 9 37th Ave., has super friendly and knowledgeable pharmacists. Prices are affordable, and the service exceeds expectations. They will pick up your prescription and deliver the medication. Check them out at <https://sanmateopharmacy.com> or give them a call at (650) 827-5277.

**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

|  |                  |                |                                      |
|--|------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| President  | Lisa Taner       | (650) 504-8181 | president@beresfordhillsdale.org     |
| Vice President   | Andrea McCutchin |                | vicepresident@beresfordhillsdale.org |
| Treasurer  | Ellen Wang       | (650) 773-3053 | treasurer@beresfordhillsdale.org     |
| Secretary  | Jan Prisco       | (650) 341-9519 | secretary@beresfordhillsdale.org     |
| Newsletter Ed.   | Monika Lee       | (650) 572-0821 | newsletter@beresfordhillsdale.org    |
| Newsletter   | Claire Jensen    | Intern         | newsletter@beresfordhillsdale.org    |
| Directors: Monika Lee, Susan Rowinski; Directors Emeritus: Heinz Plischke, Kaye Sharma |                  |                |                                      |

***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.***