



Beresford/Hillsdale Neighborhood Association

www.beresfordhillsdale.org

June 2015

Julie Montanari

Master Gardener

Tuesday, June 16th, 2015
7:30 PM

Beresford Recreation Center
(28th & Alameda)

note: member votes may be taken

June General Meeting

For our June meeting, the BHNA keeps its focus on the drought - this time with an emphasis on landscaping. The highest discretionary use of water is for watering our front and back yards. With the restrictions getting more severe, you want to be a smart water user, but you still wish to enjoy the curb appeal of your home. Master Gardener Julie Montanari to the rescue!

Master Gardeners are volunteers trained by the University of California to provide research-based information about home horticulture to help home gardeners. Julie will share her extensive knowledge regarding drought-tolerant

landscaping options and present a number of ideas sure to inspire you. These water-efficient landscapes will allow you to enjoy your yard and save money and water at the same time. Julie will also share information about the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency's lawn conversion rebate program, where you can get money back for converting from a water-thirsty lawn. Join us on June 16th to learn more about this very timely issue, and bring your friends and neighbors.

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

Upcoming BHNA General Meetings

July 21st – Annual Summer Social. We are celebrating 25 years of BHNA! If you would like to share “historical treasurers” or interesting memories about the early days of BHNA please contact Ellen or Andrea. The contact information is on the back.

May General Meeting Recap

BHNA members learned much at the May General Meeting from three speakers. Carolyn Shavel from the San Mateo Parks and Recreation Department opened the meeting with helpful water safety advice and information about the San Mateo pools.

Michael Hurley of BAWSCA followed with another water-related presentation. He spoke about BAWSCA's role as a representative of 26 water retailers in San Mateo, Santa Clara and Alameda Counties serving 1.6 million residents, including Cal Water, the provider for San Mateo. Much of

the infrastructure supporting water delivery to our area is old and not up to present-day seismic standards. A \$4.3 billion project is underway to reinforce pipelines to protect them from damage in case of a major earthquake. The recently issued conservation guidelines set a goal of a 17% cutback from 2013 levels for BAWSCA agencies. The City of San Mateo's target for usage reduction is 16%. The new regulations should save 1.2 million acre feet of water (390 billion gallons) statewide annually. Michael explained that San Mateo is relatively fortunate in that the present Hetch Hetchy supply is sufficient for another three years but urged members to consult the BAWSCA website for advice on how to cut back on excessive water use. <http://bawasca.org/conservation/>

Doug Koenig, San Mateo's Deputy Director of Public Works, then spoke about three projects at the San Mateo Medical Center. The Solar Panel Project is scheduled to start on June 1 and consists of the installation of solar panels above the parking lot, providing shaded parking as well as electricity to the hospital. During construction, employees will have extra parking at Hillsdale Mall, with shuttle service to the hospital. The old water tower will be replaced – in the same location – with one that is seismically up to date and has larger capacity. Stephen Kaplan, Director of San Mateo County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, discussed the third project, the conversion of the building at Hacienda and 37th Avenue into a respite center that will be named Serenity House and serve up to 10 people at a time. The purpose of the center is to provide a place where persons with mental illnesses can recover from a destabilizing event and to give respite to the families who care for such persons. Average stay is expected to be 10 days, and residents will be accompanied when entering or leaving the center.

Frustrated When You See Water Waste?

Most of our BHNA neighbors are very concerned about the continuing drought conditions and the need for all of us to cut back on unnecessary water use. But sometimes we still see evidence of water waste. Cal Water has set up a website, <https://www.calwater.com/conservation/water-waste-report/>, where citizens can report such observations.

Outstanding Home Maintenance Award

Congratulations to Linda and Patrick Putnam, whose home at 330 29th Avenue has been selected for the Outstanding Home Maintenance Award in the BHNA area.

Nail Salons

Nail salons have been on people's minds recently. Some neighbors raised concerns about the increasing number of salons on 25th Avenue. The New York Times published a series of articles on wage and health issues, and KQED devoted its May 12th Forum to the topic. San Mateo County has a program aimed at encouraging healthy practices at nail salons, <http://smchealth.org/healthynails>. Sadly, no salon in the City of San Mateo has yet been certified under the program. We can do our part to encourage better practices by asking "our" salon to become part of that effort. See the website for a fact sheet to take along the next time you get your nails done.

Thank You, Claire, for Many Years of Service

This is the first time in more than three years that this newsletter is published without the able assistance of Claire Jensen, who served as the BHNA newsletter intern. Claire graduated from Hillsdale High School and will begin her studies at UC Santa Cruz in the fall. We all will miss her competence and cheerfulness. We said our official goodbyes to Claire at the April General Meeting with a small gift and heartfelt good wishes for her future career. We expect to hear great things about this accomplished young lady.

Participate in the Future of our Central Park

The Parks and Rec Department continues to reach out to the public as it considers changes to Central Park. At a study session on May 6, which included City Council, Park and Rec Commission and about 200 members of the public, the three proposed designs were discussed. The public supports those designs that keep the baseball field and tennis courts. While the May 6 meeting was a study session and not a decision-making meeting, the City Council appears to support the public on this matter. Visit <http://www.cityofsanmateo.org/index.aspx?NID=2735> to provide your input or contact the Project Manager, Sheila Canzian, at 650-522-7400 x 3.

Become a Contributor to the Newsletter

If you have ideas or news on a topic you believe is of interest to BHNA members, please contact the editor at newsletter@beresfordhillsdale.org. We would love to publish your contribution in our newsletter.

Upcoming Events

June 6th: Beresford Park Fund Day – Play Day. This event to raise funds for the Beresford playground renovation starts at 4 PM; the outdoor movie, Back to the Future, will be shown at 7:30 PM. <http://www.ilovesanmateocityparks.org/>

June 6th & 7th: 10 AM- 4 PM, Sei Boku Bonsai Show at San Mateo Garden Center.

June 11th: Insect Discovery. Experts from [SaveNature.org](http://www.savetheplanet.org) will talk about unique insect species. Hillsdale Mall, Macy's center court, 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM.

June 13th: 3rd Annual Pride Event, <http://www.smchealth.org/bhrs/ode/pride>, 11 AM to 6 PM, Central Park.

Favorite Merchant

Togs for Dogs & Cats Too, at 24 41st Avenue, phone 574-5364, has been locally owned for over 25 years. "Togs" carries a wide assortment of merchandise at competitive prices and offers personal service with a sense of humor. No wonder they have been around for so long. You will find, in addition to specialty and routine pet foods, over the counter medications, accessories, and specialty products like pet jerky, biscuit cookies and liver flavored toothpaste. Susan, 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.beresfordhillsdale.org/?page_id=15 to join our association.