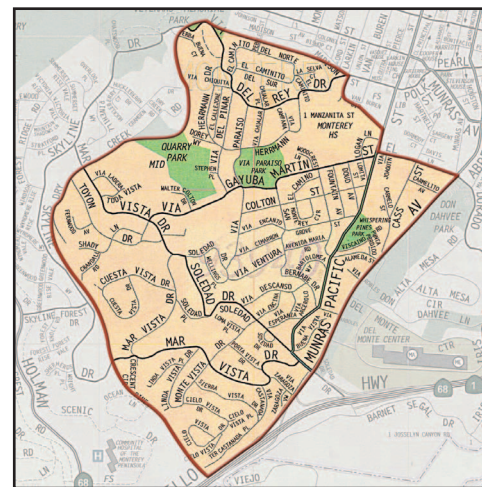


WHAT'S INSIDE:

- Proposed 93-Foot Monterey High School Stadium Lights - Page 2
- NIP allocates \$3.9 million - Page 3
- Community Choice in Energy - Page 4
- Changing of the Guard at Veterans Park - Page 4
- Wireless and Undergrounding News - Pages 6-8
- Monterey's Prince of Darkness - Page 9
- Living A Life In Full Bloom - Page 9
- Letter from MPUSD concerning the installation of permanent stadium lighting at Monterey High School - Page 15
- Printable flyers for MVNA BBQ and membership - Pages 16 & 17

The Monterey Vista Neighborhood Association (MVNA) is one of fifteen City of Monterey neighborhood associations that represent the residents of Monterey. Our goal is to preserve and improve the quality and character of our neighborhood areas.

Our services include review and comment on selected city programs, proposed ordinances, and building designs. We provide assistance to members in resolving neighborhood concerns.



MONTEREY VISTA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SUMMER 2019 NEWSLETTER



Message from the MVNA President:

For many people in the Monterey Vista neighborhood the one big reason for joining the Monterey Vista Neighborhood Association (MVNA) is the annual Barbecue. This year, this well loved event, is on September 21, at noon, at the picnic area at Via Paraiso Park. Neighbors meeting neighbors and partying together is an important part of the association. So we hope you will all show up for this get together. Most of the day is just for fun, but new officers are elected also.



You will see on the BBQ flyer in this newsletter (please print off a few copies and pass out to your neighbors and invite them to come and join the MVNA and take part in this fun event!) that if you bring a new resident to join the MVNA you will not be charged the \$1.00 for your meal. I know it is not a big savings, but we hope it will inspire all of our

members to bring in new members.

The MVNA board is working on increasing our membership. It is not about the \$10/year per household, but rather about being able to say to City of Monterey officials that we are a large neighborhood, with a substantial membership that we are representing. We want to speak for you and are always open to hear from residents on their neighborhood concerns, and hopefully solutions, that we can pass on to Monterey staff and elected officials.

An example of this neighborhood participation is a concern from a resident on Monte Vista about the speeding on the street and the obstruction of view at the corner of Monte Vista and Mar Vista. From this concern the board asked the City Traffic Engineer to meet a group of MVNA board and residents at that corner to hear what could be done. Since then property owners on those corners have been given warnings that their foliage must be cut way back to meet City code requirements and make the corner safer. In addition, one resident did a traffic count for the corner, to be evaluated by the Traffic Engineer, to see if an official count is warranted and evaluated for further safety precautions. In the meantime, please slow down on Monte Vista and be extra careful at the intersection of Monte Vista and Mar Vista.

The Wireless Facility Subcommittee has nearly completed their work on the rewrite of the ordinance. Two upcoming meetings are scheduled: Sept. 5, 2-5 pm and 6-9 pm (1 hour dinner break), and Sept. 6, 8:30am-4pm. I want to especially thank Susan Nine, from our neighborhood, who stood up for what the residents said they wanted in the ordinance. Mainly to keep the small cell facilities out of the residential neighborhoods.

One last thing I would like you all to think about. That is that we are a large neighborhood, but that what happens in one part of the neighborhood can affect those on the other side of the neighborhood. We need to work together on all issues in the neighborhood. Please don't wait for an issue that is "in your backyard" before you join the MVNA. Together we stopped the cell antennas in this neighborhood, we helped with a dog issue at the top of the hill, and we are working on traffic on Monte Vista. Working together we can accomplish a lot more than we can separately.

Pat Venza , President of MVNA 831-375-8416
mvneighborhood@gmail.com

Proposed 93-Foot Monterey High School Stadium Lights Would Loom Over The Monterey Vista Neighborhood



MVNA very recently learned that MPUSD is preparing to expend \$12 million of Measure I funds — provided by residents’ increased property tax assessment— to add 93-foot-tall (the height of a 7-story building) permanent stadium lights, add 500-seat bleachers, develop a new athletic field, and eliminate hundreds of parking spaces. MPUSD’s goal: enable night uses of the High School stadium for events. Alarmed neighbors alerted the MVNA Board and expressed concern about many probable negative impacts to residents, the neighborhood and the city in general. Major problems include:

- Shortage of on-campus parking, resulting in hundreds of cars needing to park on narrow neighborhood streets after work hours, during an unlimited number of night time events.
- Safety issues. No traffic study or plan for the gridlock created by high-attendance night games and events.
- Increased and ongoing night time amplified unregulated noise pollution extending in all

Read a letter from MPUSD to neighborhood residents concerning the installation of permanent stadium lighting at Monterey High School, received August 17, 2019 on page 15 of this newsletter.

directions.

- High level night-time light pollution extending in all directions, mostly into homes throughout Monterey Vista and Old Town and areas to the east.
 - No public outreach to affected neighborhood associations and residents about the proposed project
 - MPUSD provided a poorly noticed and short deadline for the public to register concerns about environmental impacts, ending August 26.
 - Violation of the agreement reached in 2007 between residents and MPUSD regarding night-time use of the stadium.
 - Reduction of property values, rendering all nearby properties less desirable.
- *The Civic Center Act will require MPUSD to allow night time use of the facilities, with lights on, for ongoing night-time usage for all types of non-school related sports and non-sports activities. It won't be just five night home football games.

The issue is not use of the stadium and athletic fields. Those can and should be used throughout daylight hours. The issue is night-time usage.

Residents pointed out that: MPC has been providing an excellent venue for Monterey High night games; there is no objection to temporary lights for four nights of football for on campus play; other league high schools do not have lights, including Carmel High, in deference to the neighborhoods in which they are located, and they hold their home games during the day or use alternative stadiums; Monte Vista Neighborhood has three MPUSD schools that have significant cumulative impacts such as increased traffic especially during drop offs and pick up times, amplified noise, and the daily traffic and parking issues surrounding the High School. Residents have accepted all this without complaint, but argue that the lights, noise, and traffic created by the proposed project, as proposed, is too invasive to accept; and that by providing the funding for Measure I projects, residents intended priority funding for vital academic infrastructure in the highest need MPUSD schools.

Monterey High Football

Monterey, CA
Lighting System

Pole / Fixture Summary						
Pole ID	Pole Height	Mq Height	Fixture Qty	Luminaire Type	Load	Circuit
F1/F2	80'	5'	2	TLC-LED-1500	9.00 kW	A
		15'	2	TLC-BT-575	1.15 kW	A
		50'	2	TLC-LED-600	1.16 kW	B
F3	70'	70'	7	TLC-LED-1500	10.50 kW	A
		15'	2	TLC-BT-575	1.15 kW	A
		50'	2	TLC-LED-600	1.16 kW	B
F4	80'	80'	7	TLC-LED-1500	10.50 kW	A
		15'	2	TLC-BT-575	1.15 kW	A
		68'	2	TLC-LED-600	1.16 kW	B
4					48.24 kW	

Circuit Summary			
Circuit	Description	Load	Fixture Qty
A	Football	43.8 kW	34
B	Bleachers	4.64 kW	8

Fixture Type Summary						
Type	Source	Wattage	Lumens	L90	L80	L70
TLC-LED-1500	LED 5700K - 75 CRI	1500W	156,100	>81,000	>81,000	>81,000
TLC-LED-600	LED 5700K - 75 CRI	580W	65,800	>81,000	>81,000	>81,000
TLC-BT-575	LED 5700K - 75 CRI	575W	52,000	>81,000	>81,000	>81,000

Light Level Summary							
Calculation Grid Summary		Illumination				Circuits	
Grid Name	Calculation Metric	Ave	Min	Max	Max/Min	Ave/Min	Fixture Qty
150' Spill	Horizontal Illuminance	0.10	0	0.60	310.49	A	34
150' Spill	Max Candela (By Fixture)	3176	310	9419	27.15	A	34
150' Spill	Max Vertical Illuminance	0.16	0.01	0.81	144.16	A	34
Football	Horizontal Illuminance	41.3	30	55	1.85	A	34
Home Bleachers	Horizontal	11.1	2	15	7.92	B	8
Visitor Bleachers	Horizontal	19	4	31	7.88	B	8

ENGINEERED DESIGN By: Ryan A. Marsh, LC • File #119295R3 • 12-Apr-19

PROJECT SUMMARY

From Hometown to Professional

The MVNA Board at its August 13 meeting voted to write a letter to the School District in which we requested a time extension and a site visit, followed by questions and answers. **MPUSD responded by refusing both of these requests. MVNA urges all residents to email their concerns to MPUSD; contact Paul Anderson at panderson@mpusd.k12.ca.us on or before Aug. 26 and please cc MVNA at mvneighborhood@gmail.com. You may also share your concerns at a public hearing which will be held Tuesday, September 24, 2019 at 5:30 P.M. Location: Monterey Peninsula Unified School District Instructional Materials Center, 540 Canyon Del Rey Blvd in Monterey.**

2019 Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP) Allocates \$3.9 Million

Monterey Vista (NIP approved 7/29/19)			
Points	Project	Project Name	Est Cost
125	MV-4	El Caminito Del Norte Streetlight	\$ 4,000
95	MV-1	Mar Vista Drive Radar Sign	\$ 11,000
91	CW-48 (MV-2)	Pickleball 6-Court Feasibility Study	\$ 4,500
77	CW-31	Conduit Installation Pilot Project	\$ 250,000
74	MV-3	Dry Creek Road Storm Drain Grate Upgrade	\$ 35,000
72	MV-7	Mar Vista Traffic Calming, Ph 1	\$ 238,000
72	MV-12	Via Paraiso Pk Bball Ct Upgrade	\$ 111,000
Subtotal			\$ 653,500
Veteran's Park (NIP approved 7/29/19)			
90	CW-28	Vets Pk Bball Court, Ph II	\$ 54,000
89	CW-26	Vets Pk West Parking Lot Renovation	\$ 52,000
84	CW-43	Vets Pk Bocce Ball Court Surface Improver	\$ 5,000
79	CW-21 ('18 cutoff)	Vets Park Bike Path Segment 4	\$ 183,000
Subtotal			\$ 294,000
Grand total supported by NIP			\$ 947,500
Not approved 7/29/19)			
44	MV-9	Via del Pinar Realignment at Via del Rey	\$ 112,000
26	MV-8	Mar Vista/Soledad Ped Improvement, Ph I	\$ 720,000

After a change and delay in this year's voting procedure, the Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP) representatives voted to support \$3.9M worth of projects for all our neighborhoods, and "city-wide" for all resident's benefit. During the past year NIP received \$4.2M from 16% of our Transient Occupant Tax (TOT, or "hotel taxes"), of which \$300k was put into the NIP Opportunity Buying Fund.

Anyone can submit an NIP project. Beginning February 15th every year, all projects are reviewed and evaluated by the NIP committee in a long series of evening meetings, all open to the public. Our MVNA representative, Jean Rasch, along with representatives of the other neighborhoods in Monterey spent the evening of July 29th listening to residents, discussing projects, and finally voting on all ~100 projects on 0-to-10 scale. The results for projects within Monterey Vista and Veterans Park are shown in the table at left. The list will now go to the City Council to get approved and truly funded, which should happen in October. How quickly the projects will get built depends on Jeff Krebs, our NIP City Engineer, and how fast he can get all outstanding NIP projects farmed out. -- *Hans Jannasch (MVNA's NIP alternate representative)*

projects on 0-to-10 scale. The results for projects within Monterey Vista and Veterans Park are shown in the table at left. The list will now go to the City Council to get approved and truly funded, which should happen in October. How quickly the projects will get built depends on Jeff Krebs, our NIP City Engineer, and how fast he can get all outstanding NIP projects farmed out. -- *Hans Jannasch (MVNA's NIP alternate representative)*



Web: montereyvistaneighborhood.org

Email: mvneighborhood@gmail.com

MVNA Officers and Board Members	
Pat Venza (President)	375-8416
Susan Nine (Vice President)	373-4334
Mike Pekin (Secretary)	372-9121
Charles Martin (Treasurer)	373-0649
Jean Rasch (NIP Representative)	625-3200
Hans Jannasch (Membership/Past President/NIP Alt)	373-0872
Bruce Zanetta (NIP Alt)	647-1997
Michele Altman	214-2545
Ray Meyers	375-3045

Stay informed! Be involved!
Join the Monterey Vista Neighborhood Association!
 Yearly dues are only \$10 per household.

Print and fill out the form below.
 Make your check payable to MVNA & mail to:
MVNA 532 Herrmann Dr. Monterey, CA 93940

Name _____

new member returning member

Address _____

Phone _____

Email address _____

Please include Yearly Dues: \$10.00 per household.

You can also join and pay dues online by visiting
<http://www.montereyvistaneighborhood.org/join>

Monterey Vista Neighborhood Association board meetings are held monthly, usually the first Monday of each month (except for July and December unless needed), at the Monterey Library community room from 6:15 to 7:45pm. You are welcome to attend, or to suggest agenda items to share your concerns. Please contact a board member for more information.

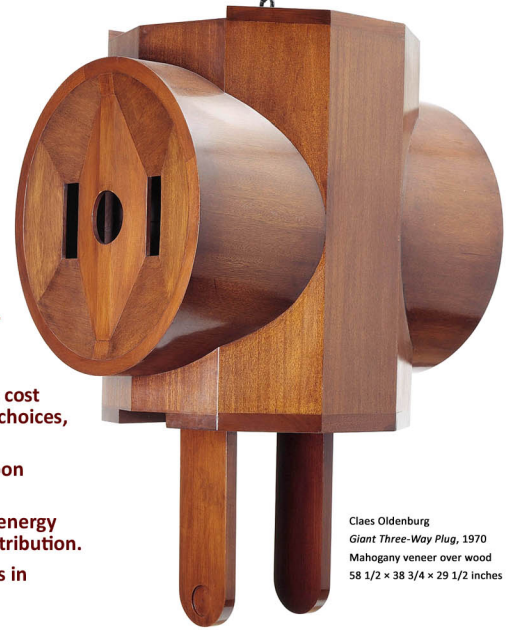
Join Monterey Vista and Old Town Neighborhood Associations in a joint general meeting...

Community Choice in Energy Generation and Distribution

October 23, 2019 7:00pm MIIS Irvine Auditorium, 499 Pierce St.

Monterey Bay Community Power (MBCP) now provides many of us with our electricity. Unless you chose the option to opt out, you are one of the many who made this move to alternative means of energy generation. At this informational meeting you will learn more about what this choice means to you in cost savings and in more globally friendly energy generation.

- Discover how **community choice** in power offers an option and an alternative to current means of energy production.
- Learn about Monterey Bay Community Power and its role as our local community option in providing power.
- Have an opportunity to compare and contrast cost and other concerns between our current two choices, MBCP and PGE.
- Find out how choice can take us closer to carbon neutral electrical power.
- See how community choice can lead to more energy innovations in both power production and distribution.
- Glimpse at a future of possibilities and choices in energy production and delivery.



Claes Oldenburg
Giant Three-Way Plug, 1970
Mahogany veneer over wood
58 1/2 x 38 3/4 x 29 1/2 inches

Learn and discuss this and more concerning our energy options today and for the future. There will be time for questions and answers. Mark your calendars!

Changing of the Guard at Veterans Park

The next time you're enjoying a walk through Veterans Park, and possibly up the 185 steps into the Huckleberry Hill Nature Preserve, say hello to our new Park Ranger, **Chris Makowski**. Chris and his wife Kristin moved into the log cabin in the park last month after John Wilkes retired. They came here from the Tahoe area, where he was an ambassador for all things outdoors, especially loving to sail and parasail. Welcome Chris and Kristin to Monterey!



John Wilkes, who had previously worked for the City for many years, took over the reins to the Park in the fall of 2011 at the height of the Occupy Monterey movement that moved from the lawn in front of City Hall to the Group 2 area for several months. He did an excellent job of maintaining the public campground in the middle of our residential neighborhood, keeping both visitors and nearby residents happy. John and his family are now enjoying a more relaxing time back in their home in Marina. You might also run into **Tim Bailey**, who takes over on when John, and now Chris, have their days off.

Before John, **Jim Maxon** built much of and worked the Park from its earliest days for over 37 years. He initially lived in a small trailer about where the bocce ball court is now until the City built the log cabin where Chris and Kristin live now.

We are lucky, thanks in a large part to Jim and John's work, that we have such a wonderful Park right within our neighborhood. And now, with Chris taking over, we look forward to many more years of residents and visitors being able to enjoy this pearl in our oyster.



City Codes

There are many codes (or rules) that apply to keeping our neighborhood quality high. We are going to post a few of these with each newsletter.

1. Parking of inoperable cars

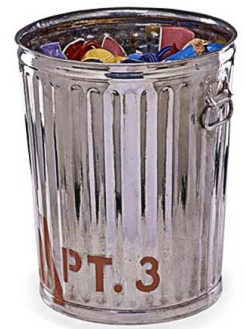
"Inoperable motor vehicles or motor vehicles without current and valid registration, parked or stored on private residential property, shall be located inside a garage, carport, or other enclosed structure. Such a motor vehicle may be parked or stored outside an enclosed structure only behind the front yard setback and shall be screened from the street." (§ 38-26, Sec. L, No. 2).

2. Cutting of weeds

"No owner, agent, lessee, or other person occupying or having charge or control of any building, lot or premises within the City shall permit weeds to remain upon the premises, public sidewalks, streets or alleys between the premises and the centerline of any public street or alley." (§ 14-10).

3. Waste bins

"No person shall leave any residential container or containers, or any other items for collection on specially designated collection dates, at the street curb or in any other place on the property visible from the street before 6:00 p.m. on the day prior to the day of pickup, or beyond 7:00 p.m. the day of collection." (§ 14-1, Sec. D, No. 2).



Victor Spinski (1940-2013)
Large untitled trompe l'oeil sculpture (Trash Can with Apples and Broken Pottery), 1979, 1979
painted and glazed earthenware

4. Outdoor lighting

"Parking structure and all project lighting shall be screened so the light source will not be visible off site." (§ 38-111, Sec. e).

The searchable City Code can be viewed online at www.codepublishing.com/CA/Monterey. If we all know the codes then hopefully everyone will follow them.

Be a Good Neighbor....

The last couple of months have been the time when we all have had to cut down all of the dry weeds that were extra high this year because of the good rain we had this past winter.

We wanted to highlight a man who goes that extra step to help his elderly neighbors (and in the end all of us) take down those weeds. When I asked this "true gentleman" if I could do that, he said no, that he was just doing what neighbors should do for one another. He has elderly neighbors who can't run a weed wacker or bring in their garbage cans, so he feels fortunate to be healthy enough to do it for them. Doesn't take him long to do and he feels good about doing it.

One may say that it is a case of a "man with a toy", in this case his weed wacker. Whatever the case is, a good neighbor, who is helping his neighbors and improving the neighborhood by removing dry grass that is a fire hazard and a nuisance when walking along this DG path is much appreciated.

I wish I could give you this gentleman's name, so more than just me could thank him, but he will stay anonymous, unless of course, you are one of those fortunate enough to be his neighbor and you can thank him.

Thanks from MVNA to all those who look after their neighbors!





WIRELESS & UNDERGROUNDING NEWS

Reprinted from the July 26 Edition of the Monterey Herald -
<https://www.montereyherald.com/2019/07/26/monterey-residents-eye-next-generation-of-broadband/>

Residents eye next generation of broadband

By Dennis L. Taylor dtaylor@montereyherald.com

A Monterey neighborhood association hosted a recent presentation by a regional expert in broadband infrastructure to explore ways in which to put utility lines underground, including fiber-optic cable.

The Monterey Vista Neighborhood Association's presentation focused mostly on underground fiber optics and the implications of possible city ownership of broadband delivery systems. The information was presented by Steve Blum, president of Marina-based Tellus Venture Associates, a management and business development consultancy specializing in developing new community broadband systems.

Monterey County

The Herald

"All roads point to undergrounding utilities," said Jean Rasch, an organizer of the event. "It's been accelerated by wildfires sparked from utility poles as well as poles that have been put up in scenic areas."

Blum described the advantages of a fiber-optic network in terms of delivery speeds enabling faster and richer media experiences for residents and providing a competitive edge for businesses.

"Upgrading an entire city to fiber would increase property values but also increase the service available to residents," Blum said. "It would provide more low-income opportunities and help close the digital divide."

Alex Marshall, a senior fellow at The Regional Plan Association in New York, said there are financial advantages to municipal ownership.

"Cities and towns could deliver such services more cheaply and comprehensively than private companies, and even more importantly, could spark new business ventures within their borders in ways impossible to calculate," Marshall wrote for *Governing*, a media platform covering politics, policy and management for state and local government leaders.

Hans Uslar, Monterey's city manager, said fiber-optic lines are already connected to "assets" like the Naval Postgraduate School and the Defense Language Institute. Expanding a municipal network citywide would need to be a priority of the City Council, he said.

But no road will be easy for Monterey or any other Peninsula city to build out its own fiber-optic network. The Federal Communications Commission dictates policy from a federal level, and right now policies are pro-telecommunications industry and sometimes hostile to municipal ownership.

"In late 2018, Republican FCC commissioner Michael O'Rielly claimed in a speech that municipal broadband networks threaten First Amendment free speech rights," wrote Kendra Chamberlain with BroadbandNow, a consumer advocacy group based in Austin, Texas. "The claim was quickly debunked by telecom analysts, but underscores the increasingly difficult conditions under which municipal governments are navigating public broadband initiatives."

Continued on page 8

Wireless and Undergrounding News

Technology and the Future of the Monterey Peninsula

By Ray Meyers, MVNA Board Member

Despite the tremendous amount of accumulated knowledge and technological advances by the end of the 19th century, nobody could have known or predicted the rapid deployment of new innovations that was yet to come in the 20th Century. Our grandparents summoned the will and courage to change the quality of their lives more than any other generation in history. Rarely does anyone stop to think about what we now take for granted today, such as electric power, waste water treatment facilities, clean and safe drinking water, fast ground and air transportation, medical diagnosis and treatment, and instant communication to virtually anywhere on the planet.

Unfortunately, there is a dark side to all this technology. We are now living at a point in time where we are forced to clean up all the accumulated mess that has been brought upon us by these 20th century achievements. Global climate change bringing about droughts, extreme weather events, and the constant threat of wildfires are just a part of what we now have to deal with. The status quo is no longer sustainable. Make no mistake, our planet will survive, but the future of humans and much of the other life we share the earth with is very much at risk.



There are no easy, quick solutions, and reversing these changes are very difficult tasks. But it was equally difficult for our grandparents to figure out and overcome the many obstacles in their way to bring us the technological wonders we all enjoy today. We urgently need to use the same positive attitude that made the 20th century so special to undo some the negative consequences of that century.

Much of Monterey Vista and Skyline forest, as well as many other parts of Monterey are listed by Cal Fire as Very High Fire Severity Zone. See the map locate here: <https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/media/5870/monterey.pdf> First and foremost, we must secure our safety from the threat of devastating wildfires, and the economic losses and instability from frequent blackouts. We need to get our electrical power lines underground, and the same time, install the necessary conduit and fiber optic cables to bring high speed Internet and communications for everyone. Unlike our dangerous over-head utilities on poles, underground utilities do not cause wildfires.

It is time to stop saying undergrounding utilities are too expensive. I would argue, so is the cost to reduce the dry vegetation that fuels the wildfires, that are sparked by aging and failing utility poles and equipment. It is clearly less expensive than the accumulated loss of property values, taxes, jobs, wages, business, and most importantly, the loss of lives and the significant health impacts from the particulate pollution of the wildfires.

Why not harness the power of a million new ideas, by innovating zero-and negative emissions technologies to improve on our worn out and dated infrastructure? To do this it will be all-hands-on-deck with 21st century computer speed and capacity for all socio-economic levels. We must “power-up” and encourage innovation from everyone with a computer and an Internet connection. Net neutrality policies (Internet Service Providers must treat equally all Internet users) can truly bring about the democratization of the Internet.



It is also being said that the technology from the next generation (so called 5G) of mobile communication and wireless

Continued on page 8

Wireless and Undergrounding News

Residents eye next generation of broadband

Continued from page 6

Yet local governments are still stepping up to protect their residents' interests. There are now some 500 communities across the country that are served by some form of municipal broadband network.

"These numbers grow year after year, even as anti-municipal broadband legislation continues to spread across states," Chamberlain said.

Fiber optic technology is critical to better, faster, richer broadband service, as well as a host of other advantages. Speeds vary but fiber delivers information at a rate of roughly 10 gigabytes per second compared with cable at 1 gigabyte per second.

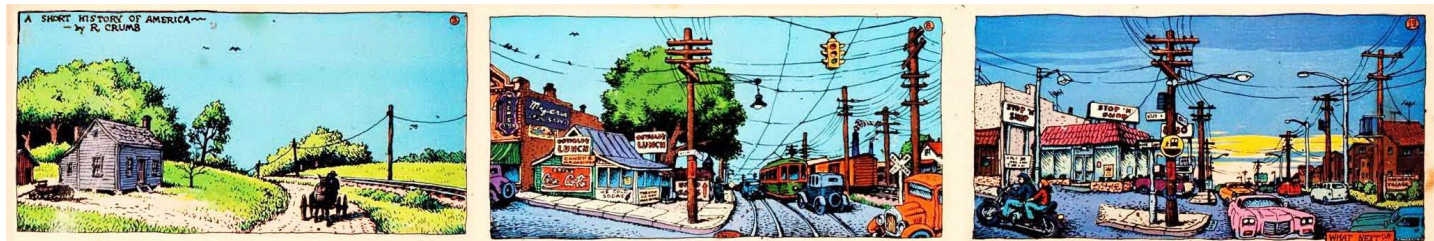
A byte is an amount of digital information, like a pound or a gallon or an inch. Historically, the byte was the number of bits used to encode a single character of text in a computer. A gigabyte roughly equals 1 billion bytes. It would be like cable was crawling down a road at 10 mph and was passed by fiber going 100 mph.

Speed is only one significant advantage fiberoptic lines have over cable or DSL connections. Fiber optic internet is less likely to go down during a power outage. Since fiberoptic lines work by sending light pulses down glass tubes, there is no electricity involved and is consequently unphased by interference from nearby power lines or high voltage electrical equipment. The absence of electricity also reduces the risk of fire; fiber can even be submerged in water.

With today's focus on computer hacking, the private network installed to your home makes fiber optic internet harder to hack.

"Fiber has a limit, but it's way beyond what anybody will ever need," said Blum, the chief of Tellus Venture Associates. "It moves massive amounts of data and is future proof, limited only by the electronics on either end."

Contact reporter Dennis L. Taylor at 831-229-9846.



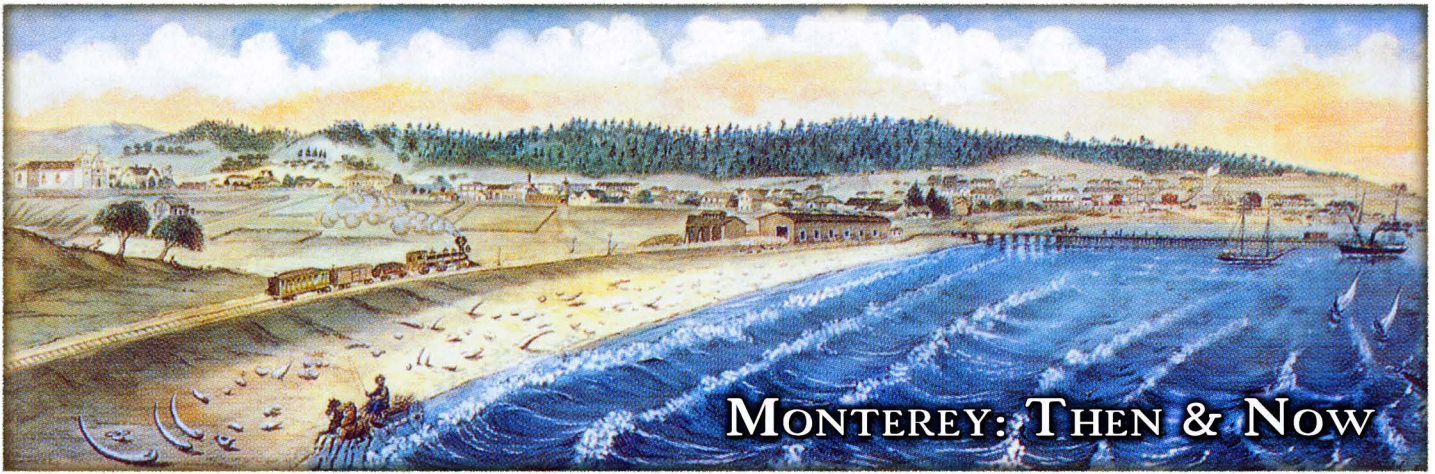
Excerpted from *A Short History of America* by R. Crumb

Technology and the Future of the Monterey Peninsula

Continued from page 7

Internet will provide very fast speed for future technologies, but its performance compared to fiber optic cable for fixed Internet is very much inferior. Cellular 5G service is also vulnerable to interference and cyber-security, where fiber optic cable is secure and avoids interference, since light is employed instead of microwave transmissions. The only advantage 5G Internet service will have is faster computer internet speed while driving our vehicles or walking down streets away from public or private hotspots. But, if we must have a densified network of cell transmitters in close proximity to our homes to do this, the potential health risks and loss of quality of life from the overhead multitude of cell facilities throughout our neighborhood is certainly too big a price to pay.

Monterey can and should be an exception to this potential national cell tower densification project. We are a sanctuary, a historical and natural museum of sorts. We can be safer, more beautiful and more prosperous, by being smarter and undergrounding our utilities, choosing to limit and restrict cell placement in historic, residential, and environmentally sensitive areas, as well as providing the tools needed to innovate and compete in the 21st century with safe, technologically advanced and equitable municipal fiber optic cable. Simply put, we need to channel the can-do spirit of our grandparents and stop saying what we can not do, and start to roll up our sleeves and get to work to change the course we now are on for a better Monterey and a better world for our children and grandchildren.



The following two articles are the first of a new series about Monterey Vista's past and present, and part of an effort by the MVNA to collect and compile the neighborhood's history.

Monterey's Prince of Darkness

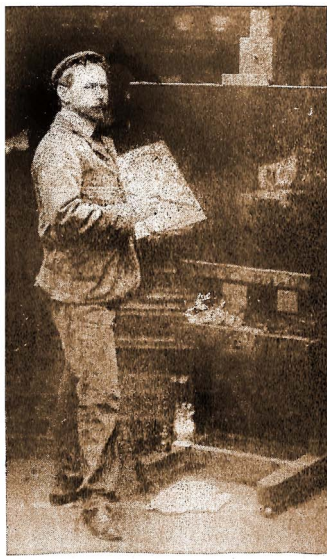
by Kristin Dotterrer, M.L.I.S.

Have you ever wondered what the Monterey Vista neighborhood's two sets of stucco gateposts painted with the words "Peters Gate" signify?

The gates marked the boundaries of what was, nearly 120 years ago, an undeveloped thirty-acre property purchased by the renowned artist **Charles Rollo Peters (1862-1928)**, who was known as the



"Prince of Darkness" for his expertise in nighttime paintings. Although Peters only spent less than a decade living in the house he built on the property (1901 to 1909), a connection to Monterey began around the 1880s in his seminal artistic years during sketching trips to the Peninsula, and his significant influence on Monterey's art colony lasted beyond his departure. The colorful story of his Monterey years is filled with artistic success, lavish socializing, and tragic loss.



AT HIS EASEL—Charles Rollo Peters is shown at work around the turn of the century in his studio at Peters Gate.

Starting in the late 19th century, bohemian artists were drawn to the sleepy, old, mostly Spanish-speaking town of Monterey. They were inspired by its natural beauty, fog-induced mild climate, and historic charm, sometimes in the form of crumbling adobes,

Continued on page 10



Elizabeth Murray— Living A Life In Full Bloom

by Susan Nine

Elizabeth Murray, current owner of the **Charles Rollo Peters** home states, "My home is the result of a series of miracles." The original owner, the renowned early California artist Charles Rollo Peters, left for France in 1909 and never returned to his 30 acre estate in Monterey. But before that, when the 1906 San Francisco earthquake struck, many of his artist friends lost everything. Peters invited them to Monterey to live and paint. He built 2 small cottages and added on to his big house and studio. To sell their work, these artists initiated the first all-California-artists gallery in the ballroom of the old Hotel Del Monte; now the Naval Post Graduate School. It was then known as the fanciest hotel in the world and wealthy

Continued on page 13

Monterey's Prince of Darkness *Continued from page 9*

which Peters famously depicted illuminated by the moon or a candle glowing in a window. The majestic Hotel Del Monte built in 1880 (at the former site of the Naval Postgraduate School) and the extension of the Southern Pacific Railroad quickly established the Peninsula as a premier tourist destination. Historians consider the artists setting up permanent residences and studios during the early years of the 20th century in the area, Peters' contemporaries, as the Monterey and Carmel "art colonies" because they received artistic and economic support from each other and the local community.

The Original Peters Gate Tract

We now consider Peters Gate conveniently situated within Monterey, but in 1900, when Peters purchased his land, a portion of what was known as the Doud Tract, it was on the outskirts of town, lying just within the city boundary line. (Beyond this boundary line was county land, some of which would later become portions of our now-much-larger Monterey Vista neighborhood.) A local newspaper in 1900 reported that Peters "has purchased a good big piece of land on an eminence that will afford a glorious view of the bay and mountain, and embowered in fragrant piney woods." To picture his acreage, imagine either side of Pacific St. between its intersections with Grove St. and Bartolomea Way as purely hills, creeks, and woods, starting up at San Bernabe Dr. sloping down to Pacific (including Whispering Pines Park) and up again to Cass St. where it intersects Munras Ave., which used to be called the Carmel road. A 1913 newspaper article mentioned that connecting Pacific St. to the Carmel road would put the old Peters' place (it had a new owner by then) "right on the most direct and pleasantest thoroughfare from Pacific Grove and Monterey to Carmel and down the coast."



Charles Rollo Peters *Monterey Adobe* Oil on canvas

In 1907 a magazine article called the art studio/gallery that Peters had built alongside his house, guest/servant quarters, stables, and orchard, "the most beautifully located studio in all Monterey . . . 'far from the madding crowd.'" A smattering of residences existed in and around the Doud Tract, on Cass St. and El Dorado, as well as along Martin St. with the Bruguier mansion at the top and that property's large stone and wood gates (not to be confused with Peters Gates) that still stand on Colton St. near Alameda Ave. The hills surrounding were forest, much of which were owned by a son of Monterey's largest landowner, David Jacks. Work on subdividing Peters Gate did not begin until the late 1920s, well after Peters' departure, around the same time as the nearby Monte Regio subdivisions were planned. Then it was not until post-World War II that a large number of houses were built in these areas. Although Peters Gate and Monte Regio have different histories, today in real estate the terms are used interchangeably and cover everything from the Munras-Soledad intersection towards Monte Vista Elementary, and the Munras-El Dorado intersection towards City Hall and up to Via Del Rey near Veterans Park.

The Life of Charles Rollo Peters

Peters was born into a wealthy, pioneer San Francisco family, and studied there and in Paris in the 1880s. He was likely introduced to Monterey through private studies with Jules Tavernier, another early California artist with strong ties to this area. In San Francisco Peters exhibited coastal paintings, but began achieving fame during the first of his long sojourns in Europe, where he summered in Brittany and experimented with painting nocturnes. When he returned, the S.F. Chronicle called him a talented "broad impressionist."



Charles Rollo Peters *After the Gringo Came* Oil on canvas

Around 1890 he joined the Bohemian Club, which was a San Francisco-based fraternal organization founded by journalists and artists, and known for its theatric ceremonies and "jinks." The club soon began accepting businessmen until it became the private club of global elite that it is today. In the early 1900s, members of the Bohemian Club often visited Peters' Monterey property, enjoying his outdoor dinner parties of duck and champagne given under Japanese lanterns. The historic Peters' gates were built, in fact, by members of the Bohemian Club sometime around 1905, and were designed by Peters' friend, and noted architect, Willis Polk.

Continued on page 11

Monterey's Prince of Darkness *Continued from page 10*

After marrying Kathleen Murphy in 1891 and, while living in Paris again, the birth of their first son, Charles Rollo Peters III (the baby's famous father technically being Peters II), the family moved to Monterey to lease a house with unfinished redwood rafters and whale-bone steps on Monroe St. from approximately 1895 to 1899. Peters' first Monterey home is now historically designated and known as the James W. Finch House for the rancher who built the house around 1870 for his mother. According to 1900 U.S. Census records, Peters and family were living in a house on Pacific Street, where they must have resided just before moving into the house they were building in Peters Gate. Peters had originally planned the house to be a grand California hacienda style complete with adobe walls, tile roof, and balconied windows, but what resulted was a wood shingle style.

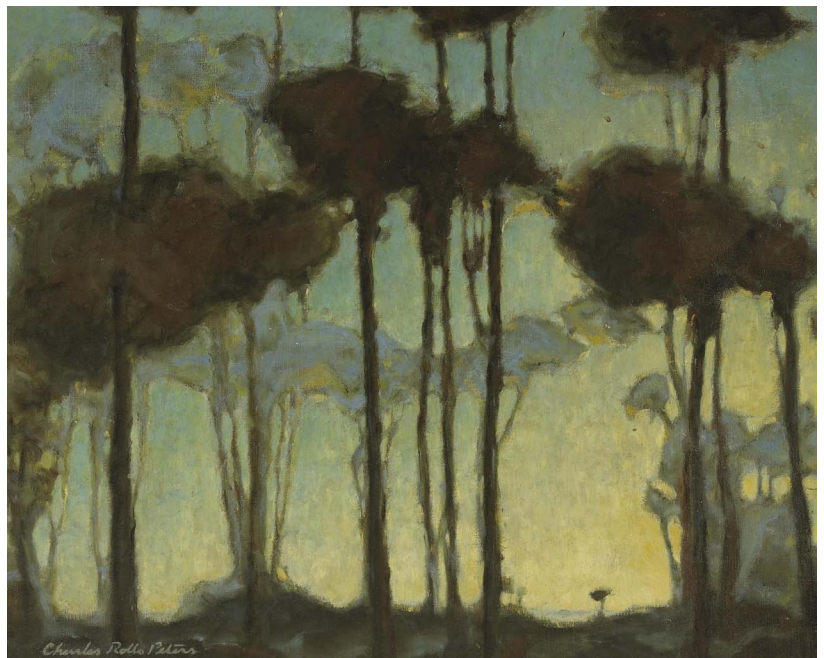


Charles Rollo Peters *Monterey Custom House*

By this time Peters had developed his signature Monterey style of coastal scenes and illuminated old buildings. A solo exhibit in New York won him over the difficult New York critics, and he received a silver medal at the World's Fair in 1905 for his painting "After the Gringo Came," which was purchased a few years earlier by the Lotus Club of New York for \$1,000. The famous painter, James McNeill Whistler, had happened upon Peters painting en plein air in Europe and extolled him as the only other person besides himself capable of painting nocturnes. Peters paintings of nature were haunting and modern, as reviewers noted that he broke with tradition. He would venture out at night to study the landscape and take mental notes of the moon's effects. He also used a sketch book and penciled in words like "carmine and cobalt," "warm grey," and "sienna" in order to remember. A writer who visited Peters at the Monroe St. house in 1897 was amazed at how many types of

moons there were to paint. Peters was a tonalist who portrayed landscapes with dark monochromes that created a contemplative, spiritual atmosphere. Perhaps due to knowing many wealthy San Franciscans, even his earlier paintings had fetched a good price, but soon it was socially desirable for every California mansion to have at least one Peters' nocturne. Despite success, and surely due, in part, to a lavish lifestyle and frequent traveling, Peters' finances fluctuated to the point of him not being able to afford the taxes on his Peters Gate property.

Peters experienced devastating personal loss as well. In 1902, weeks after giving birth to twins, Peters wife, Kathleen, died from blood poisoning. Two years later, one of the twins, Peters' only daughter, also named Kathleen, accidentally tumbled into the fireplace and died from burns. In a dark way, it is fitting that Peters is listed in the 1906 telephone directory under the phone number 911 (which we know would serve, decades later, as the number for emergencies). His second son, Warren also died young, at the age of 15 in 1911 of a mastoid operation. Warren is buried in New York, as the family had already left Monterey by this time. Both mother and daughter are buried in the Peters plot in the San Carlos Cemetery in Monterey, along with two of Peters' sons, Charles Rollo III and DeWitt, who both lived into the 1960s. After the tragedy of losing his wife and child, Peters poured himself into painting, drinking, and socializing. After all, the property could accommodate more than a hundred guests. On at least one occasion guests were housed in tents near present-day Pacific St. Peters also temporarily took in artist refugees from the 1906 San Francisco earthquake. His first son, known only as Rollo Peters to differentiate him from his father no doubt, would later recount that they never had less than seven servants living on the property. As a boy growing up at the Peters Gate estate, Rollo was in awe of a visit by George Sterling and Jack London who read from their manuscripts and then walked all the way back to Carmel late at night.



Charles Rollo Peters *Light Beyond the Trees* Oil on canvas laid on board

Monterey's Prince of Darkness *Continued from page 11*

Artists were in need of a place to exhibit after the San Francisco earthquake, in which Peters' San Francisco studio was also destroyed. They began meeting with the Pacific Improvement Company who wanted to help create a gallery in its Hotel Del Monte where local works could be enjoyed and purchased by its cosmopolitan guests. The hotel's ballroom was refurbished at a cost of \$5,000 and 175 feet of electric strip-lighting was installed around the pictures (impressive for 1907). Peters was one of the organizers of the grand opening that would showcase at least 75 works from 30 artists, mostly American Luminists, including Peters, Xavier Martinez, William Keith, and photographer Arnold Genthe. Notably one-third of the artists were women and the artist/writer, Josephine Blanch, served as the gallery's curator for thirty years. The Del Monte Art Galley became the most important gallery on the west coast and was the first to highlight California artists. After the opening, Peters invited 50 friends back to his estate for an outdoor soiree complete with bonfires and live music. In line with his lavish nature, he had arranged for water to be pumped from the nearby creek by windmill to create a manmade pond for his guests, but the system failed and guests were left admiring gondolas languishing in the mud.

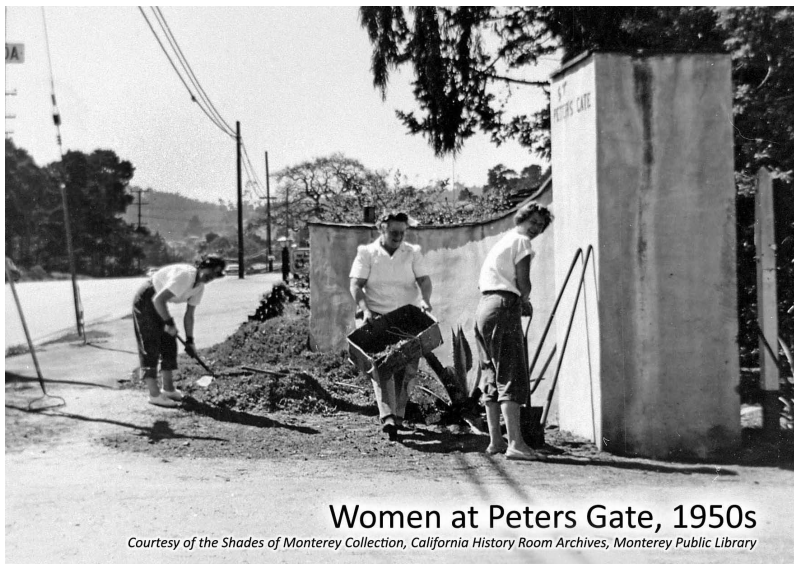
Peters remarried in 1909 to Englishwoman Constance Easley, who he had recently met at the Hotel Del Monte. His son, Rollo, describes that the Peters Gate estate was "too oppressive for father" after the deaths of Peters' wife and daughter. After the newlyweds and family left for about a year in Europe, they returned to San Francisco in 1911. The family never returned to the Monterey house, and Peters never truly settled down again. Peters was sued for divorce by Constance in 1920 after a marriage plagued by verbal abuse. The divorce was granted based on Peters being "morose, sullen, habitually intemperate and [mentally] abusive." In 1926 Peters traveled to Europe in an attempt to win back his ex-wife, but the effort failed. He became very ill in Paris and it was then that Constance rushed to his side to care for him. Back in San Francisco, his health improved, but he eventually succumbed to the effects of an automobile accident and broken hip in 1928.



Gravemarker of Peters' first wife Kathleen, located at San Carlos Cemetery, Monterey.

The Story Continues

Subsequent Monterey Vista history articles will continue the story of Peters Gate. Peters' sons were also artists who led interesting lives. His son, Rollo, lived the last twenty years of his life in a house at 923 Alameda Ave. nearby the original property. Another significant Monterey family, headed by Jane C. Todd, eventually purchased Peters' property, and her artist offspring lived in the old studio at 857 Grove St. The Peters Gates, located at Alameda St. and Grove St., and at Alameda St. and Munras Ave., are maintained by the City of Monterey and informally, over the years, by neighbors. In 1987 about six neighbors chipped in \$400 to replace the gates that were damaged in a traffic accident. The painter added an apostrophe so that the gates read "Peter's Gate," which may or may not have been the heavenly wordplay that Peters intended, but the apostrophe no longer exists. In a photo from the early 1950s it appears that the gates were also at one time painted "St Peter's Gate." Certainly many of us still consider Peters Gate a heavenly place to live. As luck would have it, exactly one hundred years after Peters purchased the land, an artist purchased his original house now located at 62 Ave Maria Rd. She began a painstaking restoration of the house, expanded two buildings into studios for rent, and recreated a beautiful garden. And in a fitting homage to Peters' spirit, she often opens up the now single-acre, historic estate to the community and other artists for exhibitions and teaching events.



Women at Peters Gate, 1950s

Courtesy of the Shades of Monterey Collection, California History Room Archives, Monterey Public Library

In researching this article, the author used sources found at the Monterey Public Library's California History Room and the Mayo Hayes O'Donnell Library. For more information on Charles Rollo Peters' life and artwork, please see the 2006 book *Artists at Content's End: The Monterey Peninsula Art Colony, 1875-1907* by Scott A. Shields. The Monterey Museum of Art has many of Peters' works in its collection. For his paintings of the Castro Adobe and Carmel River, please see <http://montereyart.org/montereyplaces/paintings.html>. Please do not hesitate to contact the author at kristinmey@gmail.com should you have any stories to share about our neighborhood's history.

Elizabeth Murray— Living A Life In Full Bloom *Continued from page 9*

patrons were invited to lavish parties at the Peters home to be introduced to the local artists. Jack London, the poet George Sterling and many well-known painters and photographers would gather to share their art, struggles, food and wine. This Bohemian group supported one another and that legacy inspired Elizabeth to rekindle this spirit of creativity and community In Peters Gate almost a hundred years later. The estate had been subdivided and sold off piecemeal over the ensuing years of various owners. This included Peters' original art studio which now faces onto Grove St. In 2000, when the Peters house, two cottages and about an acre of garden on Ave Maria came on the market, Elizabeth, an artist in her own right, was inspired to acquire the property. Several developers were submitting bids with the intention of subdividing the property to three or even four lots, including the demolition of the two cottages and perhaps the original house, which had major structural problems. The cottages were used for storage and were not livable. The property and structures were not yet under the protection of the National Historic Trust.

“I listened to my deepest calling and recommitted to making a living in a multifaceted creative manner, including writing, photography, painting, garden design, teaching, lecturing, and more. Since then I’ve taught creativity to thousands of diverse people.”

ate the rentals. Within a year with the help of architect Terry Wilson, and builder Marty Newman, the two cottages were completely restored, and enlarged becoming charming rentals. Elizabeth is very pleased to have been honored by the City of Monterey Historic Preservation Commission for the rehabilitation of the main home as well as a 2nd recognition of the cottages for outstanding design for multi-family dwellings. The charming cottages have provided steady income to help pay the mortgage and continue to make improvements.

Over the years significant structural rehabilitation was done on the house. Over nine thousand pounds of steel was engineered and installed to hold up the living room ceiling and the second story. All electrical, plumbing, foundations, and fireplaces had to be redone. With love, hard work and all the money, magic and man power she could muster, Elizabeth has completely renewed and revitalized the Peters estate, in a manner consistent with Peters' original vision of providing a center for artists and that nurtures the creative spirit. She frequently opens her home for classes, workshops and lectures. The lovely redwood interior walls of the 14 room structure glow with Elizabeth's colorful impressionistic paintings and photographs.

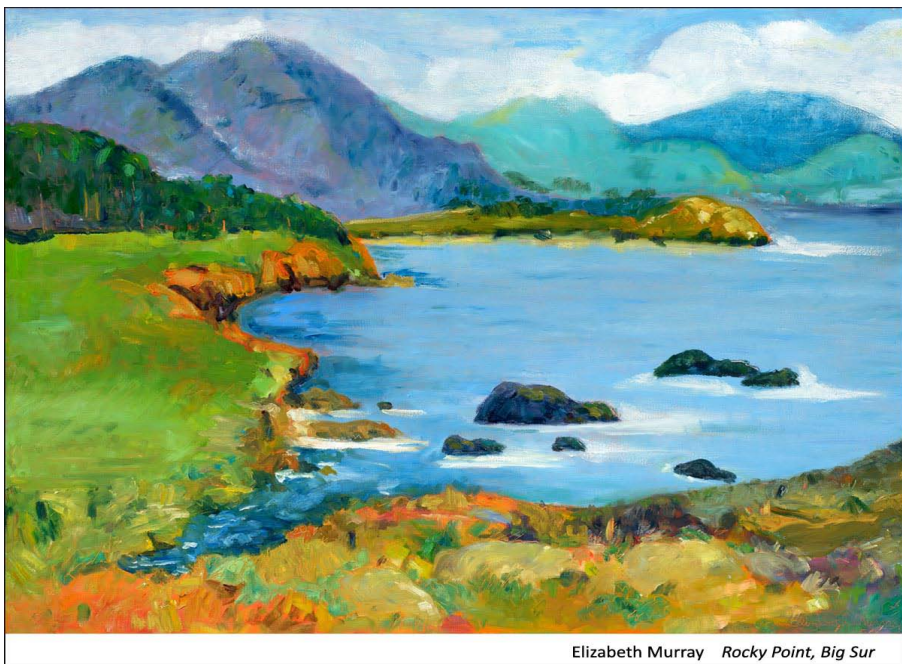
Elizabeth's own life has been every bit as interesting as that of the original owner of "Peters Gate". The title of one of Elizabeth

Murray's several published, and highly reviewed books, *Living Life in Full Bloom*, aptly describes the life she has made for herself. Each of us has the opportunity to develop four areas of our lives—the Gardener, the Artist, the Lover, and the Spirit-Weaver. As a Gardener, you observe, nurture, and grow. As an Artist, you use creativity to discover new possibilities. As a Lover, you lead with your

With only days to act and financially outmatched by competitors,

Elizabeth spoke to the Monterey City Planner and inquired about making the property historic and whether there was any possibility of collaboration with the City to help save this historic treasure. She learned about the Mills Act and possible preservation grants, for which she might be eligible. She then managed to convince the sellers that the property deserved to be preserved, that she would pursue the historic protection and that she would restore the Peters home and cottages and renew the creative spirit that originally inspired its creation. Several auspicious events came together including the seller agreeing to loan Elizabeth half of her deposit until she sold her other Monterey home.

Elizabeth made good on her promises. Months later, the home and cottages were officially listed in the National Historic Register and with the Historic overlay in zoning she could then go ahead and cre-



Elizabeth Murray Rocky Point, Big Sur

Continued on page 14

Elizabeth Murray— Living A Life In Full Bloom *Continued from page 13*

heart and commit to things you are passionate about, and as a Spirit-Weaver, you use celebrations and rituals to express blessings and gratitude.” Elizabeth embodies her own definition of a “Full Bloomer”—as one who lives a braided life, weaving all four pathways into a life of meaning, action, and gratitude.”

Elizabeth has always loved nature and the sanctuary that gardens provide. When she first visited Monet’s gardens in Giverny, France in 1985, it was love at first sight. She quit her job as a professional gardener with a crew of nine in Carmel, to work for free in France helping to maintain and restore Monet’s beloved gardens—spending the winter in Paris learning French and returning to Giverny in early spring, just as the gardens were coming out of dormancy. She photographed and wrote day after day and the path led her to a career as a professional photographer, artist, and writer. She has returned to Giverny each year for 35 years to photograph the gardens for publications and exhibitions with Monet’s paintings, as well as to lead workshops using the gardens to spark individual creativity.



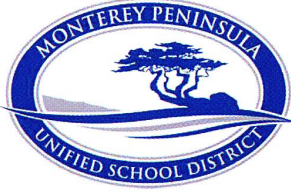
Elizabeth Murray *In Praise of Oaks*

The restoration of historic artist homes and gardens and nurturing a creative lifestyle for herself and others continues to be of great importance to Elizabeth. She has helped to create a loving community and enjoys her tenants as part of her community. She delights in the pleasure she gets and gives by sharing potlucks, her garden and the incredible home she so beautifully restored and saved. Fortunately for the Monterey Vista Neighborhood, Elizabeth is a visionary with tenacity. Our lives are richer because of her efforts in preserving this important piece of our neighborhood’s history.

For further information visit www.ElizabethMurray.com



The beautifully restored original Peters Gate cottage on Ave Maria



Monterey Peninsula Unified School District

**540 Canyon Del Rey Blvd., Suite #1
Monterey, CA 93940
Phone: (831) 392-3989**

Monterey High School Neighbor,

Great news! Thanks to Monterey County voters who overwhelmingly approved Measure I last summer, Monterey High School is planning on improvements to its athletic fields. Recently, a legal ad was placed in the *Monterey Herald* and a notice was posted at the high school office, as well as the Facilities office at the above address. This letter also serves as notice to all residents within one half mile of the school.

Scope of Work: The Monterey Peninsula Unified School District (“school district”) plans to implement stadium improvements at the existing high school football stadium and to improve an existing dirt area adjacent to the stadium into a multi-use field. Site improvements at the existing 3.53-acre Dan Albert Stadium include: new field lighting including three (3) 80-foot high and one 70-foot high lighting poles, new 500-seat visitor bleachers, and new press box. Site improvements at the 2.16-acre dirt lot include: a new softball and multi-use synthetic field, improvements to a track and field event area, and 2,400 square foot weight room/team room building.

The lighting would replace the temporary propane powered lights that have been in use for many years. This year the referees would not allow our players to play under the portable propane lights as they do not provide proper lighting to safely play a night game. The new lights would be LED and professionally downlight the field, and would not have a negative impact on the neighborhood. The new lighting will reduce the noise and pollution and be more subtle than the propane powered portable lights.

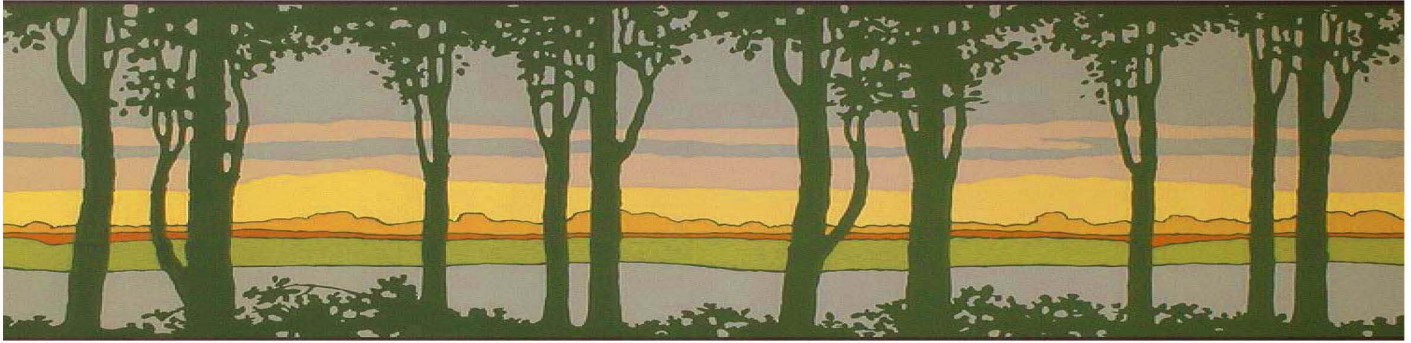
The intent of the enhanced bleachers is to allow for seating for visitors separate from MHS supporters. Currently, attendees all sit on the same side of the field.

Information about the project may be found at www.mpusd.net/facilitiesconstructionbids/

The district is currently receiving written comments on this project. Comments can be sent to my attention at the above address or an email to panderson@mpusd.net is acceptable, as well. Deadline for written comments is **5:00 p.m. on August 26, 2019**. A public hearing regarding this project will be held during the Board of Education meeting on September 24, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. (open session). We look forward to your input on these enhancements to our fields.

Thank You,

Paul Anderson, Senior Director
MPUSD Capital Facilities



Did you know we have a Monte Vista Neighborhood Association?

WHAT MVNA MEMBERSHIP PROVIDES

- Admission to MVNA's famous neighborhood BBQ picnic every September
- Representation on neighborhood issues to City Council and Commissions
- Informal neighbor dispute resolution
- Resident surveys on neighborhood related issues to help inform MVNA representation
- Regular newsletters that keep residents informed and entertained
- Historic information on neighborhood properties, and residents of note
- Candidate/Measure forums to help inform our voting choices
- Informational meetings and speakers on vital local issues
- An organization that fights to preserve our quality of life, and uniquely beautiful environment
- Representation for city funded Neighborhood Improvement Projects that benefit all residents
- And much more! All for bargain membership dues of \$10 per family per year!

Join or renew now and your MVNA membership will be good through 8/31/2020
Online at MVNA's website, montereyvistaneighborhood.org or mail w/ \$10 check, name, address and email address to: MVNA, 532 Herrmann Dr. Monterey, CA 93940 (or join/renew at the picnic)

The 2019 Annual MVNA Picnic BBQ

Saturday—September 21—noon to 3pm—Via Paraiso Park

\$1 per person/\$2 family—Bring a new member and your meal is free!

Meet your neighbors—Elect officers—Join MVNA on the spot

Menu:

hors d'oeuvres—salads—grilled tri-tip—bbq chicken—vegetarian option scalloped potatoes—
veggies—beverages—desserts

—All MVNA members are invited—

The Monterey Vista Neighborhood Association

invites you to the 2019

MVNA Annual Picnic/BBO

Saturday, September 21

Noon-3pm Via Paraiso Park

\$1 per person / \$2 per family

Bring a new member and eat for free!

Meet your neighbors

Renew your MVNA membership

(\$10/family per year)

Learn neighborhood news
and elect Association officers

