



Howdy HANDSOME



Y'all Come to the GMIA Annual Dinner on June 22

Come on down to the Cuyamaca College Student Center June 22 for the GMIA Annual Dinner Meeting. It will be a barn-burner of an evening with good BBQ, good music, and a chance to mingle with your good friends and neighbors.

Our dinner this year has a western theme, so you're invited to show up in your cowboy gear. We'll be providing bandanas as part of the fun.



Our new county supervisor, Monica Montgomery Steppe, will be the keynote speaker, and you'll have a chance to say howdy. This is your chance to hear from our county supervisor about issues vital to our community. If you would like to submit a question to her, send it to yourgmianeighbor@gmail.com.


Something new this year! We're wrangling up a raffle and a silent auction with fantastic items like a two-night stay at Santee Lakes, \$100 gift card to Ruth Chris steak house, Swarovski

jewelry, original artist-created pottery and other items. Before the night is over, there will be a drawing for each item. Be sure to bring some cash to buy raffle tickets.

The social hour (with wine, beer and sodas) begins at 4:30 p.m. and dinner starts at 5:30 p.m. We'll be offering a barbecue meal of smoked chicken in barbecue sauce with buns, beans, corn and potato-mac salad.

If you'd like to learn more about Cuyamaca College, be sure to sign up for a tour beginning at 4 p.m.

Reservations are required, so git yourself to GMIA.net to sign up, or you can mail your check with the form below. The cost is \$30 per person until June 15, when the price goes up to \$35 per person. You must be a GMIA member to attend. So, don your western boots and cowboy hat and mosey on down. We can't wait to see you!

A special thanks to our donors for supporting GMIA: the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District, Edco Disposal Co., San Pasqual Winery, and Helix Brewing Co. 

SEE MAP ON PAGE 4

Annual Dinner Registration

Reserve your seats at the GMIA Annual Dinner Meeting by returning this form below with your check made out to GMIA, PO Box 2751, La Mesa, CA 91943-2751, or reserve online at our secure website, gmia.net. You must be a member to attend. Membership is \$20 per year per household. Cost for the dinner is \$30 before June 15, and \$35 after June 15.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

☐

Attending

☐

Vegetarian Menu

☐

Attending 4:00 pm Campus Tour



GROSSMONT-MT. HELIX
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Officers

Anne Krueger, President
619-252-2295

Joan Camana, First Vice President
858-449-9796

Pat Ryan, Second Vice President
619-248-1619

Pam Coe, Treasurer/Membership

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Pete Camana	Linda Miller
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Gwen DeHaven	Mike Valley
Leslie Gardner	Marybeth Wilson
Kathleen Hedberg	Holly Yarris
Vaughn Jeffery	

Viewpoints is a community newsletter published by the Grossmont – Mt. Helix Improvement Association. Letters to the Editor should be sent to P. O. Box 2751, La Mesa, CA 91943-2751.

This newsletter reflects the efforts of your entire Board of Directors.

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Linda Miller

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www.gmia.net

Email us at:
yourgmianeighbor@gmail.com

MISSION

GMIA is an 86-year-old nonprofit 501(c)4 public benefit membership organization. Our mission is to preserve and enhance the character and quality of the community and foster pride in the area. We do not employ a paid staff and are served by an all-volunteer board.

A Chartreuse Thumb Lives Here

Gwen DeHaven and her husband, Rick, fell in love with Mt. Helix in part because it felt like it was a thousand miles from everywhere. "We liked that every house was different, and everyone had a view and a garden," Gwen said. "There were no streetlights and no sidewalks."

After moving here in 2008, Gwen decided she wanted to meet and give back to their new community. She found GMIA through her neighbors. Little did she know that 15 years later she would join the Board of Directors. Gwen is one of the newest board members and she has hit the ground running, well, walking. Last year, her first year on the board, she became co-chair of the annual January Walk to the Top of Mt. Helix.

She grew up gardening. "My father had a green thumb. Mine isn't quite green. It's more a shade of chartreuse," she laughed. Gwen's father was in the Navy and her family moved to University City in the 70s. She graduated from University City High School and eventually completed her academic career at San Diego State University where she majored in interior design and art.

Mt. Helix-area homes are so different from her childhood neighborhood where almost every house was the same, she said. It was in University City where she was taught to "trim a thing, water a thing, and sweep a thing." A "thing" was the garden in her family. Now she brings that gardening knowledge to her Mt. Helix home.

Gwen works for SDG&E in Customer Programs and throughout her career she has specialized in event planning. Her skills are very welcome on the GMIA Board. 🌱



Fight the Bite!

We need to work together to get rid of mosquitoes! We need to be sure there is no standing water in our yards. After all the rain this year, there may be little puddles in our plant saucers, toys, rain gutters and other spots. Mosquitoes breed in stagnant water. If you have a fountain or pond that is stagnant, you can receive free mosquito-eating fish from the San Diego County Vector Control Program. Contact them at 858-694-2888 or vector@sdcountyca.gov.

Mosquitos don't just bite and itch. Some also spread diseases including West Nile virus, Zika, dengue and chikungunya. The invasive Aedes mosquitoes are now found in San Diego County, and they like to live in our neighborhoods.

The county periodically drops larvicide that kills mosquito larvae before they grow into adults. It doesn't hurt people or pets.

For more information see SDCounty.ca.gov and search for Fight the Bite! 🌱



Thank You Donors!

Special thanks to these members who donated \$25 or greater in excess of their dues.

Molly and Rey Nocon • Joan Ecklund • Ted and Colleen Olsen

A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood!

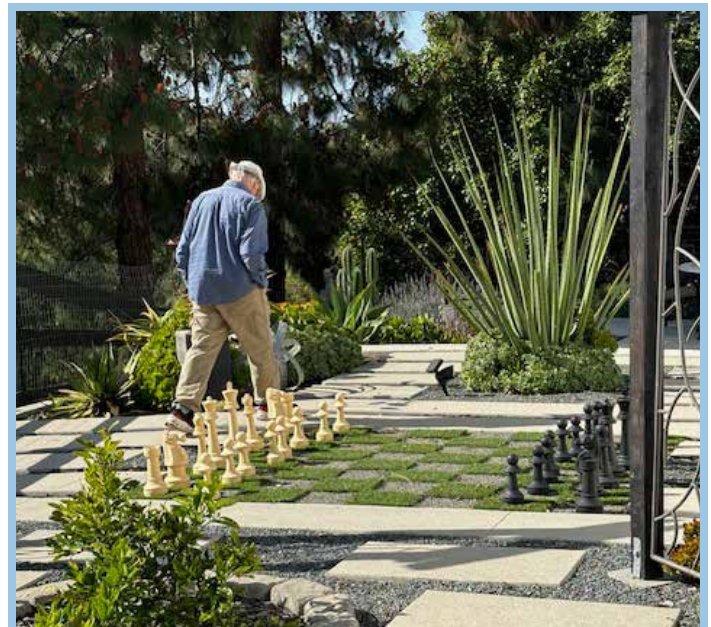
Almost 400 of your friends and neighbors turned out to visit five unique and beautiful gardens in April. The annual GMIA Art and Garden Tour is great time to gather ideas for your own yard. We have some creative neighbors!

Thanks go out to the homeowners who invited us to their gardens: Bob & Kimberly Bardin, Jonathan Becker & Tere Trout, Mary Clemons, Guy & Laurie Halgren, and Donald & Dianne McCann.

We were also treated to the artistry of Connie Grace, Brian Johnson, Sharon Meng, Roz Oserin, Joshua Rios, and Deborah Wolfe. At two of the gardens, there was special music provided by Jinnah Williams Foster and Marcus Schreiber.

Thank you to all the participants, volunteers and artists. It was indeed a beautiful day in our neighborhood.

If you would like to have your garden considered for the 2025 tour, contact us at yourgmianeighbor@gmail.com. We'll visit your garden to see if it can be included. 🌱



To ensure your membership is current: please look at your mailing label on this newsletter. On it you will find the expiration date of your membership. Family membership is just \$20 (2 years - \$40; 3 years - \$60). You may renew online at our secure website www.gmia.net or mail your payment in the attached envelope to GMIA, P.O. Box 2751, La Mesa, CA 91943-2751.

Note: if the date is June 2024 or later, your dues are paid in full, but you are welcome to renew in advance.

CUYAMACA COLLEGE

900 Rancho San Diego Parkway
El Cajon, California 92019-4369



CALENDAR

Sat., June 15, 2024

Cleanup 9 am PARK N
RIDE - I8/ Severin Dr.

Sun., June 22, 2024

GMIA Annual Dinner
Meeting

Sat., October 5, 2024

GMIA
Succulent Swap