



Belle Haven Action

advocacy • inclusion • collaboration

1354 Hollyburne Ave • Menlo Park, CA 94025 • 650-257-0357
info@bellehavenaction.org • mpblackhistoryinfo.org/bha-newsletter

COMMUNITY OUTREACH TEAM



Angie Bautista



Abraham Ocampo



Marlene Santoyo



Sean Watkins



Willie Beasley



Shontelle Watkins



John Selvas



Cecilia Taylor



Garden

Menlo Park, is growing strong thanks to the support of our community and generous partners. A special thank you to Johnny's Seed Supply for donating seeds, and to Patrick Archie, Director of the Stanford Educational Farm, for sharing his expertise on selecting the best plants and providing valuable growing advice.

This season, we've planted corn, summer squash, beets, bush beans, marigolds, tomatoes, and cucumbers. As the garden continues

to flourish, community members are invited to stop by and pick up fresh, organically grown and vegetables to enjoy.

We also welcome volunteers to help care for the garden and keep it thriving. If you'd like to get involved, please see the volunteer flyer for more information. Please see the volunteer flyer on page 3 for more information.

Together, we're growing healthy food, building community, and



Photos by John Selvas

empowered to make positive change in the Belle Haven neighborhood creating a greener Belle Haven!

For more information about the harvesting season, please contact Belle Haven Action: 650-257-0357 or email: info@bellehavenaction.org.*

KITCHEN TABLE CHATS

Pull Up A Chair & Share Your Voice REAL TALK Around the Table

Belle Haven Empowered (BHE) is a community program that helps Belle Haven residents learn more about how the City of Menlo Park works. Belle Haven is a neighborhood in Menlo Park, California and hosted by Ms. Pam Jones of Menlo Park.

Through Kitchen Table Chats and Info Chats, residents have a space to ask questions, learn about important community topics, and share their thoughts and ideas. These meetings help residents better understand local issues and learn how they can be involved in their

community.

BHE encourages residents to attend city meetings, vote, and use their voices to help create positive change in Belle Haven. By working together, residents can stay informed and help make decisions that impact their neighborhood.

Upcoming Kitchen Table Chat: The Kitchen Table Chat takes place on the second Thursday of every month. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 13, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Belle Haven Community Campus.*

Learn About the SAFER Bay Project

The SAFER Bay Project is a regional effort to improve flood protection, strengthen ecosystem resilience, and help communities adapt to rising sea levels along the San Francisco Bay.

The project includes building and improving levees to reduce flood risks while creating healthier natural habitats. Community input is an important part of the planning process, and residents are encouraged to share their ideas—including ways to enhance the Bay Trail with decorative and community-inspired features.

Join the community meeting on Wednesday, July 30, at 5:30 p.m. at the YMCA to learn more about the project, ask questions, and provide feedback.

For more information, visit: <https://www.menlopark.gov/Government/Departments/Public-Works/Capital-improvement-projects/SAFER-Bay-project>.



ALL ABOUT THE ACTION:

MEET ABRAHAM, BELLE HAVEN'S UNSTOPPABLE FORCE

December 29, 2020. The world was deep in the uncertainty of the pandemic, and most people were staying inside. But for Abraham, sitting still simply wasn't an option.

"During the pandemic, I could not take it," Abraham recalls. "I had to leave and try to do something."

That need to do something brought him to the front lines of the Belle Haven COVID-19 testing site in Menlo Park. It was the beginning of a deep, lasting relationship with Belle Haven Action (BHA)—and the neighborhood hasn't been the same since.

A Quiet Force in "The Zone"

To his colleagues at BHA, Abraham is the definition of a hard worker. Whether he is transforming a landscape, maintaining the front and back yards, or taking on a new task, he is known for wasting no time. When he's given a job, he dives in immediately.

While working, Abraham often slips into his quiet "zone," focusing intensely on the task at hand. Some people might not even realize he's there because he works so seamlessly in the background. But his impact is undeniable. As a natural helper, he is always scanning the room—giving a knowing look when he sees someone struggling or proactively asking how he can lend a hand. When he participates in meetings, he

"He is a recognized and beloved fixture on the streets of Belle Haven. To his team, he is "all about that action." He is incredibly reliable, always showing up to support BHA, inviting locals to community events, and seamlessly filling in when team members can't make it."



Abraham

brings that same focused energy as an active, thoughtful listener.

"All About That Action"

If his work style is quiet and focused, his social presence is anything but. Abraham is a massive people person with a big heart.

When he is out flyer-ing in the neighborhood, it becomes quickly apparent that everyone knows him. He is a recognized and beloved fixture on the streets of Belle Haven. To his team, he is "all about that action." He is incredibly reliable, always showing up to support BHA, inviting locals to community events, and seamlessly filling in when team members can't make it.

Around the office, he is a source of constant entertainment. A

massive sports fan—especially when it comes to basketball—Abraham loves to socialize, share updates about his life, and tell crazy, funny stories that keep the team laughing. He isn't afraid to "flex" a little at work, bringing a vibrant, joyful energy to the people around him.

The Man Behind the Work

What fuels this community powerhouse? A lot of caffeine and a great playlist.

Admittedly not a morning person, Abraham is a self-proclaimed night owl and afternoon guy who relies on his coffee to get the day rolling. An active user of public transportation, he appreciates the rhythm of his daily commute. "My work is close by, convenient, gets me started in the morning, gets my days going," he shares.

If you were to check his headphones on that commute, you'd find a wildly eclectic mix. From hip-hop legends like E-40 and Tupac to Gorilla and a deep appreciation for Spanish music, his playlist is as diverse as the community he serves.

A Lifelong Need to Contribute

Abraham's dedication to BHA goes beyond just having a job. It is rooted in a fundamental need to be active and helpful. Even if he won the lottery tomorrow, you probably wouldn't find him relaxing on a beach for very long.

"If money were no object, I would go crazy," he admits. "I have to do something."

Fortunately for Menlo Park, that "something" is right here. With his big heart, relentless work ethic, and infectious laugh, Abraham continues to be a cornerstone of Belle Haven Action.*

Hi!
Join us for our...

BBQ Party



MEET YOUR
NEIGHBORS!

LEARN ABOUT BELLE
HAVEN ACTION!

HAVE DELICIOUS
FOOD!



SCAN ME

**29 AUGUST
2026**

Starting at
11 AM - 2 PM

at BHA
1354
Hollyburne
Ave., Menlo
Park



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**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**



COMMUNITY GARDENING

CONTACT US



JOIN US!

1354 Hollyburne Avenue
Menlo Park

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info@bellehavenaction.org



TUESDAY AUGUST 4, 2026

5:00 TO 8:00 PM

HAMILTON PARK, 545 HAMILTON AVE, MENLO PARK

The Belle Haven Non-Profits invite Belle Haven Families to join us with jumper houses, music, community resources, informational materials, and meet our law enforcement, emergency response, and fire fighter personnel. Limited free food will be provided. First come, first served.

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Belle Haven
Community Development Fund

BELLE HAVEN
EMPOWERED



BELLE HAVEN
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
BHNA



MARTES, 4 DE AGOSTO DE 2026

5:00 TO 8:00 PM

HAMILTON PARK, 545 HAMILTON AVE, MENLO PARK

Las organizaciones sin fines de lucro de Belle Haven invitan a las familias de Belle Haven a acompañarnos con casas inflables, música, recursos comunitarios, materiales informativos, y a conocer a nuestro personal de la policía, emergencias y bomberos. Se proporcionará comida gratis limitada. Primero en llegar, primero en ser atendido.

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