

# MIRALOMA LIFE

Issue No. 2

Celebrating, Informing, and Strengthening the Miraloma Park Community

miralomapark.org

Feb. 1

## MPIC Board Meeting

Call 415-322-0211 to request placement on the agenda

7pm

Feb. 8

## Pet Workshop

MPIC Clubhouse.

6-8pm

Feb. 10

## Clubhouse Clean-Up

Second Saturday of the month at the MPIC Clubhouse.

10am-noon

FEATURE

## STOP! Or It May Cost You!

by Jean Perata



Have you observed SFPD traffic enforcement at the intersection of Teresita and Stillings? Here's how it came about:

On January 11, 2024 and in response to residents' concerns, the MPIC convened a special safety meeting, inviting residents near the Stillings-Teresita intersection to meet with representatives of San Francisco agencies to discuss safety concerns at that intersection. Over 15 Miraloma Park residents attended this meeting with SFPD Captain Amy Hurwitz, head of the Ingleside Station; Joél Ramos, Local

Government Affairs Manager for the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA); Chadwick Lee of SFMTA Government Affairs, and Emma Heiken, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Myrna Melgar.

Residents discussed safety concerns about the intersection. These included drivers who do not stop at the Stop signs at the three-way intersection; drivers who exceeded the 25-mile speed limit on Teresita; inability of drivers to see the Stop sign as they drive down Teresita, and pedestrian visibility issues. Residents explained that the intersection sees a

# STOP! Or It May Cost You! *continued*



lot of pedestrian traffic. It has two bus stops; is the route to Sunnyside and Miraloma Elementary Schools and the Sunnyside Playground; features a corner mailbox; is the direct route to Glen Park and the BART Station, etc. It also sees much vehicular traffic, as it's the route to Glen Park and Monterey Boulevard for freeway access.

At the meeting, one neighbor, a retired civil engineer, reported on a traffic survey that he had conducted on January 11 from 9:30am to 10:30am. He observed the following, as vehicles approached Teresita from Stillings: 230 cars stopped at the Stop sign, 77 cars (24%) did a rolling ("California") stop and 26 cars (8%) rolled right through the Stop sign with no brake lights noted.

During the meeting attendees identified possible solutions. For example, adding "Stop Ahead" pavement signage on the Teresita downhill roadway; moving the location of that Stop sign so it is more noticeable; etc. The SFMTA representatives noted all suggestions and concerns described and stated that they'll discuss these with the traffic engineers. At the beginning of the meeting, the MTA representatives stated MTA's intention to designate a striped pedestrian crosswalk at Stillings.

Captain Hurwitz stated her intent to assign some traffic control police to monitor the intersection, giving traffic tickets to drivers who do not come to full stop at the Stop signs and placing a speed trailer near the intersection. On the morning of January 12, traffic control police appeared at the intersection, issuing tickets. On the same day, the speed trailer was placed into position.

Both SFMTA and SFPD will report back to MPIC, once they have a more definitive timeline of when we should see changes. Legislative Aide Emma Heiken noted the future action items and said she'd monitor them. As future actions are implemented, it will be up to the Miraloma community to report back on how the new interventions are working.

Throughout its existence, MPIC has worked with City representatives and officials to improve pedestrian and vehicular safety in the neighborhood and on the Teresita corridor. The "History of Teresita Traffic Calming" box in this issue describes improvements made on Teresita over a 14-year period. Much has been done, but safety is a constant concern. If you observe safety issues at other Miraloma Park intersections or streets, bring them to MPIC's attention: [miralomapark@gmail.com](mailto:miralomapark@gmail.com); 415-322-0211.





# President's Message

by Joanie van Rijn,  
Acting President

Happy Chinese New Year! It's the Year of the Dragon and it's time to get fired up about making some changes. We look forward to the holidays and then afterwards we start to think about how we can find ways to make our new year better, easier and healthy. I would like to suggest adding "being a good neighbor". Miraloma Park neighbors have shown that we can jump in when it's needed to help out with our vulnerable community, we did this during the pandemic. Do you know the three neighbors on each side of you? If yes, congratulations! If not, maybe try to find a good way of introducing yourself and make a connection. These are so important, especially if your neighbor is older and may need a bit of help, or if there is a disaster.

Being a good neighbor also means following the driving laws. Respecting Stop signs, and allowing pedestrians to cross when they are in crosswalks. Miraloma Park has controlled intersections and cars are not stopping. This is frightening to families who use the crosswalks to go to parks and to school, and to pedestrians out taking a walk. Let's not be too impatient and forget it only takes a minute to come to a complete stop.

MPIC hosted a neighborhood meeting on January 11 with the SFPD, SFMTA, and Supervisor Melgar's office to discuss the issue of motorists not stopping at the Stop sign on Teresita at Stillings. That intersection is a three-way stop and the crosswalk is used by families, children, MUNI riders and walkers. We do not want anyone to get hurt or hit. Please observe the stop sign. SFPD will be on Teresita monitoring motorists and issuing tickets if they fail to stop.

Miraloma Park Improvement Club thanks those who have sent in their membership dues. It's not too late and there is an easy way to do this online or by using the envelope inserted in last month's Miraloma Life. These dues help pay for the printing of this newsletter and for programs hosted by the Club. The Disaster Pet Workshop will be held at the Clubhouse on February 8 and this will give pet owners information on how to get their pets ready if and when there is a disaster.

MPIC is made up of neighbors who volunteer. They want to celebrate, inform and strengthen our community. We need more volunteers to join our committees. Some of those are publicity; safety; resiliency; zoning and planning; finance; government affairs; community connectors for seniors. If you would like to find out more about the committees and their roles please email [miralomapark@gmail.com](mailto:miralomapark@gmail.com) and express your interest.

As the new year begins and we want to make more connections with neighbors think about being active in MPIC. We are ready to welcome you!!

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# Firehouse 39 Wins First Place in Holiday Contest!

by MPIC

In December 2023 Miraloma Park's Firehouse 39 won the 2023 San Francisco Fire Department Station Holiday Decorating Contest. Ten stations officially entered the contest; prizes were given for first, second, third and fourth place. Firehouse 39 won first place! The four winners split \$4,000, provided by the San Francisco Fire Credit Union. Each winning Station designated a charity to receive their award money.

Firehouse 39 was founded in 1936 and remains in its original building at 1091 Portola Drive. It also won first place in the 2022 competition!



# MPIC has a new board member, Daniel Louie

I've been a resident of Miraloma Park since December 1993. I am a San Francisco native growing up in the Bayview neighborhood. I worked as an auditor, tax collector, and regulator for several State of California agencies retiring in July 2022. I look forward to finally giving back to the neighborhood. And yes, I like piña coladas, candlelight, dinners, and long walks on the beach.

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Carter G. Woodson

# Black History Month

by MPIC

Carter G. Woodson established Negro History week in 1926. It is said the second week of February was chosen because it coincided with the births of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, both of whom Black communities had celebrated since the late 19th century. It took any number of years for the United States as whole to recognize the importance of the contributions of African Americans, with Black History Month finally achieving federal status in 1976, by declaration of President Gerald Ford. ASALH (Association for the Study of African American Life and History) is the organization that continues to organize nationwide celebrations.

Each year has a theme, 2024's being African Americans and the Arts. For comprehensive information, visit [asalh.org](https://asalh.org). In San Francisco, the public library holds an annual "More Than a Month," with various activities and book recommendations: [sfpl.org/events/special-programs/more-than-a-month](https://sfpl.org/events/special-programs/more-than-a-month).

This month, or any month, you can also check out the Ruth Williams Opera House in the Bayview for programs, or visit the Museum of the African Diaspora at 685 Mission Street. Sunday, February 11 is a free day at MoAD.

# Disaster Preparedness for Pets Workshop



**February 8, from 6-8PM**, the MPIC Clubhouse will be hosting a workshop on preparing for your pet/s in the event of a disaster. Pet disaster expert Jaime Ross will be providing tips and handouts on what to do under extraordinary circumstances. All pet owners are welcome to attend. This is a people only event, leave your furry friends at home, please.

# Clubhouse Clean-Up



The next Second Saturday Clubhouse clean-up takes place on **February 10 at 10am to noon**. Join your Miraloma Park neighbors and tidy the grounds around our historic Clubhouse. The plants (and weeds) are thriving, as we've been experiencing warmer weather. The first of the winter rains have begun, and we are expecting a wet winter due to El Niño. Please consider volunteering two hours of your time – it's a great cause, and an opportunity to connect with neighbors. Rain cancels!

## BECOME AN MPIC MEMBER OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

### ONLINE AT:

[miralomapark.org/join](http://miralomapark.org/join)

### OR BY MAIL:

Complete this form and mail with your dues, check payable to:

**MIRALOMA PARK IMPROVEMENT CLUB, 350 O'SHAUGHNESSY BLVD, SF, CA 94127.** No cash, please.

The MPIC is a qualified tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization – tax ID 94-6092576. Your membership donation is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. MPIC does not share membership information with other parties or organizations.

NEW MEMBER     RENEWING MEMBER    Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_    Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed are my dues for the next 12 months (check one):

- \$12 Senior Member     \$15 Single Member     \$25 Family Membership  
 \$35 Supporting Member     \$50 Contributing Member     \$100 Sustaining Member  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Other

PLEASE SEND ME AN EMAIL REMINDER TO RENEW MY MEMBERSHIP!

# Work on the Comprehensive Redesign of the MPIC Native Plant Garden Has Begun!

by Robert Gee



Harvesting the shoots of a downed willow tree for use in the new Great Swale

The existing MPIC native plant garden is adjacent to the MPIC Clubhouse on City-owned SFPUC land that has been leased to the MPIC since 1943. Fronting O'Shaughnessy Boulevard at Del Vale Avenue, the space is one of the premier native plant gardens in San Francisco. It was created in 1995, on a strip of land covered with bare dirt, gravel and weeds, by members of the MPIC, with advice from the California Native Plant Society. Later, it was expanded using a grant from Mayor Willie Brown's Beautification Fund; MPIC matched the grant funds. This garden is unique in that it was created to mirror the plants found in Glen Park Canyon.

In August of 2020, under the Participatory Budget program of District 7 Supervisor Norman Yee, District 7 residents voted to approve \$25,000 for the project "Comprehensive Redesign of the MPIC Native Plant Garden".

The funds will be used to hire a designer to redesign the garden to make it a model drought-resistant native plant garden, stressing biodiversity for species sustenance.

The grant funds implementation of the redesign, including the installation of a crushed rock path and large patio lined with cobblestones, drainage, purchase of new and replacement local native plants, and access paths. The project converts the cobblestone-lined drainage trench, that was built in the 1940s and runs the length of the parking lot, into the beginning of a gentle swale integrated with the garden. We envision this as a low-maintenance, year-round demonstration garden with plants thoughtfully placed to help the public see that a native plant garden can appeal to people as well as wildlife. This demonstration garden will encourage the use of native plants in yards across our communities, helping to address the invasive flora, global warming, drought and species-depletion crises we face.

Over the last three years, the MPIC has worked with the SFPUC to try to find a way to maximize the use of the grant funds into the garden instead of seeing the grant funds mostly absorbed by City overhead costs. In August 2023, the SFPUC Commission unanimously approved entering into a sole source grant agreement with the MPIC to complete the project. The MPIC then selected Madrono Landscape Design Studio to be our project designer and contractor. Madrono is owned by Miraloma Park resident Geoff Coffey. The redesign work commenced in January 2024.

We will need volunteers to help on future workdays with cleaning up the harvested cobblestones, earthwork and plantings. Give us a call at 415-322-0211 or email us at [miralomapark@gmail.com](mailto:miralomapark@gmail.com) if you would like to volunteer.

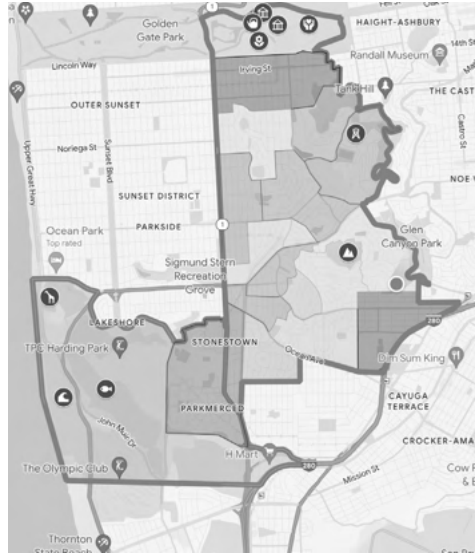


Removing the cobblestones in the trench for future use in the crushed rock path and patio

# A New District 7 Website

by MPIC

District 7 Supervisor Myrna Melgar has recently created a website where you will be able to easily find out what is happening within the District, obtain contact information, and learn about upcoming legislation. District 7 is geographically quite large, as demonstrated by this map. We are fortunate to have the MPIC, which has a good working relationship with Supervisor Melgar's office. It has helped us get sidewalks fixed, and clear the trails in Mt. Davidson Park, among other things. Access the new website at: [sites.google.com/view/supervisor-myrna-melgar/home?authuser=0](https://sites.google.com/view/supervisor-myrna-melgar/home?authuser=0)



(left) District 7

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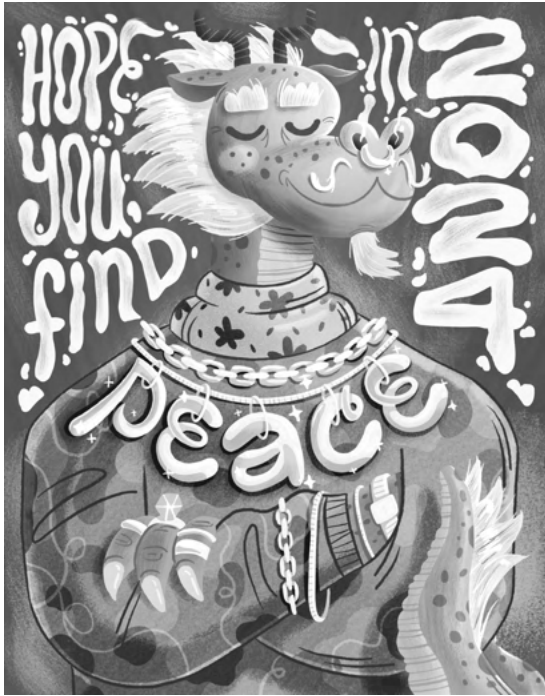
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# Happy New Year!

by Kate Clements

Welcome Year of the Dragon! Gong hei fat choy! Gong xi fa cai!

This is the year of the Wood Dragon, and those born during this cycle are said to be full of energy and drive. The Dragon is the only mythical animal in the Chinese zodiac. According to Reference.com, the personality traits of people born in the year of the Dragon are: charismatic, intelligent, confident, powerful, and they are naturally lucky and gifted. In everything that they do, they tend to do it to the best of their ability with high standards. This year the Chinese Lunar New Year begins on February 10. The beginning day of Chinese New Year changes, but it always falls between January 21st and February 20th. The first day of Chinese New Year is a new moon day, usually the second new moon after the winter solstice.

The San Francisco Chinese New Year parade will be held on Saturday, February 24, 5:15 pm. – 8:00pm. Many other cultural events surround the parade, which is the largest outside of Asia, and according to [chineseparade.com/eventscalendar](https://chineseparade.com/eventscalendar), one of the few remaining night illuminated parades. Be sure to go to the link for more information about all the events being held.

In addition, the San Francisco Public Library is offering a number of events connected to the Lunar New Year celebration. Go to SFPL.org for further information.



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**263 Staples St \$1,360,000 Sellers**

**2023 Looks like it will be a busy year as well. We have several listings coming soon (please call for more info) in the neighborhood.**

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# Miraloma Park Seniors Community Connectors Senior Program



**Tai Chi** on Tuesdays

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10:30am at Cornerstone Church

If you are interested in attending, please contact Darlene Ramlose: [Darlene@sfcommunityliving.org](mailto:Darlene@sfcommunityliving.org) or by phone at 714-423-8844. You must sign up in advance as we will not accept walk-ins as space is limited due to COVID restrictions.

**Miraloma Senior Walks in San Francisco**

Contact Darlene Ramlose at

[Darlene@sfcommunityliving.org](mailto:Darlene@sfcommunityliving.org)

**Ukulele Class**

Tuesdays at 2:00 PM

Contact Barbara Wheeler for details at

[bawheeler46@yahoo.com](mailto:bawheeler46@yahoo.com)

**Connectors Zoom Social Hour**

Fridays at 4:30pm

See all current activities at

[sfcommunityliving.org](http://sfcommunityliving.org)

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Also visit us on our Facebook page:

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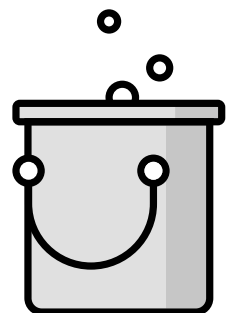
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*References Available*



# MPIC Safety Committee Update

Crime Stats from December 1, 2023-December 31, 2023

Date	Time	Intersection	Description
12/06/2023	5:00 PM	EMIL LN \ BURLWOOD DR \ LOS PALMOS DR	Burglary, Residence, Att. Forcible Entry
12/07/2023	6:58 PM	WOODSIDE AVE \ OSHAUGHNESSY BLVD \ PORTOLA DR	Driving, Reckless, Motorcycle Takeover (Dirt Bike, ATV, OHV), Malicious Mischief, Vandalism to Vehicle
12/09/2023	6:15 PM	SYDNEY WAY \ FOWLER AVE \ PORTOLA DR	Theft, Shoplifting, >\$950
12/07/2023	6:30 PM	SYDNEY WAY \ FOWLER AVE \ PORTOLA DR	Theft, Shoplifting, \$200-\$950
12/09/2023	6:15 PM	SYDNEY WAY \ FOWLER AVE \ PORTOLA DR	Burglary, Store, Unlawful Entry, Conspiracy
12/01/2023	11:00 PM	CRESTA VISTA DR \ COVENTRY CT	Theft, From Unlocked Vehicle, >\$950
12/11/2023	2:19 PM	TERESITA BLVD \ FOERSTER ST	Battery
12/11/2023	12:45 PM	TERESITA BLVD \ PORTOLA DR	Warrant Arrest, Enroute To Outside Jurisdiction
12/15/2023	11:43 AM	TERESITA BLVD \ PORTOLA DR	Warrant Arrest, Local SF Warrant, Firearm, Possession By Prohibited Person
12/05/2023	12:30 PM	EL SERENO CT \ MARIETTA DR	Theft, Other Property, \$50-\$200
12/20/2023	5:25 AM	OMAR WAY \ MYRA WAY	Theft, From Unlocked Vehicle, >\$950
12/17/2023	9:43 AM	MELROSE AVE \ LULU ALY	Theft, From Unlocked Vehicle, >\$950
12/27/2023	1:30 PM	TERESITA BLVD \ MELROSE AVE	Vehicle, Recovered, Stolen outside SF
12/23/2023	4:00 AM	TERESITA BLVD \ ARROYO WAY	Theft, From Unlocked Vehicle, >\$950
12/28/2023	2:00 PM	BELLA VISTA WAY \ CRESTA VISTA DR	Vehicle, Stolen, Auto

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## MPIC Board Of Directors

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Joanie van Rijn	Stephanie Boudreau Ma
Mary Fitzpatrick	Cary Matthews
Patti Moran	Tina McGovern
	Daniel Louie

## Programs at the MPIC Clubhouse

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### Jazzercise

Wednesday and Saturday 9:00am  
Monday 5pm  
650 888 6129  
[sbjazzercise@comcast.net](mailto:sbjazzercise@comcast.net)

### Changs International Folk Dancing

7:00–10:00pm Friday  
One hour lessons on the first and second  
Fridays of each month.  
[changsdancers@aol.com](mailto:changsdancers@aol.com)

### Fort Mason Artists

Learn to sculpt, paint and draw  
Monday 6:15–10:15pm  
Friday 10:00am–2:00pm,  
2:30–5:30pm  
Konrad Dunton; 650 868 6336  
[Fortmasonartists.org](http://Fortmasonartists.org)

### Ukulele Class

Tuesdays 2:00pm–3:00pm  
[Bawheeler46@yahoo.com](mailto:Bawheeler46@yahoo.com)

### Mary L. Harden Botanical Drawing

Monday 10:00am–1:30pm  
[maryharden@me.com](mailto:maryharden@me.com)

### Figure Drawing from the Live Model with Linda Hope

Saturday 11am–2:30pm  
415 334 3603  
[Lindahope.art@gmail.com](mailto:Lindahope.art@gmail.com)

### Grace Community Church

Sunday 11:00am–1:30pm; Pre service  
coffee followed by community lunch  
415 753 9931

### Guide Dogs For The Blind

2nd/4th Wednesdays 7:00 – 8:30pm  
[info@gdbsanfranciscopuppyraisers.com](mailto:info@gdbsanfranciscopuppyraisers.com)  
or [guidedogs.com/puppy](http://guidedogs.com/puppy)

## MPIC Directory

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### [www.miralomapark.org](http://www.miralomapark.org)

General Inquires for MPIC	(415) 322-0211
Clubhouse Manager + Rentals	(415) 322-0211
Webmaster: Ron Proctor	(415) 322-0211
Miraloma Elementary School	(415) 469-4734
Miraloma Playground	(415) 337-4704

## Miraloma Life Staff

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**Contact:** [miralomapark@gmail.com](mailto:miralomapark@gmail.com)  
(415) 322-0211

Editor	Jean Perata
Advertising	Kate Clements
Graphics/ Layout	Butler Looney

### Article Submission Policy:

Email submissions to: [miralomapark@gmail.com](mailto:miralomapark@gmail.com)  
with **Miraloma Life** in the subject line.

Articles submitted must be 800 words or less in length and should not be selling or promoting a product or service. Anonymous submissions will not be considered for publication.

**Deadline for submissions are the 12th day of the month prior to publication.**

Submitted articles become the property of MPIC.

## Miraloma Park Residential Guidelines

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The purpose of the Miraloma Park Residential Design Guidelines is to promote quality design and preserving as much as possible, the neighborhood's architectural character:  
[miralomapark.org/neighborhood/design-guidelines](http://miralomapark.org/neighborhood/design-guidelines)