

## ABOUT MPWD

### MID-PENINSULA WATER DISTRICT

3 Dairy Lane  
Belmont, CA 94002  
650-591-8941  
[www.MidPeninsulaWater.org](http://www.MidPeninsulaWater.org)

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dave Warden  
*President*

Louis J. Vella  
*Vice President*

Betty L. Linvill  
*Director*

Matthew P. Zucca  
*Director*

Al Stuebing  
*Director*

The Board of Directors meets every  
fourth Thursday of the month at 6:30  
p.m. at 3 Dairy Lane, Belmont.

### OFFICERS

Tammy Rudock  
*General Manager*

Candy Piña  
*District Secretary*

Rene Ramirez  
*Operations Manager*

Joan L. Cassman  
Julie A. Sherman  
*District Counsel*

Joubin Pakpour  
*District Engineer*

Jeff Ira  
*District Treasurer*



## Kids “Dig” MPWD’s Edible Gardening Workshop



Producing tasty treats in the yard is a fun and healthy activity for all! In November, MPWD hosted an evening family workshop through BAWSCA's Fall 2017 Education Series. Our gracious host for the evening was Suzanne Bontempo, an expert horticulture and landscape educator with more than 25 years experience. The focus of the evening was to engage and cultivate the children's interests in gardening.

Growing together teaches practical knowledge, responsibility, and more. Children learned about seeds, soils, pests, edible plants, as well as garden maintenance and water techniques. Each child had the opportunity to plant their own choice of a bean sow in a to-go cup and received complimentary garden tools courtesy of MPWD and Ms. Bontempo.

The Edible Gardening Workshop follows on the heels of the popular Basic Horticulture 101 Workshop held in May. Frank Niccoli, the Spring Workshop host, discussed methods of managing insects



in the garden and conveyed the benefits and impacts insects have on humanity. Attending children inspected up-close some of the bugs found in the Bay Area with magnifying glasses they took home as complimentary gifts.

For more information about MPWD's Hands-On Landscaping Workshops and the upcoming 2018 schedule, go to [MidPeninsulaWater.org/workshops](http://MidPeninsulaWater.org/workshops). ■

## HAVE YOU TRIED CIVIC PAY?

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easier-to-use customer portal. Pay your bill  
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# 5-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

 In May 2016, the MPWD Board of Directors approved a capital improvement project list totaling 22 projects throughout the community with a cost estimate exceeding \$23 million. These projects had been prioritized mainly due to their history of repairs and pipe age. With the list of projects approved, the Board then focused on how to pay for these needed infrastructure improvements. Following several months of careful deliberation, the Board authorized the issuance of nearly \$20 million in “certificates of participation” at historically low interest rates.

With a list of approved projects and funding in place, MPWD staff secured professional engineering services to augment the District Engineer for the design of several complex capital improvement projects.

In October 2017, the Water Main Replacement Program began construction. This \$2 million program, representing the first five capital projects, will replace water mains in Arthur Avenue, Folger Drive, Karen Road, Mezes Avenue, and abandon an old water line under South Road.

The following capital projects are currently in the design phase and scheduled to break ground in 2018-2019:



## OUT IN THE FIELD!

Operations Supervisor Mike Anderson (left) on site at the South Road capital project construction, joined by General Manager Tammy Rudock and Lead Operator Rick Bisio.



## IT'S NOT PRETTY, BUT...

*This is what progress looks like as MPWD embarks on a mission to modernize water infrastructure in your neighborhood.*

1. A water pressure reducing station at the Hillcrest Meter Site, a supply point from the SFPUC;
2. A potential joint project with the City of Belmont for simultaneous water and sewer system improvements on Davey Glenn Road, Francis Avenue/Court and Belburn/Academy Avenue. Redundant and old water mains will be abandoned on Academy Avenue as will a cross country water line east of North Road and north of Davey Glenn Road;
3. Construction of a new pipeline near the Palo Alto Medical Foundation facility and under State Route 101 and along Shoreway Road;
4. Consolidation and construction of water lines on Old County Road (OCR) from Bragato Road to Marine View, under the Caltrain along the F Street alignment, on Ralston from OCR to Elmer Street;
5. Consolidation and construction of water lines on El Camino Real from North Road to Middle, one block in front of Safeway, and a small section near F Street on the south end. System circulation and water pressure improvements will also take place in an area bounded by El Camino Real, North Road, Malcolm Avenue, and Belmont Avenue; and
6. The 2018 Water Main Replacement Project defined by improvements to Tahoe Drive, the Notre Dame Loop Closure, Cliffside Court improvements, fire hydrant improvements on Desvio Way, Solano Drive, and Altura Way.

It is anticipated that construction of these projects will take place throughout 2018/2019. More detailed information will be provided by MPWD as these projects get ready for construction. ■

*Look for regular updates on the MPWD 5-Year Capital Improvement Program by visiting [MidPeninsulaWater.org/cip](http://MidPeninsulaWater.org/cip)*



# MPWD's Tradition of Community Involvement

## SCHOOL FIELD TRIPS

Since the 1950s, the Mid-Peninsula Water District has actively offered field trips and project collaborations to our service community as part of its outreach and water conservation programs. This past fall, second grade students from San Carlos Charter Learning Center visited the District office and were



### A FIRST HAND LOOK

*Operations Supervisor Brent Chester (top photo) treats San Carlos Charter second graders to a 3D model of water service delivery in a community. Water System Operator Ron Leithner (above) explaining MPWD's SCADA monitoring system.*

offered the opportunity to explore different topics related to water systems and water conservation while interacting with MPWD staff and demo exhibits. Students walked away with smiles and gift bags containing educational and water conservation materials.

For more information, please contact Administrative Specialist Jeanette Kalabolas at [JeanetteK@MidPeninsulaWater.org](mailto:JeanetteK@MidPeninsulaWater.org) or visit [MidPeninsulaWater.org/schools](http://MidPeninsulaWater.org/schools) ■

## STUDENT MENTORING PROJECT

During 2016/2017 the MPWD participated in Carlmont High School's Biotech Institute (BTI) program in furtherance of its community outreach and public education. General Manager Tammy Rudock served as a leadership mentor to Hunter Crawford-Shelmadine, a CHS Junior. Hunter's goal is to attend college and study marine biology. Tammy shared tours of MPWD facilities and operations with Hunter during the year, including introductions at a business meeting of the Harbor Industrial Association



### MENTORING IS TEAMWORK

*Hunter takes a guided tour of the Exbourne Tank Site during cleaning and maintenance with Operations Supervisor Mike Anderson, Lead Operator Rick Bisio, Water System Operator Ron Leithner, and General Manager Tammy Rudock.*

and the MPWD Board of Directors in early 2017. "It was a perfect match," exclaimed Tammy that the MPWD was partnered with Hunter because of her interest in a water related career. Tammy and Hunter met over breakfast a few times for ongoing support and mentoring, and progress reporting. "Hunter's energy is limitless and she is an extremely bright and productive young person," added Tammy. Hunter replied that she "really enjoyed learning more about the local water supply and California water industry," and potential opportunities for her in the future as a marine biologist. ■

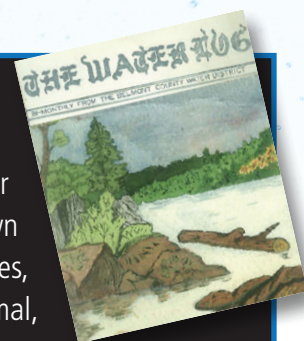
## LOCAL ROBOTICS YOUTH TEAM

MPWD has teamed up with the Rocky Rapids Robotics Team to support their research on lawn replacement and water conservation with hydrozoning and xeriscaping. Read more at [MidPeninsulaWater.org/outreach](http://MidPeninsulaWater.org/outreach)

## DID YOU KNOW?



MPWD (formerly known as the Belmont County Water District) released its first newsletter in 1972? It was featured as a column titled "The Water Log" in the local newspaper, known to residents at the time as the *Belmont Courier*. Initially, the column focused on Board activities, district management, and introducing staff to the public before it transformed into a less formal, memo format that covered important functional topics such as long-term planning, water facts, rates, and water savings. Today, *The Waterline* newsletter carries on this tradition of communicating with customers and the local community and is now launching an online version in 2018 (see bottom of this page).



## MPWD Website Gets a Makeover



This past summer, the MPWD website was updated to provide customers with an improved online experience and easier access to important information regarding water service, water conservation, Board activities, financial documents, resolutions, community events, and much more. One of the site's enhanced features is the News Flash banner, which appears at the top of the site when a service alert is issued by MPWD and conveys specific, up-to-date information on service disruptions, road closures, or emergencies. MPWD customers can also sign up for the new Customer Connect program (see below). Stay informed, stay connected, and visit [MidPeninsulaWater.org](http://MidPeninsulaWater.org). We welcome your feedback at [MPWD@MidPeninsulaWater.org](mailto:MPWD@MidPeninsulaWater.org)



## GET CONNECTED WITH CUSTOMER CONNECT!

The Mid-Peninsula Water District is dedicated to tailoring communications to customer needs. You can now subscribe to **MPWD's Customer Connect** and get connected to a virtual pipeline of District and community news wherever you are.



Stay in the know with the electronic version of the *The Waterline* and receive general information of interest to MPWD customers and the community.



Get News Flashes by text message and/or email that only communicate urgent service alerts and emergency information.

Subscribe to one or both at [MidPeninsulaWater.org/connect](http://MidPeninsulaWater.org/connect)



## Where Do Old Water Meters Go?



Over the past few years, you may have noticed MPWD replacing older water meters with modern AMI water meters. Did those retired meters simply get thrown away? Of course not! Their service journey was not quite over yet...

Made mostly of brass, plastic, stainless steel, and other metal compounds of value, the outdated water meters were broken down and separated out for scrap recycling. More than 1,500 water meters yielded a dump-truck load of brass weighing 15,400 pounds which was delivered to an area recycler in exchange for \$26,000. This money was placed back into the MPWD's capital budget to offset the cost of more new water meters in the system.

In addition to the financial benefits of recycling old water meters, valuable material resources get reused, which saves energy and reduces landfill waste. Your old water meter's service journey continues on!



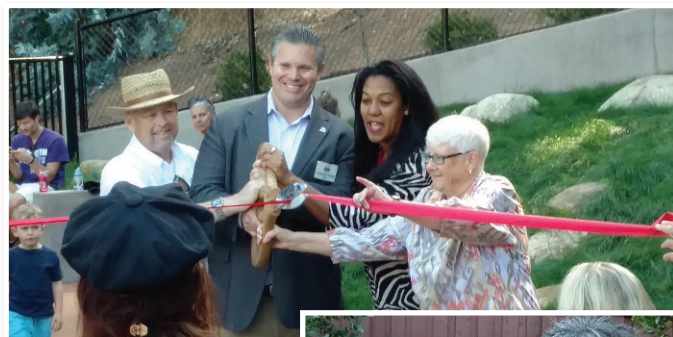
Dedicated to conserving resources and sustainable practices, MPWD is a certified Bay Area Green Business. For more information about the environmental values of Bay Area Green Businesses, please visit [www.greenbiz.ca.gov](http://www.greenbiz.ca.gov). ■

## MPWD Contributes to New Davey Glen Park



On October 7, 2017, the much-awaited Davey Glen Park was opened to the residents of Belmont with a red-ribbon cutting celebration. The park features a playground, a synthetic turf area, gardens, picnic tables and benches, a dry creek bed for irrigation, and accessible ramps. "It's just one of those places that's going to bring [the] neighborhood together and create community," said Jonathan Gervais, the Belmont Parks & Recreation Director at the time.

Attending the ceremonies on behalf of the Mid-Peninsula Water District were Board Director Betty Linvill and General Manager Tammy Rudock. MPWD provided water service installation



### RIBBON CUTTING

MPWD Board Director Betty Linvill and General Manager Tammy Rudock, were on hand for the unveiling of the new park.



### MPWD

## 2017 Highlights

- Construction begins on 2017 Water Main Replacement Capital Project.
- Announcement of no water rate increases for FY 2017-2018.
- Initiated second phase of AMI meter replacements.
- Implemented new Financial Management system, including billing system with improved online payment processing.
- Participated in the 2017 Earth Day and National Night Out events in Belmont.



for the Davey Glen Park and relocated a fire hydrant to accommodate accessibility parking as part of its contributions to this community project.

For more information on MPWD Community Outreach, please contact Jeanette Kalabolas at [JeanetteK@MidPeninsulaWater.org](mailto:JeanetteK@MidPeninsulaWater.org) or visit [MidPeninsulaWater.org/outreach](http://MidPeninsulaWater.org/outreach). ■

## Celebrating Employee Service Anniversaries

MPWD celebrated not just one, but **six** employee service anniversaries in 2017! We appreciate their dedication and commitment to the District and to the local community.



**Laura Ravella** Administrative Assistant  
**Candy Piña** Administrative Service Manager  
**Tammy Rudock** General Manager



**Stan Olsen**  
Lead Operator



**Rick Bisio** Lead Operator  
**Ron Leithner** Water System Operator

### WHAT TO EXPECT IN 2018!

- 5-Year Capital Improvement Program updates
- 2018 Water Main Replacement Project
- Expanded content on MPWD website
- Continued AMI installation
- Operations goes paperless; transitions to tablets
- Spring landscape workshop
- Sensus online customer portal – home water use reports
- Sprinkler nozzle rebate program
- MPWD Board member elections (3 positions)
- State of the District Address



## Conservation Checklist

- During wet and cooler weather, turn off the irrigation system and let nature do the watering.
- Replace old toilets with more water-efficient models. Newer, high-efficiency toilets can use up to 60% less water and there are rebate programs available to MPWD customers!
- Replace older showerheads with high-efficiency showerheads.
- Take vehicles to a self-serve or full-service car wash that uses recycled water instead of washing at home.

