



Beresford/Hillsdale Neighborhood Association

www.beresfordhillsdale.org

May 2015

Water Issues

Michael Hurley (BAWSCA)

Carolyn Shavel (SM Parks & Rec)

Tuesday, May 19th, 2015

7:30 PM

Beresford Recreation Center
(28th & Alameda)

note: member votes may be taken

May General Meeting

That California's multi-year drought will affect all BHNA neighbors can hardly be questioned. At our May Meeting, Michael Hurley from the Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency (BAWSCA) will explain what BAWSCA is doing to ensure that a reliable, high quality supply of water is available where and when we need it. Michael also will provide updates on the agency's programs that will help you save water (and money).

We will also hear from Carolyn Shavel of the San Mateo Parks & Recreation Department, who will address water safety issues.

Also present will be a representative of the San Mateo Medical Center Campus who will update members on two of the Center's projects: the installation of solar panels and the repurposing and renovation of the building on the corner of Hacienda and 37th Ave.

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

Upcoming BHNA General Meetings

June 16th – Julie Monanari, Water-Wise Landscaping

July 21st – BHNA's Annual Summer Social!

April General Meeting Recap

At the April General Meeting, Lieutenant Dave Peruzzaro gave members an update on safety in San Mateo. We are fortunate to live in a relatively low crime area, yet burglaries happen sometimes. Lt. Peruzzaro gave tips on how to avoid making your home a target when you are not there. He also reviewed areas in which car break-ins are most common: the Hillsdale Mall Parking lot, downtown parking lots, and the Fish Market. More detailed information about Lt. Peruzzaro's presentation will be posted to the BHNA website.

We then saw a presentation on mountain lions by Ian Hanley from the Felidae Project. Ian gave us valuable information about mountain lions and their behavior patterns, why they are in our area, and what organizations like the Bay Area Puma Project are doing to minimize conflict

between humans and mountain lions. One tip Ian gave was to stop feeding deer in your yards – mountain lions will follow the deer to our neighborhoods! To report a mountain lion in your area, call California Fish and Game, (831) 649-2870. For more information on living with wildlife in our area see <http://smchealth.org/node/352>.

Letter to the Editor

San Mateo and the Bay Area are in a quandary. How is it that the Governor can ask for water restrictions, but still push for growth? It is difficult for our own city to justify doing the same. On May 10th, Richard White published a scorching article in the Chronicle discussing the development and possibility of drought relief via water reallocation: "In the Bay Area, new water will mean new development, but it will be development that real estate interests want. Developers, builders, speculators, large landholders and construction companies inordinately influence local governments. Do not trust these interests and the politicians they control to use their water access wisely." White closes with the thought "solutions to our crisis are not beyond us, but they will be politically unachievable in an electoral system plagued by more and more money and fewer and fewer voters." If our city leaders are pressured to go forward with unreasonable plans, the only voice of reason will have to come from voters. Concerned Bay Area residents already have their own city-wide petitions making the rounds. The people need to be heard – now. *Lisa Taner*

Care Packages to Our Troops

San Mateo adopted Alpha Company, 1-327 Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division of the U.S. Army in 1968. They are currently stationed in Camp Dwyer, Afghanistan, and the city would like help sending personalized care packages to the troops. Some items that would be helpful are power bars, dried fruit snacks, trail mix, shampoo and body wash, and board games or magazines for entertainment. See <http://www.cityofsanmateo.org/index.aspx?nid=1452>. for more information Drop off your donations before May 15th at City Hall, Main or Marina Library, or Beresford, King and Senior Center Rec. Centers.

Recreational Space in San Mateo

There are some changes contemplated regarding recreational space in San Mateo. The Bridgepointe Ice Rink was shut down some time ago. The rink is private property, but is legally restricted for recreational use only unless the city council votes for a change. Developers have proposed to convert the rink to retail space and to pay a \$3 million fee that the City would then use to create recreational space elsewhere. For more information see <http://savesanmateorink.wix.com/savebridgepointe>.

Those who utilize the Fitzgerald Baseball Field in Central Park are concerned that it may not survive the Central Park redesign. According to the San Mateo Little League, current proposals largely cater to nearby apartments under development, and supporters of the baseball field have not made themselves heard at planning commission meetings. Check out <http://www.smla.org/> for the petition that is being circulated; for more information click the "Documents" tab.

San Mateo County Hospital News

Concerned residents living adjacent to the San Mateo County Hospital attended last month's General Meeting and brought along a petition. They had received news at an April 7th meeting that the hospital planned to install solar panels and a water tower, as well as to create a mental health center on the corner of Hacienda and 37th Avenue. One resident wrote to the BHNA that the hospital has grown, increasing the noise levels and "litter, traffic, and pollution in [their] nice residential neighborhood."

Stephen Kaplan, Director of the County of San Mateo Behavioral Health & Recovery Services, advised the BHNA that meetings are scheduled "to inform the surrounding community about the projects and address people's concerns and questions." The residents who brought the petition said they felt the April 7th meeting was strictly informational and did not allow them to voice their concerns. Eric Forgaard, Public Outreach Specialist for the County Manager's Office, will be speaking at the May 19th BHNA General Meeting about these possible changes at the hospital.

Are You the Host with the Most?

BHNA has a tradition of serving light snacks and drinks at the General Meetings. We would like to continue this neighborly custom but have lost our hospitality chair to retirement. If you would like to help coordinate the hospitality table at the meetings, please contact Lisa at 504-8181 or president@beresfordhillisdale.org.

Upcoming Events

May 9th: HEART First Time Homebuyer Workshop, from 11:00 am-12:00 pm at the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center; also **May 20th**, 6:00-7:00 pm, at City Hall. See <http://heartofsmc.org/> for details and registration.

Favorite Merchant

Beginning May 5th we will once again be able to get our fruits and vegetables at a very local venue. The Farmers' Market at 25th and Hacienda is back this year and promises to be as lively and neighborhood-friendly as we remember it. Walk down 25th Avenue while you are there and check out the many nice eating establishments for those days when you don't feel like cooking. Monika, Hacienda Street.

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

2015 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 or visit our website at

http://www.beresfordhillisdale.org/?page_id=15 to join our association.