



## MULFORD GARDENEER

Presented by the Mulford Gardens Improvement Association (M.G.I.A.)

VOLUME XXXXIV No. 2 February 2011

M.G.I.A. CLUBHOUSE

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Message from MGIA Board:

# *The Gardeneer has GONE GREEN!*

Come see our new website:

[www.Mulfordgardens.org](http://www.Mulfordgardens.org)

We now can deliver your Gardeneer  
directly to your e-mail box each month.

**E-mail us at: [mgia@live.com](mailto:mgia@live.com) - Give us your e-mail address;  
join our Blog; send us your news; share your ideas for the  
neighborhood; check out pictures of our clubhouse which is  
available for rent for gatherings.**

Hello Everyone ~~

**NOTICE** is hereby given that a **PUBLIC HEARING** will be held before the City Council of the City of San Leandro in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 835 East 14th Street, San Leandro, California, on **Monday, March 7, 2011, at 7:00 p.m.**, to review the City's Proposed **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) FY 2011-2012 Draft Annual Action Plan**, to direct staff to publish the Draft FY 2011-2012 Annual Action Plan for a 30-day public comment period, and to set a public hearing for April 18, 2011 to consider approval of the Draft FY 2011-2012 Annual Action Plan.

## THEN AND NOW – A NEIGHBORHOOD WORKING TOGETHER

**The** early 1940's in Mulford Gardens were years dominated by the turmoil of Pearl Harbor and the realization that America was going to war. The fateful day of the bombings of Pearl Harbor were etched by the sight of waves of planes flying west over the quiet landscape of farms and families. People looked up in awe, and apprehension at the presence of the aerial activity slicing through the sky. What did it mean and how was life going to move forward from this ground shaking and shocking event.

**Due** to Mulford Gardens' proximity to the inner bay, there were deep concerns from a military and civil perspective that the shoreline and communities along its perimeter would be targets of submarine activity by foreign invaders. Within a short time, the end of 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, running to the beach, became an Army outpost site, blockading access to the area and providing perimeter protection through vigilant observation of any unusual activities in the once peaceful waters of the bay. It is said that submarine(s) did actually enter the area over the early days of the war, and have been recorded.

**Against** this backdrop, residents of Mulford Gardens, those not drafted into the armed forces, joined the war effort to meet government requirements to ensure protective security measures for areas located close to any shoreline. A volunteer-staffed firehouse had been added to the area by this time, and its shrill siren became central to alerting residents of any emergency situations. Additionally, a corps of Block Wardens was formed. Two or three volunteers from each main street in the Gardens were trained, then provided with an emergency medical kit, a helmet, whistle, flashlight and a Red Cross medical handbook. They were instructed to perform periodic checks of their streets to ensure that residents turned off all lights in their homes at the sound of the siren, and to patrol for any unusual activity. In case of actual military invasive action, they would be what we would now call "first responders" to emergency situations in their immediate area. The residents that performed this duty were proud to be part of the effort.

**Life** knitted more closely in the community, people worked together to join programs benefiting the soldiers who had left home from all over America, in any way possible. Letters, packages, canned food drives, collecting metals to make tanks and jeeps. Gasoline became a precious commodity only available through stamp allocation. Food rationing took place to ensure that the military personnel received adequate nutritional foods needed to support and sustain their efforts. Books of food stamps were issued allowing families to purchase limited amounts of critically listed foods such as red meat. Out of this grew the Victory Garden and the promotion of a self-sustaining way of life including growing your own garden and canning. Families embraced this idea even more so than in the past. Shelves of canned fruits, vegetables and meats became a staple resource to free up more commercially grown foods for the war effort. Meetings were held to assess what other things could be done support "our boys."

**Once** again, as in the very early days of farms and families helping one another in addressing local issues, the community pulled together in mutual support of each other and the larger war effort. Many families displayed the gold star emblem in their front windows, hoping their sons and husbands would return and be healthy and whole. The support of the community got many families through difficult times. It was the glue that is so needed in the current times that we live in.

**NOW** A NEIGHBORHOOD WORKING TOGETHER

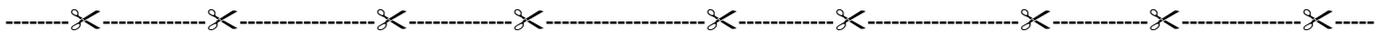
**MGIA** can still serve as a voice and the “glue” for families and individuals who live in our small community. We welcome you to join us and bring your voice and suggestions for improving a sustainable knitted community that we can all be proud of. More voices fan out to more problems solved!

**Among** current issues that come before our small community as well as having an effect on the larger City residents are the changes planned for our beloved Marina area. Cities have many times looked for ways to enhance waterfront areas with structures that encourage commercial and/or retail opportunities for economic growth. In the process, many natural elements can change. Our Marina area, with its open spaces, green areas and limitless views of the bay are a prize among cities that surround us. It fosters wildlife and offers a space that appeals to young and old, families and individuals to spend time close to a natural setting and enjoying the benefits that accompany such a peaceful yet invigorating open space.

**The** proposed plans for the Marina will ultimately remove the possibilities of regular boating opportunities, replacing the docking area with smaller symbolic uses allowing for canoe or kayak usage and a possible eco-habitat. The open views we now enjoy will be filled with proposed office structures; the open parking area will entertain a convention center. Condominium construction will fill the area that now lies between a portion of the 9 hole golf course and the street frontage. Two new restaurants are proposed; one established slightly off-shore into the bay itself. The City has put the future of this prized space in the hands of developers who are recommending a build-out proposal they hope will bring money into the City. The City, in turn, states it can no longer find funding to dredge the channel to keep boat owners and the space dedicated to boat slips available. The City indicates the upkeep for the current environment is too costly to maintain and the Marina must pay for itself through ultimate development.

**Thus**, we as well as other San Leandro residents outside the immediate area adjacent to the Marina Park, have to recognize that the forces of change may alter what is termed the “Jewel of the City.” The ultimate decision can still be found in the voices who want to express an opinion on these changes and be part of a final outcome. Visit [www.SavetheMarina.com](http://www.SavetheMarina.com) and put your voice forward just as the Block Wardens put themselves out there during times of change, and let our Council members hear what you think.

Respectfully submitted by: Rae Vasconcellos, MGIA Board Member



Clip and mail in with your \$3.00 annual membership dues. (Please make check payable to M.G.I.A.)

Mail to: Mrs. Janet Porrill, Treasurer, 1966 Arctic St., San Leandro CA. 94577. (510-352-6258)  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Homeowner \_\_\_\_\_ Renter \_\_\_\_\_

Your membership dues are tax deductible. Donations to the M.G.I.A. Scholarship Fund are also appreciated.

**MGIA Board**

Chuck Porrill	President
Earl Vasconcellos	Vice President
Rae Vasconcellos	Treasurer
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**M.G.I.A. General Meeting:** February 22, 2011  
Last Tuesday of each Month **Door Prize Drawing!**

**Advertising information:** Call Janet Porrill  
510-352-6258

**LOCAL CHURCHES IN SAN LEANDRO**  
**Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church**  
2500 Bermuda Ave., 510-483-731

**The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints**  
13901 Bancroft Ave., 510-357-9192

**Life Change Baptist Church**  
13067 Aurora Drive., 925-755-8710

**Faith United Methodist Church**  
788 Lewelling Blvd., 510-357-5484

**PUBLIC MEETINGS**

**San Leandro City Council:**  
1<sup>ST</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup> Mondays/each month  
City Council Chambers, City Hall, 835 E. 14<sup>th</sup> St



**Mayor Stephen Cassidy**  
Michael Gregory, Dist. 1 Ursula Reed, Dist. 2  
Diana Souza, Dist. 3 Joyce Starosciak, Dist. 4  
Pauline Russo Cutter, Dist. 5 Jim Prola, Dist. 6

**Board of Zoning (BZA)** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays / each month  
City Council Chambers, City Hall

**San Leandro School Board:**  
1st & 3rd Tuesday 7:00PM  
City Council Chambers, City Hall

**Brody's Cranberry Pumpkin Muffins**

- 1 ½ cups whole-wheat flour
- 1 ½ cups all-purpose enriched flour
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 ½ teaspoons cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ¼ teaspoon allspice
- ½ teaspoon salt (optional)
- ½ cup canola oil
- 2 ½ cups canned pumpkin puree
- 2 eggs, lightly beaten
- 2 cups fresh cranberries, halved.

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1. Heat oven to 350 degrees
2. In a large bowl, combine the flours, sugar, cinnamon, baking powder, baking soda, allspice and salt (if using) and mix well.
3. Add the oil, pumpkin and eggs and stir until just combined. Stir in the cranberries and spoon the batter into greased muffin cups.
4. Place the pans in the hot oven and bake for 40 minutes, or until a tester inserted into the center of the muffins comes out clean.

Yield: 24 muffins

This recipe is drawn from "A Simple Map to the Land of Wholesome", Personal Health written by Jane E. Brody, New York Times



**MGIA Club House Rentals**  
**Bo Johansen 510-206-4249**

Are you looking for a quaint, clean place for your Bridge/Card Club, Garden Club, Exercise group or Bunko Group Meetings? Our Club House is available for daily rentals as well as weekend/evenings. Call Bo Johansen for information on rentals: 510-206-4249.

**Share your news,** ideas, recipes, comments, weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, parties, awards, special events and we will make every effort to print it. Email to: [mgia@live.com](mailto:mgia@live.com) or mail to MGIA, P O. Box 4235, San Leandro CA 94579 or call Jean Morris (510-495-4480) with your news!