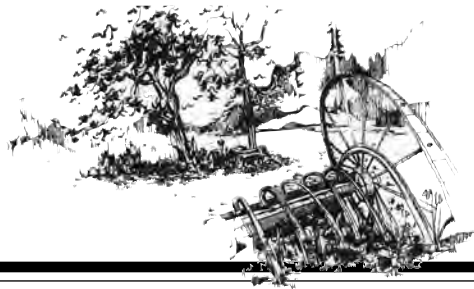


Annual Free Issue!



BARRON PARK ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E

John King, BPA President



Happy New Year Barron Park and Welcome to 2023! The BPA was very active last year in our neighborhood and also hosted a number of topical – and fun – events. We started with a well-attended March BPA Annual Meeting over Zoom with guest speaker, Palo Alto Mayor Pat Burt. On Memorial Day weekend, we had a delightful Mini May Fête in Bol Park with music, dancing, and snacks. In early October, along with other adjacent neighborhood groups, we co-hosted a Palo Alto Town Hall meeting, online and in-person at Juana Briones Elementary. October was chock-full in the 'hood: first, an ice cream social, then the Diwali celebration at Barron Park Elementary, finishing up with our much-loved new tradition, the Halloween Bray parade. December 18 brought our Holiday, Caroling and Treats gathering in the park.

Local accomplishments included preparing a position on the proposed Creekside Inn development to both express specific concerns about the project and our overall support for more housing in Palo Alto. We have also been actively monitoring any issues with the two creek-related diesel oil spills at the VA. We made monetary donations to the Barron Park Donkey Project; to programs for children at Buena Vista Mobile Home Park; and to the Karat School Project, which assists RV-dwelling students.

We thank nearby Copy Factory (copyfactory.com) for continuing to provide event posters at cost. We had a solid membership year, including both BP residents and businesses. Do check out (and patronize) the member businesses who've placed ads on the last page of this Newsletter, as well as in our other three issues. Let's look forward to a fun and exciting 2023 in Barron Park!

Please note the poster and banner on this page! You're reading the Winter membership recruitment issue, available free, both in print and online, to all residents of Barron Park. Understand that our BPA Newsletter is a quarterly: Subscribing households receive all four Newsletter issues – Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall – not to mention the satisfaction of supporting the projects and advocacy of your own neighborhood. Please

use the membership information in this issue to join or renew at: bpapaloalto.org/join-the-barron-park-association/

As always, you may reach me directly at johnwadeking@gmail.com



The Halloween Bray Parade, led by the donkeys, marches down Paradise Drive. More photos on page 4. Photo by Rory Runser.

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Safety and Community Corner

By Kellie Stafford



Welcome to the new Safety and Community Corner of our BPA Newsletter! Here, you'll get little tidbits to help you navigate through the day-in/day-out of living in Barron Park and Palo Alto. So here you go ...

Walking, driving, riding. If you're new to the area or have been here for a while but don't know what to do without sidewalks, it's quite simple: Walk Left, Ride Right.

If there is no sidewalk, and you have to walk on the road, always walk on the left facing traffic. **"California Vehicle Code Section 21956 requires pedestrians to walk against oncoming traffic when there are no sidewalks."** Bicycles, ride on the right with traffic.



Joe Stafford walks on the left with Shelby.
Photo by Kellie Stafford.

When walking at night, wear light-colored clothes, use a flashlight, and/or wear reflective material, so people and vehicles can see you.

Neighborhood fruit and veggie growers!

Did you know that our local food closets will take the veggies and fruit you grow but don't want? Ecumenical Hunger Program at 2411 Pulgas Ave., East Palo Alto (ehpcare.org) will distribute it, as will the South Palo Alto Food Closet at 670 E. Meadow Dr., Palo Alto; donations accepted Monday-Friday, 1:30-4:00 p.m. (southpaloaltofoodcloset.com). Or, put a box of fruit out in front of your home with a "Free" sign on it and feed your neighbors.



[istockphoto.com/illustrations/apple-tree](https://www.istockphoto.com/illustrations/apple-tree)

Please don't pick the fruit from trees in other people's yards. Ask first. Chances are they'll gladly share.

Dog Poop!!!! If your dog can't clean up its own poop, it is your responsibility. It's not just the law, it comes with fines.

Palo Alto Municipal Code 6.20.045 – Dog defecation to be removed by owners.

(a) *It is unlawful for any person owning or having control or custody of any dog to permit the animal to defecate upon the public property of this city or upon the private property of another unless the person immediately removes the feces and properly disposes of it.*

(b) *It is unlawful for any person to walk a dog on public property of this city or upon the private property of another without carrying, at all times, a suitable container or other suitable instrument for the removal and disposal of dog feces.*

Why clean up after your dog?

- Pet waste is bad for the environment
- Pet waste is bad for our health and animals' health

- It's how other dogs (and people) can contract hookworms and other intestinal parasites. If we don't pick up our dog's poop, the bacteria and the parasites it contains – including giardia, E. coli, and salmonella – can transfer to you or to your dog. *So gross!*

How angry do you get when you step in dog poop? *Yuck!*



[depositphotos.com/stock-photos/dog-stopsign.html](https://www.depositphotos.com/stock-photos/dog-stopsign.html)

Robbers! We live in a beautiful town, but so do thieves. 'Tis the season for theft, theft, and more theft. Here are some tips:

- Out of sight, out of mind. Keep your cars (and homes) locked. If you don't want items stolen, keep them out of sight.
- It's dark out there at night! Walking at night alone or in a small group, keep your keys in your hand. Before leaving a store or your home, keep your keys in your hand. Frankly, they can be used to defend yourself from a person who may try to attack.
- Be aware of your surroundings; walk strong and proud; keep your head up; and make eye contact with those walking by. Say hello to strangers. Believe me, it will help keep you safe and you may make someone's day who may have just needed to see a happy face.

O.K. So this was a wee bit more than a "corner" of the newsletter. Promise, it will be shorter in the future, but it is our first article, and there's lots to cover. Please email me at kkstafford@gmail.com if you have other topics related to safety and community that you would like me to cover.

Happy New Year, everyone! Stay safe and stay kind.

~Kellie



[stock.adobe.com](https://www.stock.adobe.com)

Barron Park Celebrates Diwali!

By Jaya Pandey



Dancer Varsha Sankar performs at Diwali, October 23, 2022. Photos by Prerna Vaidya.

On Sunday, October 23, with a great turnout, Barron Park celebrated Diwali as a community event. This was my first time helping organize and actually attending a public event since the start of the Covid era...

Many volunteers in colorful dress enthusi-

astically participated in setting up the afternoon program and the assortment of delicious snacks before they actively joined in. Children enjoyed the festivities and got right into the organized kids' activities – artwork and dancing. Many proficient classical artists performed during the afternoon. The huge amount of help offered by local residents is cherished and sincerely appreciated.

I heard many attendees say, "We will plan it even better next year." For the organizers, it is indeed positive feedback that neighbors want to get together and enjoy our community events!



(l. to r.) Meenakshi Ranja, Meenu Gupta, Jaya Pandey, and Taruna Arora

ARE YOU AN ARTIST OR WRITER?

Do you enjoy the creative work in the BPA Newsletter? Would you like to see your art, photography, crafts, writing, published (or unpublished) book, etc., featured in a future issue? Please send your idea with a draft Artist's Statement and reproducible samples or a description of your work to Myrna Rochester at:

mbrbpa@sonic.net

BPA EMAIL LISTS

The Barron Park Association offers three Email Lists for any resident to post: *bpa-news*, *bpa-misc*, and *bpa-issues*. They are hosted on Google

Groups. To join a list, go to:

bpapaloalto.org/bpa-email-lists/

The link provides information about each list and an easy way to subscribe to one or more of them.

BARRON PARK ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER WINTER 2022-23

Barron Park Association

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Second Annual Halloween Bray Parade, Sunday, October 30, 2022!

Led by Jenny Kiratli (the witch in the middle left photo with Perry), and Michael Holland (with Buddy, directly above), several hundred neighbors joined the parade through Barron Park. Raggedy Ann and Raggedy Andy (Jena Rauti and Gary Breitbard) provided musical accompaniment. Photos by John King, Winter Dellenbach, and Leon Rochester.

Expanding Our Native Garden: Converting Turf Grass to Native Landscaping

By Linda Elder and Melanie Cross

The Barron Park Native Habitat Committee has worked closely with the City of Palo Alto Community Services Department to develop the Bol Park Native Garden. A year ago, we began talking with them about converting a small, sloped area of turf grass adjacent to the existing garden to native landscape. The sprinkler system was ineffective in this section, and it was brown most of the time anyway. When the City stopped watering that entire strip of turf grass in June, it seemed like a good time to “claim” the small section for the Native Garden.

In August, we got the go-ahead to convert this section. In September, we got to work, laying out new garden beds and a new pathway connecting to the existing garden. We were also able to expand some of the adjacent beds to accommodate plant growth. In early October, the City brought in heavy machinery to regrade alongside the bike path to accommodate a thick mulch layer. Two weeks later, with the help of Grassroots Ecology (grassrootsecology.org) which provided a crew of volunteers, we sheet mulched the new area. Sheet mulching is a method of layering 3-4 inches of arborist mulch over a layer of heavy cardboard placed directly on the soil. This suppresses weeds and turf regrowth. Cardboard – sourced from bike boxes from local bike shops – works well, after any staples and plastic tape are removed. Over time the sheet mulch will decompose, enriching the soil. We will cut holes in the cardboard for the new native plants to be installed in December/January.

The new plantings will include three Western Redbuds (*Cercis occidentalis*) which will buffer the recently added bench from street view. Western Redbuds are small multi-trunked trees (or large shrubs) in the pea family, with bright pink to magenta blooms on bare branches in spring and circular-shaped leaves turning yellow in fall before they drop. During the summer, leaf cutter bees use this foliage for nest construction.

The new areas sloping down to the Bol Park shared pathway will be landscaped with shorter shrubs and grasses to keep the maturing garden at the top of the slope visible.



Volunteers “sheet mulched” a former turf area to convert the space to native plants. First they laid down cardboard, then covered the cardboard with 3-4 inches of mulch. Photos by Shelley Pneh.

Continued on bottom of page 8

Young Residents Lead the Way in Climate Action: Profiles of Local Leaders

By Hilary Glann

According to a recent AP-NORC poll, 64% of Americans say they are “extremely” or “very” worried about the effects of climate change. Not surprisingly, climate change and environmental action are top concerns for millennials and Gen Z. Here are four short profiles of young local leaders deeply committed to ensuring that our planet remains habitable.

Students Fight Hunger and Climate Change

Oscar Anderson and Kai Mirchandani noticed an increasing amount of food waste at Palo Alto High School: They saw trash bins full of edible food, while across the street, clients at the Opportunity Center suffered from hunger and food insecurity. Since the pandemic, the food-insecurity rate has more than doubled nationally; 33% of our community faces hunger. In April 2022, Oscar and Kai started a program called People Plates Planet to reduce food waste and provide nutritious food for our community’s most vulnerable members.

The carbon footprint of U.S. food waste is greater than that of the airline industry; more than a third of all food grown for human consumption in the U.S. never makes it to someone’s stomach.

The team operates every school day at Paly. As of December 22, 2022, they have donated more than 2000 pounds of food to the Opportunity Center. Daily statistics are captured on the team’s website:

peopleplatesplanet.org/home

“Seeing the counter go up every day and the happy faces at the Opportunity Center is a constant reminder that we are making a difference, in both serving the community and fighting climate change,” said Oscar.

“We educate Paly students about the significance of food waste. We also help them realize that they have the power to make a difference by simply donating their unwanted food or bringing any non-perishable food items from home for those suffering from hunger,” added Kai.

Oscar and Kai encourage other local campuses and school districts to launch their own



Oscar Anderson, Kai Mirchandani, Angelina Garcia (LifeMoves Program Coordinator), and Ria Mirchandani fight hunger and carbon emissions locally. Courtesy of Paly PPP team.

People Plates Planet chapter. To get started, please view their toolkit:

peopleplatesplanet.org/toolkit



Food donation bin. Courtesy of PPP team.

Transforming the Power Grid

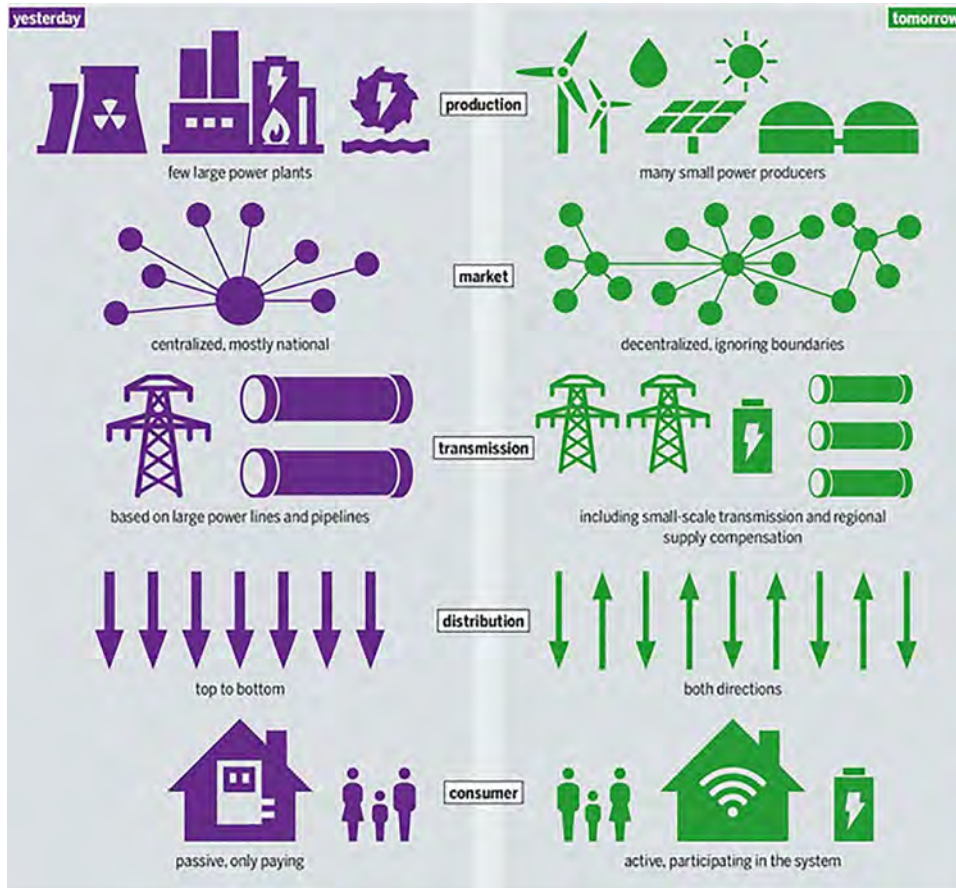
Dana Murphy is a second-year graduate student in Electrical Engineering at Stanford University. Originally from Massachusetts, Dana grew up with a great appreciation for all four seasons and the different ecosystems around her. Although Dana has only lived in California for two years, she quickly fell in love with the state’s raw and diverse beauty. Dana has always felt an innate duty to live with the planet and all its inhabitants in mind and is excited to help her broader community transition to a greener world.

Dana is most passionate about the shift to renewable energy and a smart power grid,



Stanford grad student and climate activist Dana Murphy. Courtesy of Dana Murphy.

which will allow us to power our lives in a cleaner, more affordable, and safer way. “The future electric grid is radically different from the fossil fuel-powered, centralized, single direction, passive grid we depend on today. The future grid is active, decentralized, multi-directional, powered by renewables, with many small producers and many dynamic loads,” Dana explained.



The electric grid of the future will not only be powered by renewable energy, but it will also be smarter, decentralized, and dynamic. Source: Green European Foundation. gef.eu/publication/energy-atlas-2018/

Dana is also excited about advancements in environmental and climate-sensing technologies, which help identify greenhouse gas leaks, monitor ocean health, and aid in resource efficiency in the agriculture industry, among many other things. Upon graduating, Dana plans to pursue a career that will contribute to a more sustainable future.

Organizing Youth to Increase Their Impact

After moving to California in 2017, Julia Zeitlin started seeing the effects of the climate emergency up close. Forced to stay indoors due to wildfire smoke, Julia watched images of houses burning and cars melting, and knew she needed to take action. Julia continues to learn all she can about the climate and works on environmental justice activism with fellow student organizers.

Realizing youth needed to act with urgency and make an even larger impact, Julia co-founded the Palo Alto Student Climate Coalition (PASCC) with two Gunn students, Katie Rueff and Saman de Silva. PASCC educates youth across the city on the history of climate policy in Palo Alto and equips

them with tools to advocate for climate policies. For example, PASCC has engaged Palo Alto City Council members in productive discussions to advocate for specific policies to support residents making the switch from fossil fuels to electricity in their homes, such as the new turnkey electric water heater



Julia Zeitlin is a junior at Castilleja School, president of the Palo Alto Youth Council, and co-founder of the Palo Alto Student Climate Coalition (PASCC). Courtesy of Julia Zeitlin.

replacement program.

"The recent approval of climate-forward, progressive policies in Palo Alto, alongside the passage of the Federal funding for residents to switch to electric in the Inflation Reduction Act gives me hope for a more sustainable future," said Julia.



Angelina Rosh is a junior at Gunn High School. Courtesy of Angelina Rosh.

Making Connections Across City Boundaries

Angelina Rosh is a more recent voice in youth climate advocacy. She joined the Palo Alto Student Climate Coalition (PASCC) this past summer. Angelina has helped PASCC form powerful connections with East Palo Alto through joint service events and programs. Angelina has also moderated several climate events, including the PASCC/350 Palo Alto City Council Candidate Forum in October 2022, and the Peninsula Climate Collaboration Summit in November, sponsored by the City of Palo Alto and Acterra, with significant organizing and staffing provided by PASCC.

ART IN MY YARD



We know that Barron Park has many examples of outdoor or "yard" art, either made by you or other artists. We'd love to see photos of them in upcoming newsletter.

Please send reproducible photos to Myrna Rochester at: mbrbpa@sonic.net. Tell us something about the art, but you don't need to include your street address.

So Why Do We Hang on to Ivy?

By Jeralyn Moran



North African Ivy (*Hedera canariensis*) is well established in Barron Park and beyond. Photo conserve-energy-future.com/types-of-ivy.php

We see ivy everywhere in our neighborhood and beyond – the hardy evergreen vine or ground creeper with familiar broad leaves.

A native plant in our area? No. Beneficial to local native wildlife? Not really, unless you're a Norwegian rat or other small rodent needing brief cover. Planted here ornamentally by people? Yes, unfortunately. In this country, colonists who migrated to the Americas from Europe as early as the 1700s planted it for its dependability as an attractive ground cover.

Ivy makes up a group of 12 to 15 species of plant in the genus *Hedera*, in the *Araliaceae* family. These plants are native to many parts of Europe, northwestern Africa and central-south Asia (including Japan and Taiwan). Being adaptable, they don't need specific soil conditions, and can tolerate shade and even full sun quite well.

North African Ivy (*Hedera canariensis*) is well established in Barron Park and beyond, including along both Barron and Matadero creeks. With its typical dark green leathery leaves with whitish veins, it grows quickly with adequate moisture – even in direct sun. Very dry or salty conditions are its enemies.

English Ivy (*Hedera helix*) contains a glycoside (hederin) in its leaves and berries. This may cause a toxic reaction if eaten by humans or other creatures, including birds. Symptoms include gastrointestinal upset, diarrhea, hyperactivity, breathing difficulty, coma, fever, polydipsia (excessive thirst), dilated pupils,

muscular weakness, and lack of coordination. The same species (English Ivy) is also known to carry a bacterial leaf scorch (*Xylella fastidiosa*), which is a harmful disease for many plants – this includes our native oaks, as well as ornamental maples and elms.

Most ivy species attach themselves to wood (fences, the bark of trees, etc.), bricks, and other textured surfaces with many small root-like

extensions that exude a sticky “glue” to grab on tightly. These “roots” can persistently push into cracks in wood grain or cracks in walls, letting moisture in, which increases the chance of rot/substrate degradation of the structure. Ivy can overwhelm a tree over time, blocking sunlight and therefore weakening the tree's ability to generate energy for itself (photosynthesis). The long-term effect? Slow tree death.

In summary: Ivy is an aggressive invader of many ecosystems. Despite its promotion as an “easy-to-grow” perennial vine or ground cover, please do NOT buy or plant any of



English Ivy (*Hedera helix*), also found locally, contains a glycoside (hederin) in its leaves and berries that may cause a toxic reaction if eaten by humans or other creatures. Photo: plantindex.com/english-ivy/

these species if you have a choice. Try to eradicate them from your yards and gardens. It can be done! Replace those areas with native California plantings.

Sources:

invasive.org/alien/pubs/midatlantic/hehe.htm

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hedera_helix

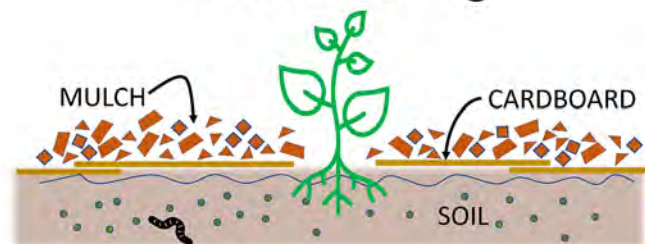
leafyplace.com/types-of-ivy/

conserve-energy-future.com/types-of-ivy.php

See the BPA Newsletter archive (bpapaloalto.org/bpa-newsletter/) for articles on our local efforts to eradicate ivy: Winter 2019-20 (p. 6) and Spring 2020 (pp. 3, 9).

Native Garden, continued from Page 5

Sheet Mulching

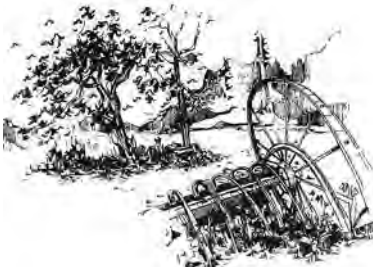


Graphic by Linda Elder.

Plants will include fragrant Coyote Mint (*Monardella villosa*), fall-blooming California Fuchsia (*Epilobium canum*), and California Oatgrass (*Danthonia californica*) among many others.

For information about volunteering with the BPA Native Habitat Committee, please

contact Rich Elder at: rich.e.elder@gmail.com
Monetary donations can be made through the “Bol Park Fund” at: friendsofpaparks.org/donations2 or by mail or phone: Friends of the Palo Alto Parks (FOPAP), Bol Park Fund, 425 Grant Ave., Suite 27, Palo Alto, CA 94306; 650-327-7323.



2023 Barron Park Association Membership

bpapaloalto.org

Thanks to all our current BPA members!

2023 Membership Renewals begin January 1, 2023.

You may join or renew your membership online with PayPal or a credit card at:
bpapaloalto.org/join-the-barron-park-association/

To pay by personal check, mail this membership form and your check to:
BPA Treasurer, 724 Barron Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94306

If you renewed after October 1, 2022, your membership is valid through 2023.

To check your membership status please email: barronpark.paloalto@gmail.com

Name(s):	Primary email address:
Address:	Secondary email address:
<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter: I prefer the online edition rather than a print copy. <input type="checkbox"/> Email lists: I want to join the BPA email lists.	Phone:

☐ **Fellow** \$100

☐ **Patron** \$50

☐ Additional Contribution: \$ _____

Total Contribution: \$ _____

☐ **Member** \$30

☐ **Senior** \$15

☐ **Business** \$50

If sending a personal check, pay to: Barron Park Association.

Note: Membership and contributions are not tax deductible.

BPA Neighborhood Committees: Please check your volunteer interests

- ☐ **Newsletter:** Contribute photos, articles, creative works; interview Barron Park neighbors/businesses for articles; proofread.
- ☐ **May Fête:** Help with the annual Spring neighborhood event in Bol Park.
- ☐ **Social/Cultural Events:** Organize volunteers, coordinate neighborhood events, assist with planning.
- ☐ **Welcoming:** Greet new residents with an informational packet to introduce them to our caring community.
- ☐ **Parks and Creeks:** Work with City and neighborhood to review park and creek issues, maintenance and improvement projects.
- ☐ **Seniors:** Join us for lunch and other activities, or serve as a volunteer to help other Barron Park Seniors.
- ☐ **Neighborhood Safety and Emergency Preparedness:** Work

with the Emergency Preparedness Chairperson to prepare the neighborhood to handle major emergencies.

- ☐ **Traffic and Streets:** Work with City and neighborhood to review traffic issues, present plans for traffic calming and other safety-related changes within Barron Park and on adjacent streets.
- ☐ **Environmental Issues:** Work on a specific neighborhood environmental issue or identify, create and implement sustainable environmental solutions in our neighborhood.
- ☐ **Zoning and Land Use:** Be informed about urban design studies or multi-family, commercial, or mixed-use developments proposed in and near our neighborhood; attend meetings and provide input to project sponsors.
- ☐ **School Liaison:** Coordinate BPA affairs and news with neighborhood school issues and activities.

The BPA encourages all residents and businesses in Barron Park/Green Acres 2 to join our volunteer neighborhood association. Our BPA events are happening—watch out for announcements! Your membership dues support them, as well as the BPA quarterly Newsletters and community programs that include: the Bol Park Native Habitat Garden, Welcoming New Residents, Senior Activities, the Donkey Project, Buena Vista Homework Club and Summer Camp, the Karat School Project, and Emergency Preparedness efforts.

Dairy Farms of Barron Park

By Douglas L. Graham, Barron Park Historian

Dairy Cows in Barron Park?

There was a time – from 1920 to 1948 – when dairy cows grazed a large area west of Whitsell Street between Matadero Creek and Barron Avenue. The property was first known as the Strain Ranch, then as the Strain Dairy, and finally as La Encina Dairy. During this 28-year period the dairy delivered raw milk to customers in Barron Park and South Palo Alto. Its products were well accepted in both areas. But the dairy became a major nuisance as the neighborhood was developed around it. Public pressure brought about its closure followed by sale and development of the land. Barron Park also had a second dairy, located on Stanford land adjacent to Roble Ridge and Matadero Hill, run by “a Portuguese farmer.” That dairy existed for 37 years, from 1920 until about 1957.

Historical Background

In 1856, Sarah Wallis bought Elisha Crosby’s 250-acre Mayfield Farm (now the “core” of Barron Park). Shortly thereafter she built a gorgeous two-story “Gingerbread Victorian” mansion, pictured in an 1876 lithograph. (See Illustration A, facing page.) The drawing also shows most of the farm property, including an extensive orchard fronting on San Francisco Road (now El Camino Real) north of the mansion with a sizable single-story farmhouse, a barn, and several smaller structures. Mayfield Farm included the property that became the dairy farm 65 years later.

Carefully examine the background pictured in the right half of the lithograph. Note the fences the artist drew along San Francisco Road and along the north edge of the landscaped “park” around the mansion. Curiously, there is another fence along the south edge of the orchard, extending far to the west, with enough space between it and the “park” fence to run a road. Eventually this became Barron Avenue. Wallis may have had a property split and sale in mind. But after she lost her fortune in the 1873-74 financial crash, she sold the entire undivided property to Edward Barron, and in 1876 moved to a town house in Mayfield. The split finally occurred in 1919, long after Barron had died, when his widow sold the 350-acre Barron Estate to Driscoll and Reiter. The new owners

subdivided the estate, mostly for strawberry farms or small orchards.

The Strain Ranch

The 41-acre “Strain Ranch,” as it was known for almost 20 years, was made up of about 9 acres of orchard residential property and approximately 31 acres of pastureland. (Look at Illustration B, a map of the Strain and neighboring properties on page 12.) Strain’s pastureland, dotted by huge live oak trees, may have been considered unsuitable for strawberry growing by Driscoll and Reiter. In any case, in about 1920 they were willing to sell it to Everett R. Strain as pasture for dairy cattle. The map shows two land parcels fronting El Camino Real in Barron Park immediately south of Matadero Avenue: first, a 5-acre plot, then a 3.88-acre plot. Ownership of these two plots was not indicated on the 1928 map. The 5-acre plot is apparently the location of Strain’s house; the old Wallis orchard was in the 3.88-acre plot. Both plots extended west to the vicinity of the future Whitsell Street, and to their west, was the 31-acre pasture plot. Strain likely bought all the parcels at the same time.

The Strain House

Everett Strain lived in a large, two-story house, part of which may have dated back to the days of Sarah Wallis in the late 1870s. The 1876 lithograph of the Wallis property shows a one-story house, widely separated from Sarah’s mansion. It was probably located just north of present-day 3557 Whitsell, where the “Strain House” was reported by the Friends (later owners of the dairy) as being located. Strain apparently added a second floor or entirely rebuilt the house. The Friends described the Strain House as a “beautiful” two-story house. The 1876 lithograph shows a substantial house with a driveway from San Francisco Road and a turning circle at the entrance. The Friends described the area from the house to El Camino Real as “park-like,” but did not mention the orchard, nor does it appear in the 1941 aerial photograph. So, presumably the trees in the 1876 lithograph had been removed due to their age. Strain continued to live in the big house after he sold the dairy business to the Friends. He finally sold his house and the property

around it in the early 1930s and lived elsewhere in Palo Alto until his death in 1955.

A Neighboring Mansion

Turning to the map (Illustration B), if you look south (toward the bottom) along El Camino Real from the Strain properties, you see the intersection with Barron Avenue, and then a 38-acre plot containing the Barron Mansion with its driveways and landscaped park, purchased by Colonel Sebastian C. Jones in 1925 for his new California Military Academy. Although the large Victorian was generally known from the 1880s until today as the “Barron Mansion,” it had been built by Sarah Wallis, as explained above.

The Strain Dairy Becomes La Encina Dairy

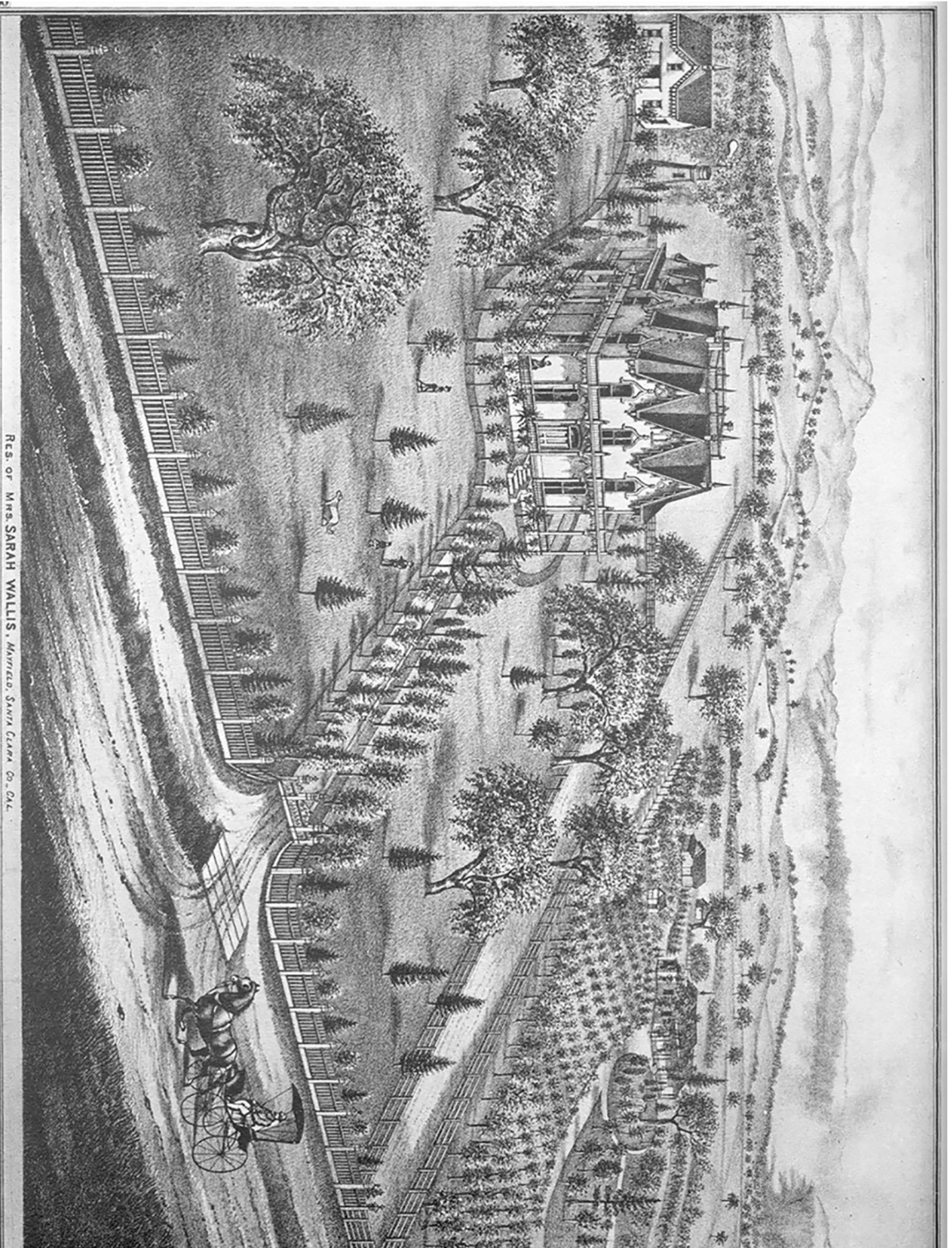
According to John and Bertha Friends’ oral history, confirmed from newspaper clipping files, Everett R. Strain started the Strain Dairy in 1920. The business was run by Strain from 1920 to 1933, then by a Mr. Sharp from 1933 to 1937. In 1937 John and Bertha Freund purchased the 31-acre plot, including the pasture, dairy, barn, and other outbuildings. They renamed the business La Encina Dairy and ran it until it closed in 1948. They also bought the house at 612 Kendall Avenue (on land that was part of the 31-acre plot) from Strain in 1939. The Friends were still living on Kendall in 1977, when they provided their oral history of the dairy and the neighborhood in the 1930s and ‘40s.

Location of the Dairy

The dairy barn was at the end of a lane running west from Whitsell Street. This lane was originally named *La Encina* [sic], the spelling used on the 1926 county map. The Spanish word *encina* means live oak, and there were many large, old live oaks there. (Return to Illustration B, map of the Strain and neighboring properties.)

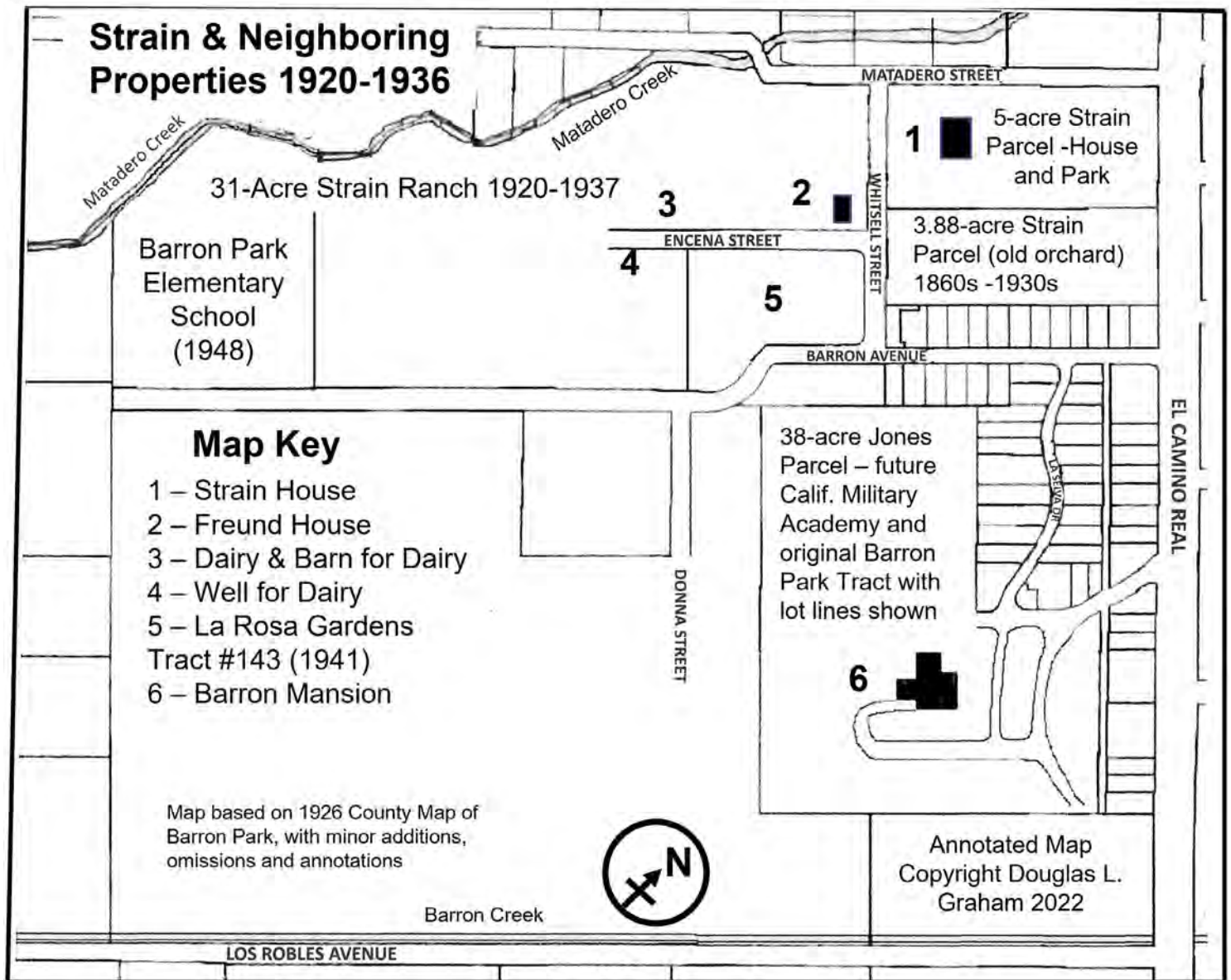
Street Name Changes

From 1938 to 1940 the dairy barn lane appears on county maps named either *La Encina* [sic] or *La Rosa*. On the 1942 map it was changed to La Rosa, which later became the 600 block of Kendall Avenue. The lane ended where Kendall now bends around into La Donna (at 698 Kendall). The La Rosa name was used on the 1949 city map (the



RES. OF MRS. SARAH WALLIS, MAYFIELD, SANTA CLARA CO., CAL.

A - Lithograph of Sarah Wallis's mansion on Mayfield Farm. From *Historical Atlas of Santa Clara County*, 1876 (1973 reprint), p. 90.



B – Locator Map, Strain and Neighboring Properties 1920-1936.

first one to show University Gardens), when it was applied to the new 700 block of Kendall. The 1951 city map was the first to show the Kendall name all the way from El Camino Real to its west end at Josina Avenue. It was named for developer/lawyer Kendall Bowers, a major Barron Park political personage throughout the 1950s, involved in the Fire Protection District Board elections and in at least one annexation movement.

No Time for Anything but Cows and Milk

When John and Bertha Freund took over La Encina Dairy in 1937 (by this time the spelling had been corrected), they had 25 cows, all milked by hand (probably twice a day). They sold raw (unpasteurized) milk, making deliveries throughout Barron Park and South Palo Alto. It was a life organized around the cows'

needs and the urgency of delivering raw milk that would spoil in less than two days. Deliveries were made daily, Sundays included. (See Illustration C, John Freund, with baby, next to his milk delivery truck.)

The Freunds complained that they were tied so tightly to the cows they had little chance to go anywhere for recreation. They did mention family outings to "the Frenchman's Tower" on Old Page Mill Road (about a mile and a half from their house). They didn't have much time for neighborhood get-togethers, either. John was busy working all the time. During the Second World War, "people" asked him for help (he meant neighborhood women) because "the other men were gone." The Freunds were acquainted with David Packard when he lived at 740 Matadero Avenue

(1939-49) and was active in Barron Park community affairs.

Barron Park in the 1930s and '40s

By 1937 when the Freunds moved in, Barron Park had become a sizable neighborhood, with 138 houses recorded in the County records. But the Freunds remembered that it still had much open land and looked like a rural area. They said that the streets were "not too good." Many were still unpaved, which meant that there were stretches of gumbo adobe mud and maybe even standing water during wet winter spells. Mail delivery was good, and they had newspapers, telephone, electricity, and domestic water. Shopping meant walking to the Stop and Shop on El Camino Real at California Avenue in Mayfield, or making do with what was available at the



C – John Freund, with baby, and his delivery truck in 1938. From Freund family snapshot collection.

little store where the Driftwood Market and Deli is now.

Paul's Grocery

By 1940 the Freunds could also have shopped at Paul's Grocery at 3824 El Camino Real (about 200 feet north of Military Way). Paul's was very popular among Barron Park residents, according to Joseph Weiler's oral history and other oral sources. The business was owned and operated by Paul Parmiani for about 24 years. Palo Alto city directories record the start of this business in Menlo Park in 1932. By 1936, Parmiani had relocated to Barron Park, at 3858½ El Camino Real. By 1940 Paul's had either moved, or possibly the lot had been renumbered to 3824 El Camino Real. The business was quite successful in serving Barron Park local grocery needs until at least 1956. In 1957, the All-American Market opened at 3990 El Camino Real. It was a new, big, modernized supermarket with the size and breadth of service expected in the late 1950s. By this time, Paul's was no longer listed in the directory. As late as the 1980s, some Barron Parkers were still mourning Paul's closure. The All-American Market (now the site of Immersion Spa) lasted until 1998. Now many of us still mourn the All-American, mostly for its convenience – and its excellent sweet corn!

La Rosa Gardens Tract

On July 14, 1941, La Rosa Gardens tract (county tract number 143) was laid out in the block bounded by Whitsell Street, Barron Avenue, La Donna Street, and Kendall

Avenue. Since this meant that residences would be built on the very doorstep of the dairy barn, you wouldn't have to be a prophet to see trouble with the neighbors looming ahead. (See No. 5 on Illustration B, map of the Strain and neighboring properties.)

According to the County records for La Rosa Gardens, six of the houses on Barron were built in 1940 (before the tract was even filed – go figure!). One more was built on Barron in 1941. Then six houses were built on Kendall in 1941. After December 7, 1941, when the Pearl Harbor attack brought the U.S. into World War Two, almost no housing was built anywhere for civilians until 1946. However, in our neighborhood, four houses were built on La Donna in 1944. How do you suppose the builder got around the strict wartime controls and obtained materials to build them? There may be an interesting backstory there. This construction completed the tract, except for two empty lots on Whitsell Street that were not developed until 1949.

University Gardens

Joseph Eichler laid out "University Gardens" (county tract number 533) on the "Bol Tract" lands in May 1948. It was one of the earliest Eichler tracts in Northern California and included experimental innovations that later became part of the classic Eichler architecture. To serve the northern and western parts of the new tract, Eichler laid out Josina Avenue that curved around in the west end of the tract and connected with Barron Avenue. To complete the southern part of the tract, he laid out a western extension of

La Rosa Avenue running from La Donna to Josina. University Gardens included quite a lot of land next to La Encina Dairy. Although there is no available evidence of communication between Eichler and the dairy owners, it seems likely that Eichler joined the other developers and neighbors in requesting closure of the dairy as a nuisance. The dairy closed just before building began on the first lots on Josina Avenue in 1949. Most of the lots in the tract were built up by 1950.

Barron Park Elementary School

In 1937 when the Freunds settled here, Barron Park children attended Mayfield School, then located on the west side of El Camino Real slightly north of Page Mill Road. Students took a bus along El Camino Real. After the war, David Packard was able to get the Palo Alto Unified School District to buy land adjacent to the west boundary of the La Encina Dairy property, and in 1948 to build a school on Barron Avenue. By that year there were 394 houses recorded by the County in our neighborhood. Barron Park Elementary School was nearly "full up" when it opened. By comparison, in 2002 there were 1,436 houses in Barron Park and two elementary schools (Barron Park and Juana Briones), both much larger in attendance and floor area.

Dairy Safety – A Medical-Political Movement in the 1920s and '30s

Largely forgotten today are the early twentieth century national, state, and local medical-political efforts to improve the purity of fresh milk sold to consumers. Not only was frequent contamination by molds, yeasts, and bacteria involved in rapid souring and spoilage, there was also a serious health risk of contamination by the tuberculosis bacterium, *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. In the 1920s and '30s, tuberculosis was still a major disease with a high death rate. This problem continued until the development of modern antibiotics, beginning with penicillin in the 1940s. Palo Alto, with numerous milk-related tuberculosis cases, was no exception to the national experience.

Outrage over milk contaminated by tuberculosis bacteria led to public demand for government regulation of the dairies at the state and local levels. The California state government assigned regulatory powers to the University of California at Berkeley. The university developed a simple system to rate each dairy's operations and cleanliness, bacterial control, and average butter-fat content (an important measure of nutritional value).

Local Control of Palo Alto's Dairies in 1929

By City ordinance, beginning on July 1, 1929, all milk sold in Palo Alto was required to come from healthy, "non-reacting tuberculin-tested cows." By 1938, there were 14 dairies in Palo Alto, most of them "one-man" businesses with varying success in operation and sanitation. However, by the early 1930s, they all met the minimum State and City requirements, and most exceeded the national average ratings. The leaders were Home Dairy, owned and operated by Manuel D. Piers (it was known later as Piers Dairy), and Stanford Dairy,

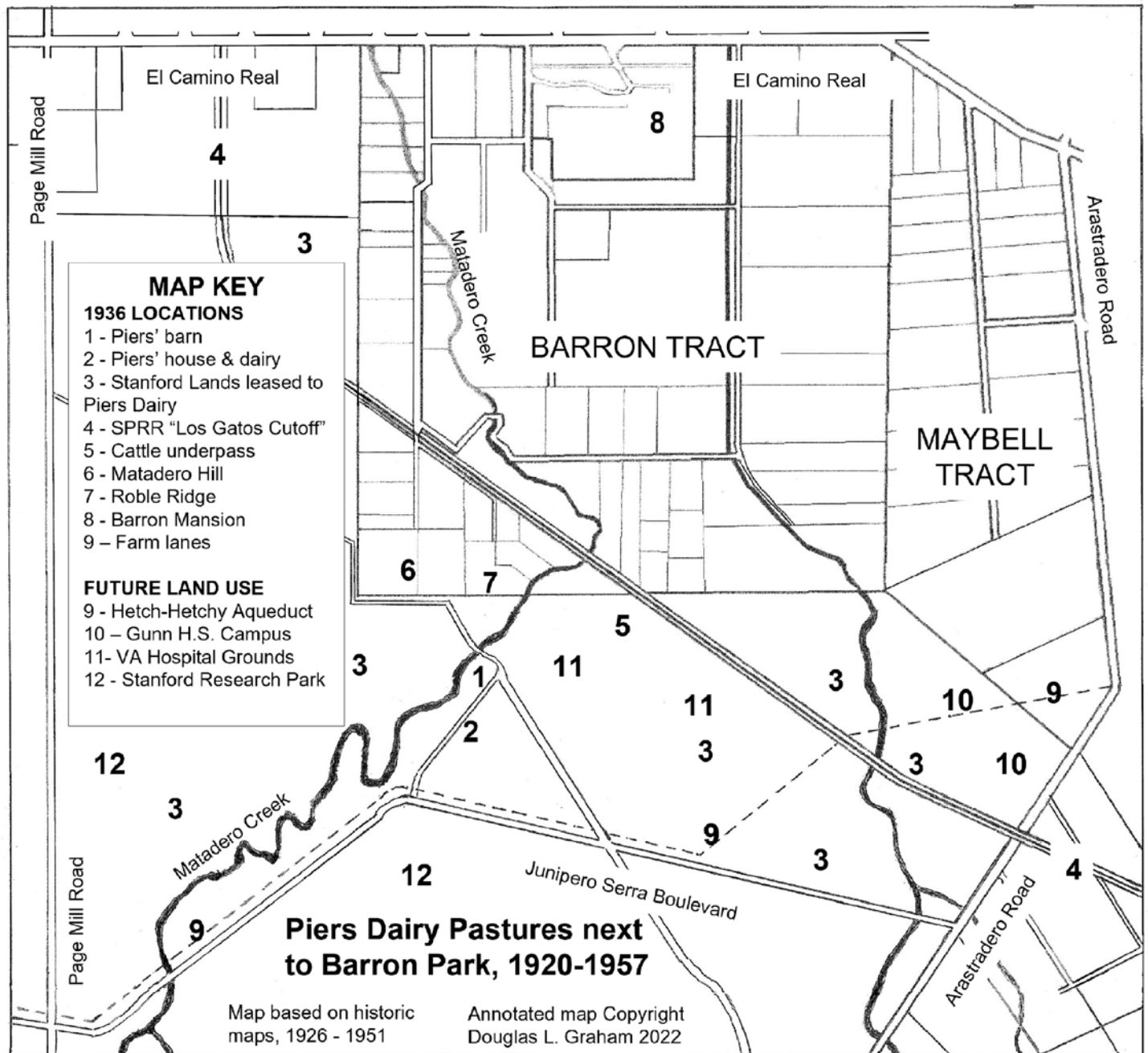
1938 Ratings for Three Selected Palo Alto Dairies

Dairy Name & Owner	Dairy Score	Bacteria Rating	Average Butterfat %
Home Dairy (Piers)	96.28	95.06	3.8
Stanford Dairy (Wilbur)	94.24	93.99	4.1
La Encina Dairy (Freund)	91.96	92.91	4.0

operated by W.C. Wilbur. In Barron Park, La Encina Dairy had just been taken over by John Freund. As an example, the 1938 state ratings for these three dairies are shown in the table above.

"The Portuguese Farmer"

According to Josina Bol's oral history, from the early twentieth century until the early 1960s, Stanford lands adjacent to our neighbor-



D - Locator Map for the Piers Dairy, 1920-1957: house, dairy, barn, and cattle pastures adjacent to Barron Park residences on the southwest and northwest. Based on 1926 county map of Barron Park, with omissions, additions, and annotations; Stanford lands portion hand-drawn.

hood were leased to a dairy farmer who had immigrated from Portugal. His farm was on land now occupied by Gunn High School, the VA Palo Alto Health Care System, and the Stanford Research Park. Again, according to Josina Bol, the farmer leased the land directly from Stanford University. Newspaper clippings in the Palo Alto Historical Association's (PAHA) archive show that Mrs. Bol was basically correct on both points.

Identified as Manuel I. Piers

Mrs. Bol's "Portuguese farmer" was none other than Manuel I. Piers, who immigrated here in 1912 from the Azores (today an autonomous region of Portugal). By the time the Bol family arrived here in 1936, Piers had already assembled his business portfolio of dairy properties in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties. They included the Home Dairy, started in 1914 on Willow Road in "North Palo Alto" (now the Menalto neighborhood of Menlo Park between San Francisquito Creek and Willow Road); the Piers Dairy on Louis Road in South Palo Alto in 1937; and the Stanford-leased lands adjacent to Barron Park, started in 1927.

The Piers Dairy and Ranch

According to 1940s and '50s residents of the Matadero Hill-Roble Ridge area in Barron Park, the Piers cattle roamed over the land now occupied by Gunn H.S., the VA, and the small extension of the Stanford Research Park that lies between Gunn and Junipero Serra Boulevard. Newspaper clippings in the PAHA archive indicate that the lease also included all the land between Barron Park and Page Mill Road, a major part of the Stanford Research Park today. (See Illustration D, locator map for the Piers Dairy, on prior page.)

In her oral history, Josina Bol talked about the view of the Stanford cow pastures southeast of their house. (See Illustration E, view from Roble Ridge.) The "Portuguese farmer" lived there, Josina said, "He rented the land from Stanford. The Bol boys had permission to ride there, but only during the dry season when the ground was hard and there was no grazing. We got our raw milk from them, which was the only milk [our] youngest son Gerald would drink."

Piers's leased farm on the Stanford property had a sizable barn with two or more outbuildings. Josina Bol's snapshot collection included a photograph of Piers's barn. He also had a big house near Matadero Creek upstream (west) of the barn. The house later burned

down, probably in 1956. The land was transferred (most likely in 1957) to the federal government for construction of the Veterans Administration Hospital (now the VA Palo Alto Health Care System), which opened in 1960. (See Illustration F, Piers's barn near Roble Ridge.)

In the 1970s, Piers expanded to the north and west, acquiring Stanford leases, including the hillside between the Stanford "Dish" hill (where the radio telescope was later built) and I-280. They also included Felt Lake in the higher foothills. The end of Piers Ranch did not come until 2005, when Stanford ended the leasing program to better preserve the natural environment and threatened species of native plants and wildlife. New homes were found for 150 riding horses and 320 head of beef cattle.

A Cattle Underpass

The Southern Pacific Railroad's "Los Gatos Cutoff" was built in 1907 across the western corner of the Barron Tract and the Stanford lands southeast of Roble Ridge. The right of way cut across the cattle pastures. To enable



E – View from Roble Ridge of cattle pastures to the southwest, in about 1936 (where Gunn H.S. and the VA are today). From Bol family snapshot collection.

the cattle to reach the southern part of their pasture, an underpass was built a short distance south of the point where the railroad crossed the Barron Estate boundary into the Stanford cattle pastures. It has been reported that there was another underpass built closer to Alta Mesa Cemetery.

A Curious "Ruined Structure"

In 1964, after closure of most of the Los Gatos Cutoff, the railroad removed the tracks in the Barron Park and Los Altos stretches. From then until 1977, the underpass remained as a curious concrete ruin on the right of way south of Matadero Creek. With the tracks removed, the remaining structure, open at each end and to the sky, puzzled most people who walked or biked the old railroad right of way through Strawberry Hill from Matadero Creek to Barron Creek. The gap made by the removal of the tracks made necessary an



F – Piers's Barn on land leased from Stanford University (where the VA is now) near Matadero Creek, in about 1936. From Bol family snapshot collection.

awkward detour which could only be navigated by stumbling down from the 10- or 12-foot-high raised right of way (and back up again beyond the gap). This constituted a major obstacle for pedestrians and bicyclists – not to mention parents with strollers and VA hospital patients in wheelchairs! (See

Illustration G, Cattle underpass.)

The Regional Bike Path, 1977-1993

When the City installed the Regional Bike Path (now called the "Bol Park Shared-Use Path") as "Phase II" of the Bol Park construction project in 1977, the project called for restoring the original grades wherever possible. This meant removing the raised right of way leading up to Strawberry Hill and filling in the deep cut made in the hill during the railroad construction 70 years earlier. In the process the old cattle underpass structure was buried. The bike path became enormously popular and was heavily used by walkers, runners, joggers, and parents with strollers as well as bikers of all ages and speeds.

The Barron Diversion and Matadero Bypass

However, after the damaging flood of 1983, the Santa Clara Valley Water District (now Valley Water) began planning a flood control project which would leave Barron and Matadero Creeks in their semi-natural state but still protect the neighborhood from repeat flooding during floods up to and including a "100-year flood." It required building large underground culverts along the old railroad right of way. The district removed the regional

bike path in 1993, built the project, and then reconstructed a new bike path with similar grades. As an incidental requirement, the buried cattle underpass structure was removed to permit construction of the new, 8-foot diameter concrete culvert pipe under the restored pathway. Today's shared-use path is, if anything, more popular than ever. Thus, the last remaining remnant of the railroad through Barron Park and of the Piers Dairy operations was removed.

In 2022, the only remaining structure from the period of dairy operations in Barron Park is the house at 612 Kendall Avenue where the Freunds lived while operating La Encina Dairy.

Conclusion

I hope you have enjoyed this in-depth look at the 37-year history of dairy operations in and adjacent to our neighborhood. As always, please contact me with any additions, corrections, comments, or questions you might have. I can be reached by snail mail at 984 Ilima Way, Palo Alto 94306, by email at dgrahampaca@gmail.com, or by landline phone at 650-493-0689. Sorry, I don't have a cell phone so cannot receive text messages.



G - Cattle underpass beneath the railroad lines across Stanford property where the VA and Gunn are now. Photographer unrecorded. Date unrecorded, sometime between 1964 and 1977.

BARRON PARK ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS WINTER 2022-23

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BPA Board Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of most months at 7:15 p.m. Neighbors are welcome.

For Board Meeting Schedule write to:
johnwadeking@gmail.com

bpapaloalto.org

What's up at Buena Vista?

By Winter Dellenbach



Some of the homes at Buena Vista Mobile Home Park remodeled by the Santa Clara County Housing Authority. Below, a friendly BV resident. Photos by Winter Dellenbach.

Neighbors keep asking me about Buena Vista Mobile Home Park (BV): How are folks doing there? When are improvements going to happen? Why are mobile homes missing up front? Here's some of what BV residents tell me:

Buena Vista's owner, Santa Clara County Housing Authority, will soon complete its plan for improvements at BV, but the work isn't to start anytime soon. Apparently, most BV residents will live in new mobile homes after the infrastructure upgrade is done: electrical, gas, sewer, roadways, curbs, and landscaping, including trees. I can hardly wait for the trees – there were many in the past. Our BPA Historian, Doug Graham, has photos of huge oaks shading travelers and their trailers at that site. Trees will eventually cool this asphalt heat island again, while adding their beauty. There has also been talk of adding a community room, along with a good, new play area for the kids.

The long wooden building known as "the Studios" is no longer occupied and will eventually be demolished. Its residents have been relocated on-site to new one-, two-, and three-bedroom mobile homes (sheathed in wood).

Residents living nearest the gas station at El Camino were similarly relocated on-site. Their mobile homes, which most folks owned, were demolished, since the former owners of BV retained ownership of the land under them when BV was sold. There is now a chain link fence enclosing this area – it actually looks pretty sad... Its future use is not known.

There are a few other empty spaces here and there within BV where vacant homes were removed, as a few households chose to leave. But mostly the folks who struggled so hard to save their homes with the support of the City, the County, and people near here and at Stanford, remain, keeping their community together, with kids in our schools.

BV residents have by and large recovered from the pandemic and are mostly back at work. So many had lost jobs, and then faced sudden food scarcity. It was awful, as you know. The BV Homework Club is going strong again with after-school study sessions and tutoring, having held a week-long Summer Camp in 2022. Some older

BV students are completing their last years in college. (Thank goodness we saved BV so they could stay and graduate from local schools.)

Guided by Maria Martinez and Karen Ratzlaff, many of you helped out during the hard times at Buena Vista, even though some of the rest of us were also struggling. Barron Park is a good place to live, not only for creeks and donkeys, parks and kids, cats and dogs, but because big hearts live here.

Spring BPA Newsletter Deadline

Wednesday, March 1, 2023

To All Our Past and Future Contributors:

Please submit articles (Microsoft Word is best) for the Spring 2023 issue of the Newsletter, with photos/illustrations separate from text, by **Wednesday, March 1, 2023**, to Myrna Rochester at: mbrbpa@sonic.net

Make sure your BPA membership is current. If your idea is a query (for an article, story, report, update, interview, announcement, review, anecdote, or artist's page...), please contact us in advance. The Spring issue will be available in early April 2023, online to requesting members and print copies by U.S. mail.

Announcements should be for events scheduled **after April 15, 2023**. Please keep this in mind, especially for neighborhood and school activities. Thanks!



View this Newsletter in Full Color!

Read this issue in full color and with live web links at bpapaloalto.org/bpa-newsletter/ as soon as it's posted. While you're there, check out our Archive of past Newsletters.

Progress on the Barron Park Centennial History Book!

By Douglas L. Graham, Barron Park Historian

Our Barron Park Centennial History book project is progressing, although more slowly than we expected. We are planning on more than 100 pages, with about 95 short chapters. The book will cover the entire 100 years (1921-2022) of Barron Park's existence as a real neighborhood. As an introduction, several chapters will describe the peoples living on these lands prior to 1921 (that is, indigenous peoples and also early historical landowners from Jose Peña through Edward Barron and his wife Maria).

We are working from a detailed outline, annotated with sources for each chapter. Some chapters are rewrites of previous newsletter stories, but many will be on topics I have not previously dealt with. I am soliciting chapter drafts from residents who have special knowledge of more recent events and topics of the past 50 years (especially former BPA Board Presidents). So far, we have produced text for about 30 draft chapters. We still need to decide on illustrations before proceeding to final editing.

The book will have about 100 illustrations. Many will be historical photos never previously published. Numerous historical maps will be included, and new ones are being created. I recently had professional scans made of 40 historical prints collected by Ann Knopf

in 1977, when she took oral histories from seven residents who lived here in the 1920s, '30s, and '40s. Most of these photos will be in the book, along with dozens of others from early residents. Some of the photographs were taken at the Barron Estate as early as the 1890s. Photos will show the first Barron Park donkeys, the Military Academy of the 1920s, the Bol family and their farm from 1936 to 1996, and the creation of Bol Park (1973-77). Many excerpts from historical aerial photos of Barron Park, especially views from 1941, 1948, and 1957, will illustrate the development of the neighborhood.

Our publishing team includes Bo Crane and me, the two main authors; Brian George, a widely experienced image specialist; Karen Michael, a professional editor; and from the BPA Newsletter team, Hilary Glann, our very capable layout specialist. In addition, Steve Staiger, longtime Palo Alto City Historian, stands by to ensure that our history is as accurate as possible.

The team needs help, and I welcome any Barron Park resident who might be interested. Our greatest need is for a map-oriented person with Photoshop or equivalent skills to help me with the maps.

Please consider donating to our Barron Park Centennial Book Project. Many pre-publica-

tion out-of-pocket costs are accumulating. To support this project, send a personal check to me at the street address below, and your donation will be recorded. We plan to take advance publication orders in 2023, with a discounted price, and your donation made now or previously will be subtracted from the price at that time.

Douglas L. Graham, Barron Park Historian
984 Ilima Way
Palo Alto, CA 94306
dgrahampaca@gmail.com
Landline: 650-493-0689

Note: This article has been submitted as a report to the BPA Board.

Barron Park Senior Connections

Barron Park Seniors! Family and Friends of BP Seniors!

Join together for scheduled events, lunches, and gatherings. Reach out socially and for mutual interests and assistance. Join the Senior Connections mailing list and write the coordinator Pooja Punn with your ideas, requests, and questions at:

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BPA EMAILS AND WEB LINKS WINTER 2022-23

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- **BPA Newsletter Archive:** bpapaloalto.org/bpa-newsletter/
- **BPA Membership (Join/Renew):** bpapaloalto.org/join-the-barron-park-association/
- **Membership Questions:** Lisa Berkowitz Landers at: barronpark.paloalto@gmail.com
- **BPA Email Lists:** Join at: bpapaloalto.org/bpa-email-lists/ or write to: listmanager@bpapaloalto.org
- **BPA President:** John W. King at: johnwadeking@gmail.com
- **BPA Treasurer:** John W. King at: johnwadeking@gmail.com
- **BPA Newsletter Editor:** Myrna Rochester at: mbrbpa@sonic.net
- **BPA Business Liaison:** Paul Yang at: pabloyang@yahoo.com
- **Support for Buena Vista Neighbors:** Karen Ratzlaff at: karen_ratzlaff@hotmail.com Buena Vista Partners at: buenavistapartners.org
- **Welcoming Committee Chair:** Gwen Luce at: gluce@cbnocal.com
- **Emergency Services Volunteer Program:** Maurice Green at: mauryg3@comcast.net
- **Barron Park Historian:** Douglas L. Graham at: dgrahampaca@gmail.com
- **Safety and Community Corner:** Kellie Stafford at: kkstafford@gmail.com
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- **BPA Webmaster:** Maurice Green at: bpawebman@bpapaloalto.org
- **Barron Park Donkeys:** To volunteer, donate, or purchase merchandise, go to: barronparkdonkeys.org or contact Jenny Kiratli at: barronparkdonkeys@gmail.com
- **Bol Park Native Habitat:** Donate to the Native Garden through the "Bol Park Fund" at: friendsofpaparks.org/donations2 Or by mail or phone: Friends of the Palo Alto Parks (FOPAP), Bol Park Fund, 425 Grant Ave., Suite 27, Palo Alto, CA 94306; 650-327-7323.

Don't Miss Out: Be in the Know with the BPA Email Lists

By Richard Elder



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The BPA Email Lists are maintained by BPA volunteers as a community resource for Barron Parkers to exchange local news and information. Unlike other commercial neighborhood lists, there are no annoying ads. You don't need to be a BPA member to join the lists. They are open to all. However, the vast majority of subscribers are Barron Park or Green Acres 2 residents, and they are a great resource for local content. There are three BPA Email Lists; each has a different purpose and is managed differently. They are:

- bpa-news@googlegroups.com
- bpa-misc@googlegroups.com
- bpa-issues@googlegroups.com

The *bpa-news* list is meant to disseminate announcements about events and alerts of interest to our neighborhood. The majority of the items sent out come from the BPA Board, but anyone can submit a message that is of general interest to the neighborhood. It is a moderated list, meaning that any message sent is first approved by the moderator. *Bpa-misc* is for communicating with your neighbors. Examples include: You have a personal item to give away or sell (no businesses), you want to borrow a ladder, or need a recommendation for a roofer, and you think your neighbors could help. *Bpa-misc* is the place to ask. As you know, this is a friendly and resourceful neighborhood. The *bpa-misc* list is a way to communicate with about 450 of your neighbors.

If you want to make your opinions known or just want to know what your neighbors think about the issues facing Barron Park, *bpa-issues* is for you. It is meant for discussion of Barron Park-related issues and can become

very active when controversial topics arise. Because participants know they are talking to their neighbors, our list tends to be more civil than your usual online forum, and we monitor it to make sure it stays that way.

It is easy to subscribe to our BPA lists. When you join or renew your BPA membership and check the "Email Lists" box, you will receive an invitation to each of the lists. Or you may go to the BPA home page at bpapaloalto.org and click on "BPA Lists > BPA Email Lists." There are simple forms on that page to subscribe, along with other information about how to use the lists which I encourage you to read. You can also subscribe to the lists, manage your subscriptions, and search the archive at groups.google.com

Another advantage of the BPA Email Lists is that if you ever have a problem or question, you can reach us, your neighbors who manage the lists, by emailing: listmanager@bpapaloalto.org

CALLING LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS!

Do you have a business in Barron Park? Are you a business owner living in Barron Park?

A Barron Park Association Basic Business Membership (\$50/year) gives you one free ad in the Spring, Summer, or Fall edition of the BPA Newsletter. You may also place a full-length "Spotlight" article about you and your business during your first year as a member. Plus, you'll be listed on the home page of the BPA Website.

At another level, **Business Sponsors** (\$350/year) may place four ads per year in the Newsletter.

For more information, contact our BPA Business Liaison, Paul Yang at:
pabloyang@yahoo.com



Musicians, singers, the donkeys, lots of dogs, and children of all ages gathered in Bol Park on December 18 for holiday cheer, songs, and hot beverages. Photo by John King.

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650-327-4521
3866 El Camino Real, Palo Alto, CA 94306
greatamericanframing.com/

Lisa Berkowitz Optometry



Mention ad for 10% exam discount*
*Not combined with insurance

lisaberkowitz.com
650-618-4220

New Location!
2506 Ash, 1 block south of Cal. Ave.