

## NEWSLETTER

September 29, 2023 • VOL 69



# OTNA

OLD TOWN NEIGHBORHOOD  
ASSOCIATION • MONTEREY



### EVENTS COMING UP

SATURDAY \* OCTOBER 14 \* 10:30-12:00 AM

BOCCE BY THE PLAZA

WEDNESDAY \* OCTOBER 18 \* 7-8:30 PM

OTNA MEETING-P.K. DIFFENBAUGH, SPEAKER MIIS, 499 PIERCE ST

WEDNESDAY \* NOVEMBER 1 \* 6-8 PM

MEMBER APPRECIATION PARTY AT THE PERRY HOUSE

### City Information

Abandoned Vehicles 646.3973

Code Compliance 646.3750

Parking Office 646.3953

Police non-emergency 646.3830

Fire non-emergency 646.3900

<http://monterey.org>

### Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

<http://montereycert.org/welcome/>

### Neighborhood and Community Improvement Program (NCIP)

[http://monterey.org/Residents/  
Neighborhoods/Neighborhood-and-  
Community-Improvement-Program](http://monterey.org/Residents/Neighborhoods/Neighborhood-and-Community-Improvement-Program)

### RESERVATIONS START FOR EVENING AT THE PERRY HOUSE

Old Town's premier social event of the year is our member appreciation Evening at the Perry House, set for Wednesday, November 1st from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

This dazzling party features wonderful food and wine generously provided by Classic Catering.

*More on Next Page* ➡

### NEW MURAL PROJECT FOR MIIS

At our August OTNA meeting, Kaitlin Emmons provided residents with a drawing of a 14x40 foot mural proposed for the north side of the McCone Building at 499 Pierce, where Old Town holds its meetings.

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*We look forward to  
working together to make  
2023 the best Old Town  
Neighborhood year ever.*

*We can't do it  
without you!*

**President** Gari Soulé

**Vice President** Corey Brunson

**Treasurer** Mary Grove

**Secretary** Nancy Soulé

**CERT** Thor Rasmussen

**Social Events** Phyllis Bussey & Cathy Collum

**NCIP** April Harrison & Susan Ricketson

**Underground Utilities Committee** Suzie Grimes

**Newsletter Editor** Liliana Potigian

**Webmaster** Max Troyer



# OTNA

OLD TOWN NEIGHBORHOOD  
ASSOCIATION • MONTEREY

## RESERVATIONS START FOR EVENING AT THE PERRY HOUSE

The Perry House is a beautiful historic Monterey home with lovely views of the Bay and city lights. Our party last year was a huge success, and we expect this year to be just as fun. This adults-only event is offered at no cost to current members of Old Town Neighborhood Association. If availability allows, non-member guests may participate for the cost of \$5.00 per person. Our membership appreciation party is the perfect kick-off for the holiday season and the members of the Board hope to see you there. We will start accepting reservations on October 1.



*Please send your reservation request to Phyllis Bussey at [philbussey2@gmail.com](mailto:philbussey2@gmail.com). We will need volunteers throughout the evening to check in guests; if you would like to help with a 30-40 minute shift, please send an email to Phyllis Bussey. If you haven't already renewed your membership, please go to the following website <https://oldtownmonterey.org/membership>, or use the form at the bottom of the newsletter.*



We will be there from 10:30 – Noon for a fun-filled morning of bocce and friendly conversation. Stroll down to Custom House Plaza with your morning coffee – OTNA will provide snacks, soft drinks and water. ALL ARE WELCOME – NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED! In July, we held our annual picnic in Veteran's Park. Guests enjoyed lively conversation with neighbors under sunny skies, while partaking of a fine assortment of finger snacks and soft drinks brought by guests and OTNA. In addition, Hans Jannich of Monterey Underground spoke about the need to get city involvement in a master plan for undergrounding, and the costs involved.

## OLD TOWN PLAYS BOCCÉ!

In April, Old Town enthusiastic residents enjoyed a spring morning Bocce game. Repeating this popular event, we know there are few things better than a fall morning by Monterey Bay. Please join us at the bocce courts at Custom House Plaza on Saturday, October 14 for what has become one of the neighborhood's most enjoyable events.



**Old Town Neighborhood Association**  
**¡Bocce!**

**Come Join us**  
**Saturday, October 14, 2023**  
**10:30 am - Noon**  
**Bocce Courts**  
**Custom House Plaza**

No experience necessary, all playing levels welcome  
Snacks, cold drinks and equipment provided by OTNA



**OTNA**

OLD TOWN NEIGHBORHOOD  
ASSOCIATION - MONTEREY

Questions? Email [oldtownneighborhood@gmail.com](mailto:oldtownneighborhood@gmail.com)

## ***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***

It has been a busy year for Old Town Neighborhood Association. It is gratifying to see many residents attend public events and meetings and get involved in the issues important to Old Town. We welcomed our new City Council representative, Dr. Kim Barber, as our speaker at OTNA's March meeting, and heard about her vision for the city. Many of you attended the Mid-Pen Housing presentation on an affordable housing project at Madison and Van Buren Streets. In May, we heard from Officer Leniart about how we can best interact with the Police department, and how to report events and concerns. In August, we had a presentation of a design for a proposed mural by M.I.S. At our October meeting, we will hear from P.K. Diffenbaugh, Superintendent of Monterey Peninsula Unified School District, on the shortage of teacher and staff housing and possible solutions.

As nice as it is to have speakers come to our meetings, we residents of Old Town also know how to have fun! A big thanks to our social committee, chaired by Phyllis Bussey and Cathy Collum, and the volunteers who help to put on fun events. It takes many volunteers to help run the board. At our March annual meeting, we elected and welcomed a new treasurer, Mary Grove, which allowed our past treasurer, Amy Eitoku, a welcome break after serving us diligently for many years. If you would like to help with a committee or serve on the board, please let us know.

Gari Soulé  
President, Old Town Neighborhood Association

## *NCIP update*

### ***NCIP UPDATE***

The Neighborhood and Community Improvement Program (NCIP) continues year-round to work for the beautification of neighborhoods throughout the city, using funds allocated from the Transient Occupancy Tax the city collects from hotels. For 2023, close to one hundred projects- a mix of old and new-were considered, and the committee narrowed those to 44, totaling \$5,000,000.

Of the 44, two previous Old Town projects were among those that have been forwarded to City Council for approval. The Old Town "winners" are renovations to the Cedar Street path and the addition of a "Welcome to Old Town" sign. The next time you see a need in our neighborhood or the city at large and a solution is evident, consider nominating the project. The form is available on the city website. The dates for submittals, reviews and voting will be determined early in 2024. Our NCIP representatives also met with the city and Monterey Peninsula Unified School District Superintendent Diffenbaugh to discuss the lack of public access to Larkin Park during school hours.

***Thanks to the generosity of MPUSD, new fencing has been installed that separates the basketball courts and field used by Bayview Academy from the playground structure and bathrooms, which are now once again open to the public!!***





## **CERT NEWS**

Although the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) was not as active in recent months as during the winter storms and flooding, members were called out to participate in missing person's searches. CERT also helped with traffic control for the annual July 4th parade. Helping search for lost or missing vulnerable children and adults or helping with traffic control gives extra manpower to our police and fire departments and is a valuable service to our community. CERT gives free classes to help train residents to plan for emergencies and assist in helping police and fire, while safely staying out of harm's way. The planned October class is completely full, but a new class will be started early next year.

Contact [training@montereycert.org](mailto:training@montereycert.org) if you are interested in participating.



## **Undergrounding News**

### **UNDERGROUND NEWS**

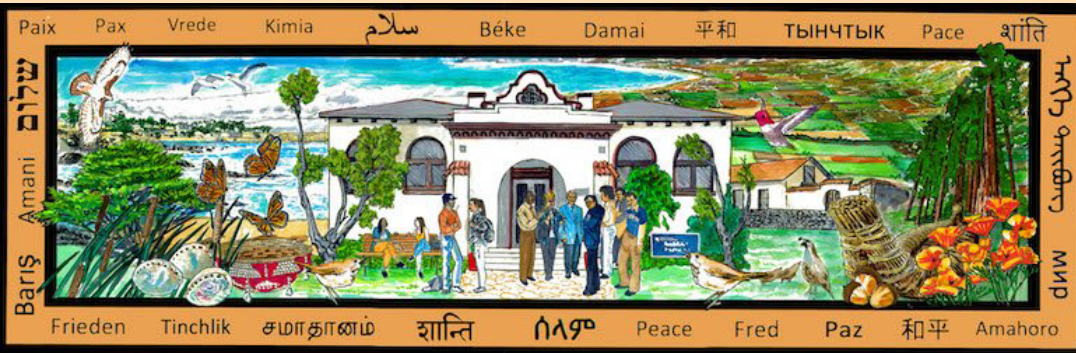
We are still actively looking for ways to encourage the city to develop a plan for placing our power lines underground. As we all experienced power outages last fall due to downed power lines on DelMonte, it remains an important issue, as does the need for escape routes to be free from the hazard of downed wires. Our group continues to research avenues on ways to meet this end.

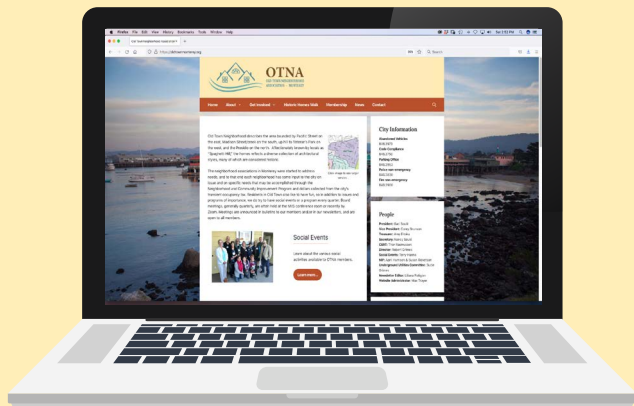
*To see what we have been working on, please log into our website, <https://www.montereyundergrounding.net> If you have suggestions or comments, contact Suzanne Grimes, at [grimesuzanne9@gmail.com](mailto:grimesuzanne9@gmail.com). She is secretary of the Monterey Underground Committee and is our Old Town Neighborhood Association representative.*



### **NEW MURAL PROJECT FOR MIIS**

The mural carries the themes of MIIS culture, as a language capital, a social justice institution, and of the historic settlements of first settlers. The border is made up of all the languages studied at MIIS. It will be exciting to see the new mural come to life in Old Town.





# oldtownmonterey.org

*In case you missed the public outreach meeting at Monterey High School, our website now has posted a You-Tube recording of the September 7th meeting regarding the Monterey High School Stadium project, sponsored by the Neighborhood and School Collaborative which you can view at your leisure.*

*Our newsletter now comes out just a few times a year, but the bulletins of events coming up can keep you informed of meetings and other important information. All are posted, along with other valuable information, on our website, <https://oldtownmonterey.org>.*

*If you would like to join our Old Town Neighborhood Association, our dues are just \$20 per household.*

*Please complete the attached and send a check for \$20 payable to OTNA.*

☐ Yes! I would like to join OTNA. I am enclosing a check for \$20.00 per year.

☐ Please send me more information about OTNA.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

***Mail to: OTNA P.O. Box 724 Monterey, CA 93942-724***