

# MONTEREY VISTA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

WINTER 2021 NEWSLETTER

# Message from the MVNA President:

#### By Susan Nine

Dear MVNA Members, As we bid adieu to what was arguably one of the worst years ever, we close out 2020 with some reasons to remain optimistic and hopeful for better times ahead in 2021. As we shelter in place these next few months, please continue to take all necessary precautions to slow the spread of Covid-19, and avoid becoming ill. Risking their own lives to save others, this is what those on the front

lines are asking of us and it's what we can do to help prevent them and our hospitals from becoming overwhelmed. In spite of it all, may your days be merry and bright and remember, "There is nothing in the world so irresistibly contagious as laughter and good humor." --Charles Dickens



On behalf of your Neigh-

borhood Association Board, we send our best wishes for your happiness and good health during the winter holidays and in the New Year ahead. If anyone is in need of help or support during this time, do not hesitate to contact us at <a href="mailto:mvneighborhood@gmail.com">mvneighborhood@gmail.com</a>.

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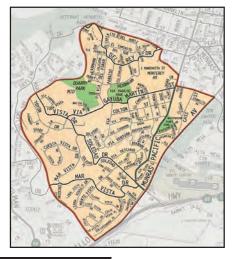
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The Monterey Vista Neighborhood Association (MVNA) is one of fifteen City of Monterey neighborhood associations that represent the residents of Monterey.

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.



# MPUSD Releases Draft Environmental Impact Report For Monterey High School Stadium Project By Steve Pondick, MVNA Resident



MPUSD has released the Draft EIR for the Monterey High Sports Complex. According to the Draft EIR "lighting and noise impacts of the proposed project are **significant and unavoidable**." This project will have the following impacts among others.

#### **Stadium lighting:**

Here what the City of Monterey requires: City General Plan Policy f.9 directs the City to "discourage high levels of ambient lighting and maintain night skies" City Code Section 38-111 (D)(2) states, "all project lighting shall be screened so the light source will not be visible off site"

Here is what the Monterey High School Draft EIR says:

• "Nighttime lighting for the project site is categorized as E2 Rural lighting by the IESNA ranking system which denotes areas of low brightness".



## Message from the MVNA President Continued from previous page

The City Council of Monterey gave us all a great holiday gift this year. Preserving and improving the environmental quality of our beautiful neighborhood is an important part of your Association's mission. As such, a big year's end shout out to the Council for passing a new ordinance banning gas-powered leaf blowers from all residential districts of Monterey effective January 1st, 2021. This will reduce air and noise pollution throughout the city. Pacific Grove and Carmel also have banned these devices while managing to maintain beautiful landscaping with less polluting electric or battery operated blowers or even less polluting rakes and brooms. Use the link below to read how a grandmother with a rake and broom outperformed powerful blowers: https://www.nonoise.org/quietnet/cgs/leafblow. htm#grandma Under the new ordinance electric/battery blowers continue to be allowed, but only between the hours of 8-5 daily. To help with this transition, our newsletter includes a printable notice in English and Spanish to hand out to landscapers and residents who may not have gotten the message. MVNA surveyed our members and residents on Nextdoor and determined the vast majority of you support a ban on gas blowers. MVNA shared this information with the City Council as public comment. The Council agendized the topic as part of the City's goal to reduce greenhouse gasses and noise pollution.

Also, a shout out to our neighbors we see picking up trash on their walks, and those maintaining and improving their yards by keeping them free of dry brush, unsightly junk, and garbage. MVNA also thanks those residents parking boats and RVs in ways consistent with local code requirements. This all helps keep our neighborhood safe and beautiful!

### **MVNA Membership Update**

As you may know, because we unfortunately had to cancel our 2020 Annual MVNA BBQ/Picnic, we offered our current members a free one-year extension. But did you also realize that MVNA also allows new members to join MVNA for FREE until August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021? Just send your name, address and email to <a href="mailto:mvneighborhood@gmail.com">mvneighborhood@gmail.com</a>. Your support allows MVNA to preserve the quality and character of our neighborhood. We also review and comment on selected city programs, proposed ordinances, and building designs. You can learn about what we do on our website (montereyvistaneighborhood.org) and nextdoor.com, attend pertinent and informative events for our members and the general public, and request assistance in resolving neighborhood concerns. If you've enjoyed this newsletter, please feel free to pass it on to your friends and neighbors.

To comply with state guidelines to prevent the spread of Covid our monthly Monterey Vista Neighborhood Association board meetings are held virtually, usually the first Monday of each month on an online conference application from 6:00 to 7:45pm. You are welcome to attend any of these virtual Board meetings, or to suggest agenda items to share your concerns. Please contact a board member for more information.

Web: montereyvistaneighborhood.org
Email: mvneighborhood@gmail.com

MVNA Officers & Directors	
Susan Nine (President)	333-6882
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Kristin Dotterrer (Secretary & Historian)	262-2301
Hans Jannasch (Membership, NCIP alt)	373-0872
Pat Venza (Past President)	375-8416
Michele Altman	214-2545
Nickie Bach	747-1613
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Jeana Jett (Outreach)	655-0357
Marta Kraftzeck	375-2146
Ray Meyers	905-5327
Mike Pekin	905-3756
Bruce Zanetta	647-1997

# Draft EIR for MHS Stadium Project Continued from page 1

- "Proposed lighting would be visible to the surrounding area which would alter the nighttime environment with additional illuminance".
- "When the marine layer is present as low clouds or fog, the visible illuminance would also be perceived as cloud reflection or fog light scattering." This is called Sky glow.
- "From Public streets in the surrounding neighborhood the proposed lighting would be visible to sensitive viewer groups.
- "New elevated light sources could cause light trespass outside of the MHS campus"
- Plans call for four 70 foot poles with 3 different levels of lights: 1) field lights at the top 2) more lights at a height of 60 feet on each pole and 3) third set at 16 feet on each pole casting light <u>upward</u>.
- Lights would be used all school days for the 6 winter months in addition to all football games and an additional 16 night games for various sports. That doesn't include all non-school usage.
- "By their nature, stadium lights would be visible to off sight viewers"
- "THIS IMPACT WOULD BE SIGNIFICANT AND UNAVOIDABLE"



#### Noise:

Monterey Noise Regulations City Code Section 38-111 "Decibel levels shall be compatible with neighboring uses, and no use shall create ambient noise levels which exceed he following standards." For residential Districts this Maximum Decibel Noise level is 60.

Here is what the Monterey High School Draft EIR says:

- "Noise exposure could result in health related risks to individuals"
- "Residential dwellings are of primary concern because potential for increased and prolonged exposure of individuals to both interior and exterior noise levels, and because of the potential for nighttime noise to result in sleep disruption."
- "Although school district projects are exempt from local ordinances and standards, noise standards established by the City of Monterey are rea-

sonable and appropriate thresholds of determination of significance because the affected residential land uses are in the City's jurisdiction."

"Noise generated by evening activities at the Dan Albert Stadium and daytime activities at the lower field would expose nearby residences to noise levels that are substantially louder than existing conditions and that exceed City noise standards. This would be a SIGNIFICANT IMPACT."

#### Parking:

City of Monterey General Plan: Policy a.3 "Adopt parking programs that maximize occupancy of public parking spaces to

minimize parking impacts in adjacent residential neighborhoods."

Here is what the Monterey High School Draft EIR says:

- "During project related events, if parking were to occur along the residential streets west and south of the project sight emergency vehicle access to those areas could be impeded due to limited right of way preventing a larger emergency vehicle from passing."
- "Enforcement of parking regulations and laws is carried out by the City of Monterey Parking Enforcement Section"



 "Some of the roadways surrounding the project have limited lane width, little or no roadway shoulders and sharp curves"

# Draft EIR for MHS Stadium Project Continued from previous page

- "Secondary impacts on the environment that result from a parking deficit are within the scope of CEQA"
- The Draft EIR states that the historic stone bleachers hold 1600 attendees and MPUSD proposes adding bleachers for an additional 300, totally 1900. According to the Draft EIR 81.8% of attendees drove alone, so there would need to be available parking for over **1550 automobiles.**
- "Some of the anticipated on-site parking shortfall for football games would likely be accommodated by existing onstreet parking spaces in the vicinity of the project site"
- "Illegal parking is considered an enforcement issue"
- MPUSD is counting the number of City owned parking lots as available parking to meet the needs of this project. No
  effort was made to determine ADA access to the stadium from these lots, account for the number of City vehicles parked in those lots

#### Traffic:

Construction of this project would access the site via Pacific Street and Logan Lane. Logan Lane is a narrow street with access limited to, at a pinch point, of only 10'6" according to the MPUSD parking plan submitted to the DSA. All truck and construction traffic would enter and



exit from Logan Lane and this street can barely handle two cars moving in opposite directions. There is not even a stop sign at Logan Lane and Pacific Street. The new MHS parking plans also call for removing the lawn area in front of the historic MPUSD administration office to be replaced with surface parking with a new exit onto Logan Lane, increasing traffic in this area.

- Has the Planning Commission seen the plans for the stadium as well as the parking plans?
- Has the City considered emergency vehicle access to this area given Logan Lane is the only access point?
- How will large construction vehicles turn around or navigate narrow Logan Lane?
- What about construction traffic and idling construction vehicles in this area over the supposed 11 months of construction and anticipated 7 day/week construction?

For this project MPUSD is both the developer and the certifying agency. This project never comes before the Planning Commission or the City Council. What developer does not want their project to move forward?

The impacts of the project affects Monterey Vista, Skyline, Old Town and Alta Mesa neighborhoods altering the lives of thousands of residents within the City of Monterey. Please help us and our neighborhoods. Our city government should support the residents by enforcing compliance with The General Plan and City Code.

On a financial note, MPUSD plans to use upwards of \$20 million (of the \$213 million dollar total bond) of Taxpayer Measure I Bond Funds for this Stadium project and a related large scale parking project. School Boards throughout California and in our own area are struggling for infrastructure funding to keep students and staff safe during this pandemic.

A link to the Draft EIR can be found here: <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/19IJSuiVD01Ht8RWdZfYGlkG">https://drive.google.com/file/d/19IJSuiVD01Ht8RWdZfYGlkG</a>
<a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/19IJSuiVD01Ht8RWdZfYGlkG">https://drive.go

**To email comments:** MontereyHSStadium@ascentenvironmental.com (Please include a subject line referencing the Monterey High School Stadium Improvements Project).

Mailing address for comments: Ryan Altemeyer, Associate Superintendent, Business Services, Monterey Peninsula Unified School District, 700 Pacific Street Monterey, CA 93940

Please CC or BCC MVNA so we can ensure that all comments reach the preparer prior to the deadline.



https://www.montereyherald.com/2020/12/07/monterey-high-stadium-improvements-project-deir-released/

# Monterey High stadium improvements project DEIR released Public comment period ends Jan. 12, 2021

By JAMES HERRERA | jherrera@montereyherald.com | Monterey Herald PUBLISHED: December 7, 2020 at 2:27 p.m.

MONTEREY – Both the school district and a local neighborhood association are wading through the findings of the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Monterey High School Stadium Improvements project, which includes installing permanent lights.

Susan Nine, president of the Monterey Vista Neighborhood Association, reported the Association's meeting Monday was scheduled to deal exclusively with the draft EIR which was released last month. The Neighborhood Association has about 400 members and covers the area that will be most impacted by the improvement project.

The Monterey Peninsula Union School District Board, meanwhile, will not yet weigh in on the report consistent with the rules of the California Environmental Quality Act, said PK Diffenbaugh, MPUSD District superintendent. The Board will not do so until after the public comment period and receiving input from the community. "From my perspective," Diffenbaugh said, "the draft EIR demonstrates the degree of care and the amount of time and effort that has gone into the review of this project to help ensure that the project will benefit students while not having an undue impact on the community."

Nine said the neighborhood association does not feel the mitigation measures outlined in the draft EIR begin to deal with the significant impacts from the project including light, noise and parking impacts on the neighboring community. Those impacts "will trespass into quiet residential areas surrounding the high school, creating unsafe conditions, loss of property values and quality of life for residents," said Nine. The Monterey Vista Neighborhood Association president said her organization joined with others to insist a full environmental impact report be done on this project "but we have taken no official position against the project but are highly concerned on the impact that results from it."

Nine said the association recommends looking at ways to reduce these impacts by limiting nighttime usage of the stadium lighting and looking at alternatives to holding large-scale events such as highly-attended games, instead moving those events to other venues. "We're just trying to become better informed about the impacts identified in the draft EIR," said Nine. "We're trying to also elicit support from representatives on the council and planning commission." The Neighborhood Association would like to see more effort made to address the concerns of Monterey residents.

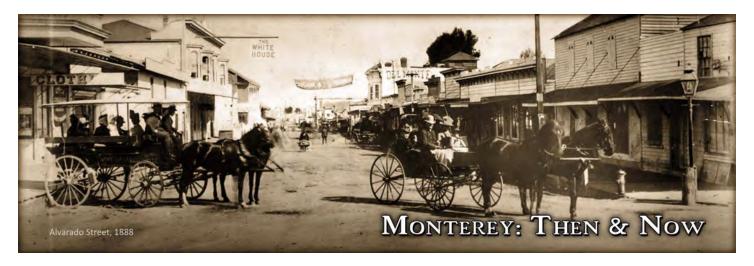
"The EIR identifies mitigation measures that reduce the impact of the project on the neighborhood to the greatest extent possible," said Diffenbaugh. The MPUSD superintendent said that in modernizing Dan Albert Stadium, the district has always been committed to meeting the needs of both the students and the community. "Before the draft EIR was prepared we reduced the height of the proposed light poles and reduced the size of the visitor bleachers as a response to public input," said Diffenbaugh. "Ultimately approval of the project will be a decision that is made by the elected school board but from our perspective the conclusions in the draft EIR and proposed mitigation measures provide a 'win-win' for our students and the community."

Diffenbaugh said the biggest takeaway from his perspective is that the project as envisioned in the EIR preserves the unique character of the stone bleachers at the stadium, allowing the district to have a more modern facility to accommodate the needs of today's students. "The adoption of the mitigation measures and consideration of project alternatives will be a decision made by the Board after public input," said Diffenbaugh. "As currently proposed, the mitigation measures provide that the lights will be turned off by 8 p.m. except for evening football games, which are around five games a year. The lights will not be used for any practices or games during April through September and will not be used on the weekends. While there is always a need for more use, the district is committed to being a good neighbor and these mitigation measures ensure that the needs of the community are met."

Nine said the Neighborhood Association sees room for compromise. "We're not trying to shut down Friday night football at Monterey High School," said Nine.

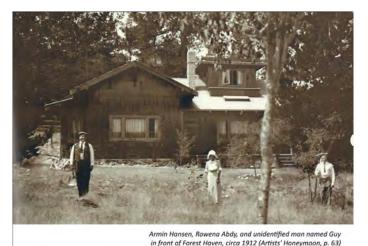
A draft agenda will be posted at montereypeninsula.agendaonline.net/public/ and on the MPUSD web page at www.mpusd.net.

Diffenbaugh said the public comment period ends Jan. 12 and was extended due to the holidays.



# Famous Bohemian Artists Designed One of Our Neighborhood's Oldest Houses by Kristin Dotterrer

Although Monterey Vista is not the oldest Monterey neighborhood, it is still studded with historic homes and little-known stories. About eight years ago, a local photo archivist, Pat Hathaway (<a href="www.caviews.com">www.caviews.com</a>), found an image on eBay which led down a trail of serendipitous



findings. He partnered with another local historian to share for the first time early images of Monterey Vista and the history of the hidden gem of a house at 92 El Camino on the corner of Colton St. (formerly Park St.). When Hathaway spotted a 100-year-old unidentified image of Alvarado Street offered by a Texan eBay seller, he inquired if there were more. He discovered that the image was part of a collection of hundreds of negatives with Monterey and California locations that the seller had picked up at a garage sale and could not begin to identify. Hathaway purchased the entire collection and began research that would eventually team him up with local author, Julianne Burton-Carvajal, and result in an important book about this area of our neighborhood.

Continued on next page

# "Forest Haven Found Us": The Veitengruber Family Moves into the Abdy House by Kristin Dotterrer

Jennie Veitengruber and I went to Monterey High School together. We were in different grades but had mutual friends. So while researching the history of the century-old Abdy house on El Camino and Colton St, I was delighted to learn from a neighbor that she and her husband, Mike, had just purchased it. When I reached out to Jennie I mentally added our shared alma mater to the many fortunate connections that have lined the trail of research on this historic house. The painter, Rowena Meeks Abdy, and her writer husband, Harry Bennett Abdy, designed and built this redwood, Craftsman-style



house in the 1910s, and lovingly referred to it as "Forest Haven." Eight years ago, a local archivist came across an old photograph on eBay taken by the Abdys, which led to a book that reimagines the artists' mark on Monterey history. (See previous article.) A century and a few owners later, the Veitengrubers moved into the Abdy house. They no doubt appreciate the beauty of this area just as much as the bohemian artists who once lived there. Jennie is a local Monterey gal and Mike is from Carmel.

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# **Bohemian Artists** Continued from previous page

Hathaway's subsequent research revealed the original owners of the photo negatives to be a famous bohemian artist couple — award-winning landscape painter, Rowena Meeks Abdy (1887-1945), and writer, Harry Bennett Abdy (1868-1963), who designed and built the house on El Camino around 1912. This beautiful craftsman house was the second Monterey house designed by the Abdys shortly after their Monterey marriage. Besides the Bruguiere's mansion on Martin St., the Abdy's house was possibly the earliest home to be built in the Bruguiere Park subdivision, one of the earliest developed areas of Monterey Vista Neighborhood. For more on Bruguiere Park and the stoneand-wood gates on Colton St (not to be confused with Peters Gates), see MVNA's summer 2020 newsletter.

The Abdys had named the first house they designed and built, which was located a bit closer to town on El Dorado St., "El Nido," meaning "the nest" in Spanish. Another beautiful craftsman, with north-facing windows providing the ideal light for its home art stu-



Rowena Abdy painting through the Bruguiere Gates, circa 1912 (Artists' Honeymoon, frontspiece)

dio, "El Nido" has long been replaced by office buildings. They lovingly named their second home on El Camino "Forest Haven" and painted its name on a sign hung above the entryway to the property. Dirt roads, crooked creeks, hills dotted with pine and oak, bay views, and the Bruguiere/Colton St Gates were all that existed around their new house according to this amazing photo collection. Numerous photos depicted the construction of their "Forest Haven" house, artists at work en plein air, Monterey landscapes and adobes, and excursions from Marin to San Diego. The Abdys arrived around

the time renowned artist Charles Rollo Peters departed. For more on Peters and his gates, see MVNA's summer 2019 newsletter.



Forest Haven sign placed at the Abdy's property entrance (Artists' Honeymoon, p. 17)

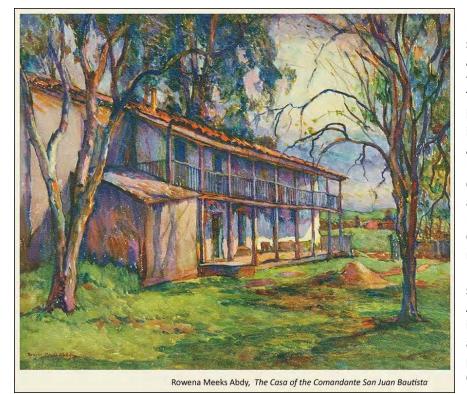
Luckily an envelope housing the Abdy's photo negatives was stamped with the address of Rowena Abdy's San Francisco house and art studio during the 1920s-1940s. Coincidentally, Hathaway had a painting signed by Rowena Abdy hanging in his own home! The couple, Rowena and Harry, posed in many of the photos themselves, occasionally with their good friend, Armin Hansen (1886-1957), who would become the most well-known artist of the three. Hansen had been a classmate of Rowena's at the Mark Hopkins Institute of Art in San Francisco. The Abdys may have, in fact, influenced Armin Hansen's decision to make the old fishing town his permanent home. He lived in picturesque Monterey Vista, too!

The history of the Abdy's time spent here, along with how archivist Pat Hathaway acquired their photo collection, is described in the 2015 book "Artists' Honeymoon" by local author Julianne Burton-Carvajal who fundraised over \$25,000 in two weeks to get it published. Instances like these truly make Monterey feel like a small town. As it happened, Burton-Carvajal was living on Monterey Circle at the time (she has since relocated to Santa Fe, NM). A few years earlier, she had chatted with the longtime owners of 92 El Camino, the Hooker family, after they had read her book about the Alta Mesa neighborhood, published in 2002 by the City of Monterey. The Hookers thought she would be interested in the original artists who built their house and the history of this neighborhood, too.

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# **Bohemian Artists** Continued from previous page

What especially astonished Burton-Carvajal when she first viewed Hathaway's newly-acquired Abdy photo collection was the appearance of the gates on Colton St. Their origin must have predated what was previously thought, possibly too early to be built by local architect, J.C. Anthony, who designed or rebuilt many Spanish-style homes in the area in the 1920-1940s. The book "Artists' Honeymoon" contains history about not only the artist couple, the Abdys, but also about the wealthy San Francisco socialites, composer, Emile Bruguiere, and his wife, Vesta Shortridge, the early landowners who likely had those gates built at their estate's entry, the details of which remain unknown.



Like other early Monterey Vista settlers, such as the Peters and the Bruguieres, the Abdys had a bit of inherited money to travel frequently and live wherever they pleased. They all summered in Monterey before moving here full-time. Then they all only lived in Monterey Vista for a few short years. The Abdys sold their house around 1917, but Rowena kept her ties and exhibited at the Carmel Art Association a decade later. They all had the travel bug. Rowena studied in Europe and later with Harry travelled around California painting coastal towns and old missions. Harry Abdy's only published book, 1919's "On the Ohio," is a recounting of a steamboat trip they took, accompanied by Armin Hansen, from St. Louis to Pittsburgh in 1915. Rowena illustrated Harry's book; and Harry wrote the intro to Rowena's 1924 published book of watercolors called "Old California."

The Peters, Bruguieres, and the Abdys all had artistic talent but acquired varying levels of fame. Unfortunately they all faced a future of divorce. After a divorce in the late 1920s, Rowena Abdy lived her remaining couple of decades at her home on San Francisco's Russian Hill. A sign graced the entrance of this home to deter unwanted tourists with the words "Keep Out" instead of inviting visitors with a lovingly-chosen house nickname. Harry Abdy later remarried, notably for the time interracially, and made his new home in Florida until his death. Unlike the Peters and the Bruguieres, Rowena and Harry never had children.

The significance of Rowena's painting, especially on the Monterey art colony and as a female artist, will be the subject of a future MVNA newsletter article. So much remains to be unearthed and shared about all the artists and early residents who lived in Monterey Vista but who did not lend its landmarks namesakes like Peters Gates. This year the Hooker family sold their home on El Camino to a young family who is delighted by its art-laden history. See the accompanying article for a profile of these proud new Monterey Vista homeowners.



Rowena and Harry Abdy posing at the stone structure attached to the Bruguiere Gates that they called "the Lodge" (Artists' Honeymoon, p. 28)

# "Forest Haven Found Us" Continued from page 6

Over the years, either individually or together, they have lived in every Peninsula town from Carmel to Marina. Mike is an investment consultant with rare and collectible vintage and new automobiles. Jennie has worked in real estate marketing, and is currently a realtor for Monterey Coast Realty. She created the brand MontereyBayLifestyle.com. They have an 11-month-old baby girl named Penelope "Pennie" Pearl whose interests include books, music, toys, food and crawling.

The couple had actually been searching in other Peninsula communities for a home to buy until, as Jennie describes,

"Forest Haven found us." They took a tour of the house and fell in love with everything the history, the architecture, the landscape. During college, Jennie was living on Via Del Pinar so she knew the neighborhood well, but after the tour she realized this was a special house in a particularly beautiful part of town. Usually we hear people refer to Carmel-by-the-Sea as whimsical, but when Jennie used that word to describe her feelings towards the Peters Gate area, I realized, too, that the Bruguiere Gates just a few houses down from her, combined with our twisted oaks and established homes, really does add a whimsical touch. "The chal-



lenge," says Jennie, "has been to tastefully update with a focus on preservation."

People who enjoy history and art, like the Veitengrubers, naturally pay homage to it. The Abdys selected a style of rustic architecture deriving from the Arts & Crafts movement that blended well with the natural forest area. Rowena Meeks Abdy was a lover of artistic gardens. She built a stone lily pond and planted Mediterranean saplings in her yard. The Veitengrubers are excited about two upcoming projects that might please Rowena's spirit. They are eager to work on revamping the landscaping next year and, at 1/3 of an acre, it will surely be a great deal of work. They may also be close to acquiring an original Rowena Meeks Abdy painting to place inside their new home. Mike turned out to have a connection with someone at the Smithsonian who aided in tracking down the piece.

Like everyone else, the couple is eager for an end to the Covid-19 pandemic. They hope to once again travel to their favorite destination, Europe, as well as tour more familiar local spots, which will be an entirely different experience with a young daughter in tow. As a realtor and a local mom, Jennie often shares with families moving to the area her top places to visit, at least a couple of which will have to wait until they reopen: Carmel Beach, Jacks Peak, Monterey Museum of Art, My Museum, the Aquarium, and 17 Mile Drive.

Jennie believes that Monterey Vista is an excellent place to raise children — she listed the parks, the schools, the walking opportunities on smaller streets, and the proximity to downtown as evidence. Like me, Jennie and Mike are lucky to have local family while raising a young child who is especially benefitting in these times from that family bubble. Still their strong social inclinations cause them to miss spending time with and hosting friends. Jennie says some of the friends she grew up with have left the area and some have returned, "But we keep meeting young families who have just moved here within the last year or so. It's wonderful! Let's be honest, it's an expensive place to live but the area is so safe and I believe it's the most beautiful in the world. That's what makes it such a desirable place to live."

# Take a "Pickup Walk" by Pat Venza, MVNA Board member

**Just a Thought!** Wonder if when you went for a walk you picked up trash along the way? I have been thinking about this for awhile, but never did much about it except to pick up a piece here-and-there and throw into the nearest resident's can.

Finally, 2 weeks ago, I got semi-serious about it. The first trip I forgot to bring a big bag so I just used 2 of my doggie poop bags...one for a glove and the other to put the trash in. For that trip, that was actually enough. Going down Via Paraiso and down a couple of the feeder streets, it was large enough.



The second trip I got serious. I took a large bag and wore a plastic glove. This time I went from 400 Mar Vista, backwards through the 300's and 200's of Mar Vista and then down Monte Vista and then up Soledad Dr. Much different on a busier street and where the homes are sitting far away from the street so the residents don't pay as much attention to the trash on the street. That trip I filled the big bag.

I remember seeing an older gentleman, a couple of years ago, doing this regularly with one of those "hand extension grabbers". Eventually, I may need one of those too, but

for now I think that the bending over, hopefully, will have its benefits to my waistline and my legs and back as long as I do the bending and picking up correctly.

On this second "pickup walk" I ran into Lisa who says that she does this pickup carrying a 5 gallon bucket on her way to/from a meeting she was attending down on Soledad Dr. On Soledad Dr. I ran into John who also does this all around the 200 block of Soledad Dr. where the traffic is the worse and therefore, so is the trash.

So my thought is: Once a month, not every walk you take, take a bag and a glove or a "hand-extension grabber" and see what trash you can pick up. What an easy way to say you did something for the beautification of our neighborhood! Maybe help your waistline too!

# CalAm offers reduced rates for homes with with fire suppression systems (AKA sprinklers)

If you have a fire suppression system in your home you may be paying CalAm too much. Several months ago I learned from a CalAm worker that if you have a larger water meter than you really need for regular use only because of your fire suppression system, your service charge can be adjusted for a one size smaller meter ... BUT YOU HAVE TO ASK!!

The main CalAm folks know nothing about this. You have to call our local CalAm fellow, Joe DiMaggio, at 646-3228, or email at <u>Joe. DiMaggio@amwater.com</u>. He'll have you fill out a form with your water fixtures before reducing your rate. We did a >50% remodel in 2006 and needed to install a 1" meter to get an appropriate flow rate for our new sprinkler system. CalAm's rate for a 1" meter is

now \$74 per month, but we should only have been charged \$37 for the 3/4" meter rate. As a result, some of the other fees and taxes have also go down. Joe did give us a 3-month credit for the difference (but not for the three years since the big rate increase). See the accompanying chart of our CalAm Service fees. -- Hans Jannasch



# The History of Wine in Monterey County Part III: Prohibition

by Marta Kraftzeck

The Temperance movement had its beginnings after the Civil War with the founding in 1873 of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. Their message was that prohibition of alcohol was a method for preventing abuse by alcoholic husbands. Over time the Women's Christian Temperance Union expanded their efforts to support other social reform issues such as women's suffrage and also exerted political influence on the "Drys", or those who opposed alcohol consumption. This Temperance movement was the beginning, in the early 1900's, of the Anti-Saloon League.





The Anti Saloon League used World War I and anti-German hysteria to create propaganda that stereotyped Germans as drunken and anti-American with the idea that producing beer was morally corrupt. This anti German sentiment helped to expand prohibition during wartime since German immigrants had founded most of the breweries in the United States. The Anti Saloon League claimed that people who drank beer were traitors to their country. With America's declaration of war against Germany in April of 1917 another justification for prohibition arose as all the grain that would have been used to make alcohol was devoted to the war effort.

In 1916 Woodrow Wilson was elected along with a majority in congress, with the "drys" substantially outnumbering the "wets". A resolution calling for a Constitutional amendment to accomplish nationwide Prohibition was introduced in Congress and passed in December 1917. Congress passed legislation, known as the Volstead Act to enforce the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment that began on January 16<sup>th</sup>, 1920.

Before Prohibition went into effect many people stockpiled alcohol for legal home consumption. They bought out the inventories of liquor retailers and wholesalers. After Prohibition went into effect the wine cellar that Thomas Jefferson had created was emptied and turned into storage. At the end of "Dry" President Woodrow Wilson's term he wanted to move his own supply of liquor out of the White House to his personal residence so he asked for and received a special exemption from Congress to in order to legally do so.



When prohibition was enacted it had to be enforced. Although many thought the Justice Department should have been in charge of enforcement it was the Internal Revenue Service that presided over regional directors and inspectors. Many Dry's thought that once the law was made compliance would simply follow, however instead prohibition created a nation of law breakers. The intent of the law was to shut down all traffic of liquor. The nationwide task force had only about 1,500 Federal Prohibition agents charged with stopping all liquor

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traffic nationwide. Trafficking was consequently driven into the hands of bootleggers and gangsters and drinking actually seemed to increase.

Winemakers had clung to the idea that wine would be an exception during prohibition. There had always been a tradition that wine was the drink of temperance rather than intoxication. The threat of prohibition confused many winemakers as they did not feel they were the real enemy of temperance. If they separated themselves from the manufacturers of distilled spirits, they would give support to the Prohibitionists and if they supported the distillers then they would be attacked as well. As a consequence, most wineries in the country went quietly out of business. In 1919 the US produced over 55

million gallons of wine and by 1925 production had sunk to just over 3 million gallons.

During Prohibition wine could be legally made at home with each person allowed 200 gallons every

year. Although wineries went out of business the business for growers was booming. Prices for grapes shot up from \$10 to \$100 per ton. In 1919 California had about 300,000 acres of grapes but 6 years later the acreage had almost doubled. At this time many grapes, such as the variety Alicante Bouschet, were widely planted as the fruit had dark thick-skinned berries that would ship well and were less susceptible to rot. There was no incentive to plant quality grapes as the market demanded high yielding grapes that could be shipped throughout the country. By 1924 grapes had reached a price of \$375 per ton and many people rushed to California to become grape growers. One such person was Cesare Mondavi, a grocer from Minnesota, who moved his entire family to California to take part in the boom.

Other grape products were made, including "wine bricks", also known as Bricks of Bacchus, or whole grapes that were pressed into solid form and wrapped for sale. The producers were very open about what they knew the product was to be used for, including flavors for different bricks, such as Sherry, Burgundy and Claret. These bricks were sold, with a note explaining how to dissolve the brick in water, ostensibly to make "juice", but the note also contained a "warning" instructing you not to leave that jug in a cool cupboard for 21 days or it would turn into wine.

Another effort to get around the regulations was founded by Fruit Industries who went to the Bureau of Prohibition and received as-

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surance that their grape concentrate, Vine Glo, was a perfectly legal product. Fruit Industries began to sell their grape concentrate exclusively through drugstores to help reassure the public that their product was legal as long as it was not transported out of the home. Vine Glo sales people not only sold the concentrate but also would deliver it to the purchaser's home, supervise its fermentation and then bottle the result! However, in 1931 a Federal Court ruled that an individual was only permitted to make "fruit juice" from fresh grapes, not from concentrate and consequently Vine Glo was pulled off the market.

The Volstead Act was amended on April 7, 1933 and the sale of 3.2% beer was celebrated as the day that beer came back. Winemakers tried in vain to get low alcohol wine, or 10%, legalized but President Roosevelt told the California delegation in the House of Representatives that he thought that 10% wine was unconstitutional. Since winemakers had no idea how long it might be before the repeal of Prohibition some decided to try and make 3.2% alcohol wine but fortunately this product was short lived.

Prohibition continued loosing advocates as ignoring the law gained increased social acceptance and organized crime violence increased leading to a nationwide push for repeal. Finally, the 21<sup>st</sup> Amendment to the Constitution was ratified and Prohibition was repealed on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 1933 ending the "great experiment".





Dear MVNA Neighbors, The UC Master Gardeners of Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties has given permission to republish their articles in our Newsletters. With winter fast approaching and temperatures dropping, I've selected this one about how to care for our Citrus trees in pots. The links provided take you to additional sites about Citrus care generally. --Susan Nine

# Care of Potted Citrus by Kamille Hammerstrom published November 19, 2017



Fall and winter are the times of year when the average outdoor garden plants take a little breather, but not citrus! If your potted Meyer lemon or Bearss lime trees are like mine, they are flowering and fruiting, even as the rest of my garden rests. Thus the care of potted citrus can be a little bit different than other garden plants. First of all, fertilize!

Citrus is a heavy feeder, particularly on nitrogen. Fertilizers are generally labeled with numeric ratios such as 3-1-1. Those numbers reflect the ratio of nitrogen (N) to phosphorus (P) to potassium (K), or N-P-K. Because citrus likes a lot of nitrogen, you want to purchase a fertilizer with at least a 2-1-1 ratio, or twice as much nitrogen as phosphorus and potassium. Citrus also requires trace minerals, which may be present in the

fertilizer you purchase. If not, supplement with trace minerals such as a foliar kelp-based application. Feed according to the directions on the packaging.

#### **Pruning**

According to the Four Winds Growers website, citrus can be pruned any time of year, except in the winter for outdoor trees. If you will be overwintering your citrus tree indoors, you can prune now to reduce legginess and suckering. If your trees stay outside like mine, save the pruning for spring. Visit the Four Winds Growers website for more information on pruning.

#### Watering

Citrus prefers to be watered deeply and less frequently. Citrus likes moist, but never soggy, soil. Even if the surface of your potted citrus is dry, be sure to check the soil moisture at the roots to determine if it is time to water. A wilted tree that doesn't perk up after watering may indicate soggy roots and excessive watering. Keep an eye on leaves, too. Yellow, cupped leaves may also indicate too much water. For a potted citrus, watering deeply once to twice a week is usually adequate.

#### **Protect from Cold Temperatures**

Citrus trees vary in the amount of cold they can tolerate. Lemon and lime trees are the most cold-tolerant, probably one reason why there are so many of them around the central coast. But all varieties of citrus need some protection from frost and/or freezing. A quick and short-lived plunge in temperature won't be as damaging as a prolonged exposure to cold. If you hear that a cold front is coming, get ready. Water all garden plants thoroughly before a freeze, since freezing soil will pull moisture from the plant roots. Put old fashioned heat producing Christmas lights on your trees or landscape lights under your trees. Be careful that the hot bulbs don't come into direct contact with leaves as the leaves may scorch. Use frost cover blankets draped over your trees and attached to the ground to trap daytime heat. Be careful if using plastic covers because the trees could overheat during the day.

If you have the space, you could also overwinter your citrus tree indoors to avoid frost. Move the tree gradually to avoid

shocking it. It's also best to let the roots get a bit dry to ease the transition and prevent the roots from staying too wet through the winter. Ensure the tree gets at least 6 hours of sun per day, or supplement with grow lights. Once danger of frost has passed, gradually move the tree back to full sun in your yard.

The gift giving season is nearly upon us. Consider a potted citrus for yourself or a loved one! They'll repay you with evergreen foliage, sweet-smelling blossoms, and tasty fruit for years to come! For much more information on citrus, visit the Four Winds Growers website. <a href="https://www.fourwindsgrowers.com/index.php">https://www.fourwindsgrowers.com/index.php</a>
There is also an abundance of information on citrus on the UCANR website <a href="http://ucanr.edu/?search=ves">http://ucanr.edu/?search=ves</a> (search for citrus). And visit our earlier blog post on how to prepare your citrus for winter here: <a href="http://ucanr.edu/blogs/blogcore/postdetail.cfm?postnum=22979">http://ucanr.edu/blogs/blogcore/postdetail.cfm?postnum=22979</a> Don't forget to subscribe to our blog so that you receive an email notification when a new post goes up. If you have questions, contact us online, <a href="http://mbmg.ucanr.edu/Ask A Master Gardener/">http://mbmg.ucanr.edu/Ask A Master Gardener/</a>, by phone or in person to get answers to your gardening quandaries.

**NOTICE, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2021:** 

# GAS POWERED LEAF BLOWERS PROHIBITED ON RESIDENTIAL LOTS

HOURS OF OPERATION 8:00AM-5:00PM (ELECTRIC OR BATTERY ONLY)







## **EFECTIVO EL 1 DE ENERO 2021**

# SE PROHIBE EL USO DE LOS SOPLADORES DE HOJAS POR GAS EN LOS LOTES RESIDENCIALES

HORAS DE OPERACIÓN 8:00AM-5:00PM (SOLAMENTE ELÉCTRICO O BATERÍA)

#### **Monterey City Code:**

22-18.1: Prohibited use after January 1, 2021, no person shall use, allow, or authorize:

- 1. Any fuel powered leaf blower use within any residential Lot
- 2. Any leaf blower use before 8:00am or after 5:00pm

William W. Moritz, Coordinator moritz@monterey.org 831.646.3750 monterey.org/codecompliance

