



H O M E

Association of North Central San Mateo

HANCSM - Our Organization Welcomes Home Owners, Renters, Property and Business Owners

Spring 2015

www.HANCSM.wordpress.com

Presidents' Letter *Waiting for Superman*

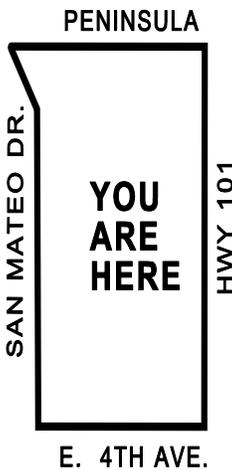
Have you ever heard of the movie documentary *Waiting for Superman*? It tells the story of a man who started Harlem Children's Zone in New York. He created one of the highest performing public schools in our country. This was done with and for the low income, ethnic community in a notoriously "rough" neighborhood. The name of the movie came from Geoffrey Canada's belief as a small boy that Superman was going to come and save his school and his neighborhood one day. His mother soon told him Superman was not real. Canada cried and decided, if the school was going to be saved, he had to be Superman; he had to save it himself. He grew up to do just that.

What strikes most people about this documentary is Canada's well-founded confidence that his charter school can make virtually **any first-grader** a high school graduate who could be accepted to almost any four year college. Therefore, success is not ruled out by poverty, uneducated parents, or crime. The school is not large enough to accept all of its applicants, so the selection of students is done by lottery. This is starting to sound like a fairy tale, isn't it? But I assure you it is real. See it on the web at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yFN0nf6Hqk0>.

Less than 10 years ago, College Park Elementary school in North Central was one that needed a Superman. It got one in the form of the Mandarin Immersion program and the GATE program. The improvement from only a few years ago, 2007, is nothing short of miraculous. Standardized test scores are way up and the reputation of the school is becoming the envy of the district. Unlike the old days, parents are anxious for their children to attend College Park Elementary.

There is one major difference from the above story about Superman, though. More than 80 percent of the students who benefit from the new College Park school live outside of North Central. North Central students are bussed to other neighborhoods instead.

Right now, the San Mateo Foster City School District is discussing moving the Mandarin Immersion Program and



the GATE program to another location. They are considering returning College Park to a traditional neighborhood school.

If the school district moves these highly successful programs, many feel the charter school and the neighborhood of North Central will be harmed. Others feel North Central students will benefit from a neighborhood school that services them as a priority. Still others favor a combination of charter and neighborhood school that will offer a high achieving environment for everybody. It will be up to us, those who live here, to voice our opinion on the subject.

As you might imagine, there is another element to this question, the element of social status and ethnicity. Many of our North Central students are low income, people of color. Historically, school districts in this country have not done well when they attempt to educate large numbers of low income people of color. I know this sounds harsh, but the evidence is enormously apparent in every major city in the United States.

In the upcoming weeks, there will be several public meetings discussing this topic from a variety of angles. Some of the meetings have already taken place but most are yet to come. **Check on the insert box in this newsletter for the dates and times of the meetings.**



Where do we go from here? We need a Superman. We need people like you to help the school district make this decision. It is not going to be easy but it is very, very important. The meetings might sound like they are focused on the size and location of buildings. They might spend time discussing bussing or walking to school. However, we need you to remind everyone that the real issue is **quality education**. Who gets it and who doesn't? Who provides it and who is held accountable? Our children need us to get this right. They need us to be their champion, their hero, their Superman.

*Jane Williams & Bertha Sanchez,
Co-Presidents*

2015 Next Steps Town Hall Meetings are open to all school, staff, parents and community members. Please choose the date and time that work best for you. No registration required:

- Mon-April 20, 6-8pm Bayside S.T.E.M. Academy GYM
2025 Kehoe Ave.
- Tuesday-April 21, 6-8pm College Park School MPR
715 Indian Ave.
- Wednesday-April 22, 6-8pm Foster City School MPR
461 Beach Park Blvd.

Public Dumping – Cameras Now Available

The City of San Mateo has purchased and installed 7 video cameras to help with the public dumping problem. We have picked the locations that are consistently hit the hardest. These cameras have been installed at the following locations:

- 1508 S. Claremont on the Railroad side of property
Across the street from 760 Studio Circle
- Across the street from 340 E. Santa Inez
1460 E. Poplar
- 753 N. Amphlett
- 721 N. Amphlett in the alley
- 35 N. Amphlett (soon to be installed)

In the first four months we have seen public dumping decrease in these areas. We have, however, seen an increase in public dumping in other areas.

Ron Kasper, Public Works

SMFC School District Parcel Taxes:

If you will be 65 by July 1, 2015, you are eligible to file for a parcel tax exemption with the San Mateo-Foster City School District. This year, the filing must be completed by June 12. The following website will take you to the San Mateo County Tax Collector's website. <http://www.sanmateocountytaxcollector.org/index.html>

Access the "Seniors" button at the top of the page; choose the San Mateo-Foster School District and access the "Senior Exemption" button, which will take you to the application and information pages. You may choose to print the forms or apply on-line. Alternatively, you may contact the District and request the forms. Their phone number is: (650) 312-7269.

El Cerrito Sewer Relief Line Project

The San Mateo Public Works Department is moving forward with the El Cerrito Sewer Relief Line Project, which will affect parts of Tilton Avenue and Grant Street in North Central. This project will replace and upsize aging pipes that were installed as far back as the 1940s. This important work will help reduce sanitary sewer overflows during heavy rain periods when the system is under the most stress.

Residents along the construction route will experience traffic impacts as contractors dig into the street to replace the sewer pipes. Residents should typically expect to experi-

ence construction impacts while the project is directly in front of their homes. This could last up to a week but may be longer depending on the location and pace of the contractor. To learn more about this project and to sign up for construction alerts, please visit www.cityofsanmateo.org/elcerrito

Kevin Buchanan, Public Works Analyst

San Mateo Public Library

Volunteer Opportunity (Literacy Tutors Wanted)

Project Read is looking for literacy tutor volunteers and will hold literacy training on April 25 and May 16 (10:30 am-4:00 pm). For information, please call 650-522-7848 or visit online at www.smplibrary.org

Día de los Niños, Día de los Libros (Day of the Children, Day of the Books), April 30

The Main Library will host a music program on April 30 at 4 pm featuring "Cascada de Flores", a music trio that will perform music from Latin America. April 30 is the "Day of the Child" and is celebrated throughout Latin America. The Library will distribute a free book to every child that attends the program. Admission is free.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Programs (May)

May 9, 2pm – Meet Vera Lam, author of *The Lonely American*

May 12, 6pm – "Jade: Stone of Heaven" a program about the Asian Art Museum's jade collection

May 16, 2pm – Toyonaka Friendship Festival; come and enjoy koto performances and other Japanese performing arts

May 23, 11am – Origami and Shuji Fun for kids (origami and calligraphy)

May 28, 2pm – Hear Naomi Shibata talk about the story of her mother, Grace, in *Bend with the Wind*.

May 31, 2pm – Young People's Concert

For the May 16 program, Ms. Masazuka Sato will play the Library's koto instrument which was given to the City of San Mateo by the City of Toyonaka as part of the Sister City relationship. Admission is free.

Ben Ocón, City Librarian

HANSCM Board

Jane Williams - Co-President: 342-6795
Bertha Sanchez - Co-President: 344-5021
Wesley Taoka—Secretary: 344-7987
Christine Alford - Bd Member: 685-7879
Joanne Bennett—Board Member: 340-9699
Mike Caggiano - Board Member: 342-8244
Dorothy Chow - Board Member: 343-3894
Enrique Diaz - Board Member: 347-7418
Emanuel Huff - Board Member: 342-0102
Joshua Hugg - Board Member: 579-7369
Karen Jensen - Board Member: 375-8191
Ben Toy - Board Member: (415) 370-8491
Dianne Whitaker - Bd Member: 343-4340
Tracey Kobayashi - Bd Member: 868-7246

www.HANSCM.wordpress.com
Email: HANSCM@gmail.com

California Water Service

On April 1, Governor Brown issued an executive order requiring a statewide mandatory reduction in potable, urban water use of 25% compared to 2013. The order requires state agencies to enact regulations to achieve this reduction; as soon as these regulations have been adopted, California Water Service will be able to provide more information and direction to our customers.

Until then, we encourage our customers to continue using water wisely. Your efforts to conserve helped reduce water use throughout our Bayshore District by 28% from 2004-2014, and we thank you for your diligence in saving water. Here are some tips to help you keep reducing your water use both inside and outside your home and save thousands of gallons of water per year:

Fix leaky faucets. Find and fix leaks as soon as possible to avoid wasting 10,000 gallons of water per year.

Install bathroom aerators. Install aerators on your sink and you can decrease your water flow and save up to 30-60 gallons per day.

Spend less time in the shower. A 10-minute shower can take 25 gallons of water or more. Also, consider installing a high-efficiency showerhead, which can save up to 7,300 gallons of water per year.

Install a high-efficiency toilet. Install a high-efficiency toilet



that uses 1.28 gallons per flush or less and save up to 6,000 gallons per year.

Change your watering schedule. Adjust your irrigation controller to avoid over-watering, and remember to turn off your sprinkler system when it's raining.

Redirect downspouts to capture water. Simply redirect downspouts outside your home to direct any rainwater to garden or plant areas.

Maintain, update, and fix your sprinkler system. Fix broken and misaligned sprinklers to avoid over-spraying and flooding gutters and streets. Also, replace standard sprinkler spray nozzles with high-efficiency models, and you can save 1,000 gallons per nozzle each year.

Use a broom instead of a hose. Use a broom instead of a garden hose to clean patios, walkways, and driveways, and save 50 gallons of water per use.

Replace grass with native plants. Transition from thirsty turf to low-water-use plants to save up to 10,000 gallons a year.

Take advantage of free conservation programs for Cal Water customers. We offer conservation kits at no charge, rebates, and programs to make the devices in your home more water-efficient.

Visit www.calwater.com/conservation for more information, or contact the Cal Water Bayshore Customer Center: 341 North Delaware St., San Mateo, CA 94401, (650) 558-7800.

By saving water together, we can help meet the Governor's mandate and ensure that we have enough water for you and for future generations.

Tony Carrasco, District Manager, CWS

Home Association of North Central San Mateo

JOIN NOW! As a member, you will receive a newsletter, attend informative meetings, and be represented at City and County meetings. You will also have the opportunity to meet your neighbors in a spirit of cooperation and shared interest. Please include your email address so we can keep you informed. Your email will not be shared with anyone and we use blind copy so others will not see your address.

Name: Mr. Ms. Mrs. _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ email: _____ Occupation/Interest: _____

Circle one: Homeowner - Renter - Business Property Owner - Associate Member (outside of North Central)

Do you want to be called prior to each meeting? YES NO

Basic Dues (\$10.00 /year/voting member or \$20.00/household; \$25/business) Dues: _____

Donation: _____

TOTAL: _____

Make check payable to **HANCSM**
Mail to: HANCSM, c/o King Center
725 Monte Diablo Ave., San Mateo, CA 94401



HOME

Association of North Central San Mateo
Martin Luther King Center
725 Monte Diablo Ave.
San Mateo, CA 94401

HANCSM - Our Organization Welcomes Home Owners, Renters, Property and Business Owners

PUBLIC MEETING

Thursday, April 30—6:15-8:30pm

King Center

Monte Diablo and Fremont

San Mateo City Services - Part Two

Guest Speakers:

David Culver, City Finance Director
Marcus Clarke - Report on Downtown
Sheila Canzian - Central Park Master Plan
Lt. Ryan Monaghan - Police Report

Light refreshments will be served
Please be Prompt

Soul Stroll for Health 2015

On Saturday, May 16, 2015 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, the African American Community Health Advisory Committee will be sponsoring its annual Soul Stroll at Coyote Point Park in San Mateo. There will be 1-, 3-, and 5-mile walks. Go to <http://www.aachac.org/index.php/soul-stroll-for-health-2015/> or contact Gloria Brown at 650-696-4378 for more information.

King Center Summer Programs and Events
Neighborhood Summer Fun (NSF)- Grades 1-5
King Café Program- Ages 1-18
MLK Ballers Basketball League- Grades 6-12

Stay up-to-date with what's happening in the City
Subscribe to *San Mateo City Insider* e-Newsletter & Blog. Do you want to be in the know about all that's happening at the City of San Mateo? To provide residents and the San Mateo community with current information about City projects and events, the San Mateo City Manager's Office has created *San Mateo City Insider*, a bi-weekly e-Newsletter and ongoing blog that will help you stay up-to-date with important information from City Hall.

San Mateo City Insider offers insight into important projects related to a variety of topics including Downtown San Mateo, development activity, and infrastructure improvements as well as the events and activities that are of general interest to the community. It's a great way to stay informed and we hope that you'll subscribe.

You can sign-up for one or both of these publications by visiting the City's website, www.cityofsanmateo.org. Simply follow the links from the home page and the next edition or article will automatically arrive to your inbox.

If you have questions or comments about *San Mateo City Insider*, please contact Rebecca Zito, San Mateo Communications and Marketing by email: rzito@cityofsanmateo.org.

Talent Spectacular, Saturday, July 25
Friday Night Fun Program-Teen Program

Please call (650) 522-7470 for information.

Angela Miller, Community Services Supervisor