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October 28, 2010

A WORD FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

Smoking or Non-Smoking?



California has been a national leader in reducing exposure to second-hand smoke, and Tiburon has been a part of that process as it unfolded over the past several decades. Now the Town is poised to take its commitment to a smoke-free environment a significant step further.

Earlier this month, the Town Council considered a draft ordinance to strengthen the Town's restrictions on smoking. The draft, which is available on the Town's website, was developed with the active participation and guidance of the Council-appointed committee of Councilmembers Alice Fredericks and Jim Fraser.

Tiburon currently bans smoking in restaurants, bars, places of employment, and "common areas", such as shared lobbies, hallways and laundry rooms in apartment or other multi-unit complexes. The draft ordinance provides for several expansions of the locations where smoking is banned, including Town parks, outdoor dining areas, and all hotel rooms. New restrictions would extend to some units in apartment complexes with four or more units, mandating that at least 50% of apartment units be set aside for non-smokers. Newly-constructed apartment buildings would need to have 75% of units smoke-free, and would have the additional onus of creating separate ventilation systems to keep unwanted smoke from circulating throughout structures. Common areas in apartment complexes, whether enclosed or unenclosed, would be smoke-free zones, too. The proposed law would place no new restrictions on condominium complexes or on single-family homes.

At its meeting this month, Council expressed support for the expanded restrictions, but asked staff to go a step further and explore what could be done to hasten the turn-over from smoker to non-smoker when the latter has an ongoing tenancy in an otherwise smoke-free part of a building. Staff was charged with researching options to require landlords to relocate smokers when a smoking-

[Bel-Tib Recreation Department](#)

[County of Marin, 3rd District](#)

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Did you know the "Spare the Air" Wood Burning Ban begins November 1?

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District's wood burning regulation goes into effect in all nine Bay Area counties starting November 1.

The Air District declares a winter "Spare the Air" alert making wood burning illegal until the alert is lifted. To find out if today or any day is a "Spare the Air" day, simply click the icon above, or on the [Town's website](#).

Individuals can make a complaint about wood smoke pollution by calling the Air District's hotline at 1-877-4NO-BURN, or sign up to receive air alerts [here](#).

Diane Crane Iacopi
Tiburon Town Clerk

permissible unit becomes available. Council indicated its interest in accelerating the implementation of the law, but wanted to stop short of setting an absolute change-over date if that would result in anyone being evicted from their home.

Council also asked staff to modify the draft ordinance to require special events to be smoke-free. That means smoking would no longer be permissible at Friday Nights on Main, the Tiburon Art Festival and other community events. The ordinance does not go so far as to prohibit smoking on public streets and sidewalks in general. This is due to enforcement issues (it would be both hard to enforce and have the potential for unsightly sign proliferation), and the acknowledgement that many foreign tourists smoke. Barring smoking from every location short of a private home or vehicle (smoking is not allowed in Tiburon hotels) might be too aggressive.

To a person, the Town Council was very clear that it wants to strengthen anti-smoking provisions to make the community a healthier place for all its residents and visitors. Staff and the Council committee expect to return to Council early in 2011 with additional language for the Town Council's consideration.

Town Website

Did you know that staff reports, agendas and minutes for Town Council meetings are posted online? Just look under Town Council from the Government menu on the Town's website at www.ci.tiburon.ca.us. You'll also find these items for the Planning Commission, the Design Review Board and other Town-appointed entities, as well as significant ordinances under consideration, forms and applications, lists of fees for permits, contact information for Council and staff, a ferry schedule, and updates on wood burning bans in effect and more (all located under the Directory, Visitors, Services or Government menus).

The site provides links to scores of peninsula and regional organizations such as the Library, Joint Recreation, Landmarks Society, Marin Humane Society, Marin Clean Energy, and the Tiburon Peninsula Chamber of Commerce (located under the Links menu). The website offers a lot now, but we will soon be embarking upon a process to give the website an overhaul to increase its scope and make things easier to navigate.

One part of the plan is to provide information on the many Homeowners Associations throughout Town. We think these groups, which range from small and informal to highly organized, are great resources for building and reinforcing a sense of community, and we want to help them be successful. Using the website as a means for

people to get in touch with their local organization seems like a natural fit.

If there are things you would like to see in our revamped website, please let us know. We have limited resources for the job, but we'd love to hear your good ideas.

Wishing you all a safe (and spooky) Halloween.

Sincerely,



Peggy Curran

NEWS BRIEFS

Reducing Property Crime in Tiburon



Every year somewhere between 100 and 130 Tiburon residents call police to report a theft from their cars or homes. Most of the losses are less than \$500 but one was over \$60,000.

The victims usually have one other thing in common: they left a door unlocked. If it was a car door the monetary loss is usually low. If it was the door to a home, the loss is often far greater. And who can put a price on the sense of personal violation that follows such an event?

When I talk to groups or individuals about crime in Tiburon, I always hear how safe people feel. Safety was one of the reasons many of you chose to come and why many more have stayed.

That belief is not misplaced. Tiburon continues to be one of the safest communities in the country. In 2009 your risk of being the victim of larceny or burglary was 60% of that of the rest of Marin's residents, and you were less than half as likely (42%) to be a victim of a serious violent crime. Compared to the rest of the San Francisco metropolitan area, the risk drops to 35% and 16% respectively.

Most thefts from vehicles occur late at night. The perpetrators are often dropped off in a neighborhood by an accomplice. From there they simply walk down the street looking into cars; they go into driveways and carports too. They get into the unlocked cars, taking whatever they can find. Occasionally, they'll break a window if they can see an item of particular value in the car. They take I-pods, cell phones, laptops, sunglasses

and loose change, anything of value. Sometimes the perpetrators make their way into unlocked garages; occasionally they enter a home, although people are far more likely to lock up their house at night.

A fair number of thefts and burglaries occur in the daytime. These are usually thefts from unlocked cars in parking lots. Once in a while a house gets burglarized. Sometimes these crimes are committed by people who came here on legitimate business, perhaps working in a trade, but then take advantage of opportunities for easy theft.

The good news is that most of these crimes are preventable. You can help by taking an extra few seconds to lock your car and either remove or conceal anything of value. And, please lock your house every time you leave it. Thefts from cars rarely result in personal harm; a theft from a home has far more potential to turn violent should a confrontation occur.

And don't hesitate to call us if you see something suspicious. If it isn't an emergency you can reach us by dialing 789-2800. The dispatcher will take your information and pass it on to an officer. As a resident, you are the best resource the community has for making Tiburon the safest place it can be.

Michael J. Cronin
Chief of Police

American Lung Association Describes Hazards of Wood Smoke

As cooler temperatures mark the beginning of Fall, the American Lung Association of California is urging the public to avoid wood burning and to consider cleaner alternatives.



Burning wood emits harmful toxins and fine particles in the air that can worsen breathing problems and lead to heart and lung disease and even early death.

Wood smoke poses a special threat to people with asthma and COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) and should be avoided by those with lung disease. The American Lung Association strongly recommends using cleaner, less toxic sources of heat such as natural gas.

Converting a wood-burning fireplace or stove to either natural gas or propane eliminates exposure to the dangerous toxins wood burning generates including dioxin, arsenic and formaldehyde.

Wood smoke is the largest source of wintertime particle pollution in the Bay Area. Numerous studies have linked wood smoke exposure with exacerbation of lung disease. In the greater Bay Area, nearly one million residents have lung disease. "When they breathe wood smoke, they suffer even more," says ALA representative Dr. Pepper.

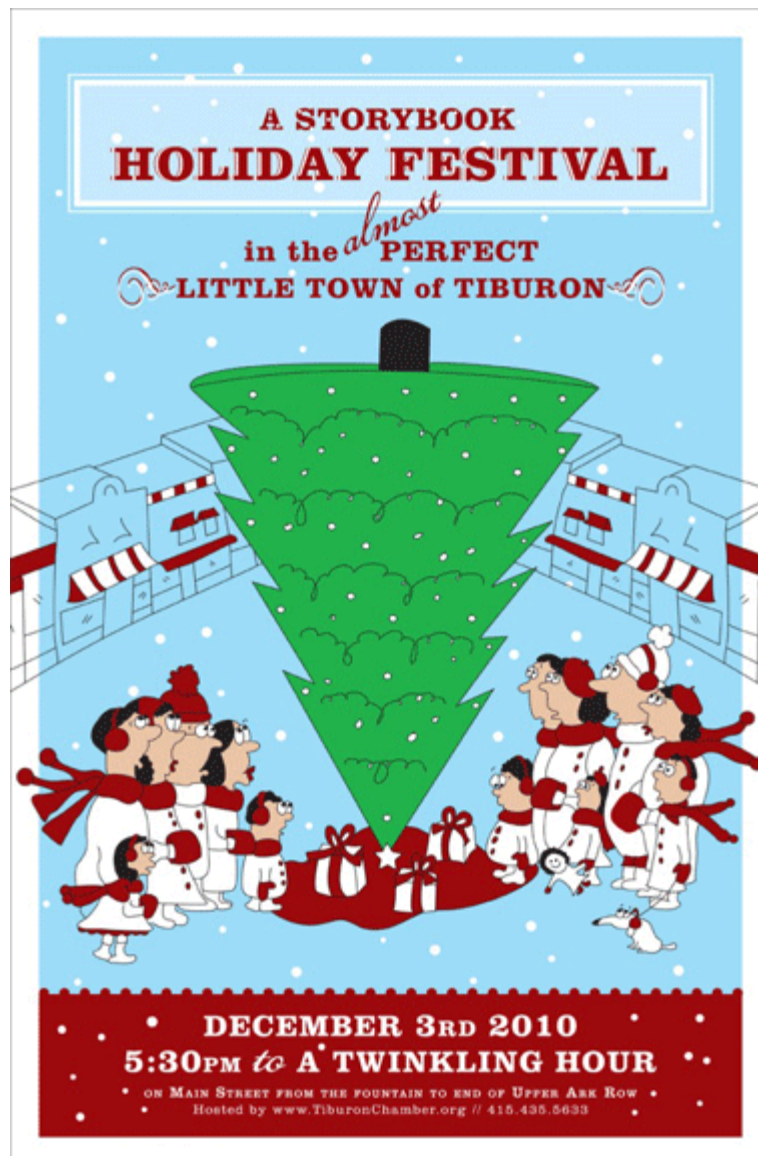
As with any pollution, children are especially at risk. Their lungs do not fully form until the age of 18 and cumulative exposure to wood smoke can lead to reduced lung function and the risk of future disease. For asthmatic children, breathing wood smoke can lead to immediate harm, including asthma attacks and respiratory distress.

Although both natural gas and propane stoves are much cleaner than their wood-burning alternatives, these devices must be directly vented outside the home to reduce exposure to carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide and other emissions produced by these energy sources. The American Lung Association warns that gas and propane stoves can be a threat to any family's health without proper outdoor ventilation.

For more information about the health effects of wood burning and cleaner burning alternatives to heating, please visit the American Lung Association website at www.lungusa.org or call 1-800-LUNG-USA.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

2010 Holiday Festival



Friday, December 3

**5:30 p.m. to "A Twinkling Hour"
Downtown Main Street to Ark Row**

On Friday, December 3, for one magical, fun-filled night only, the 2010 Holiday Festival will include an outdoor ice skating rink!

Evening festivities will include classic holiday carolers, costumed characters strolling along magical Main Street, wonderful holiday treats, yummy gingerbread house decorating, winterland snow globe making/photo shop for kids, and more!

In addition, the eclectic shops and tasty restaurants will be offering budget-worthy discounts and specials to while away the hours.

ICE SKATING DETAILS:

The ice rink has limited space and it's filling up fast. Call 435-5633 or go to hello@shoptiburon.info for more information.

GINGERBREAD HOUSE DECORATING DETAILS:

Where: Servino's Ristorante - 9 Main St

Time: Two seatings - 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Price: \$25 per house (limited to one child per house)

The houses are already built so kids will be able to do the best part - decorate with all the goodies! All proceeds for the event benefit Kids Believe Achieve, a non-profit created by local kids with the mission of fundraising kid-focused non-profit organizations.

Space is limited and reservations are highly recommended. Go to hello@shoptiburon.info for more information.



Thanks to the Tiburon Peninsula Chamber of Commerce for sponsoring these holiday events.

More Holiday Events - Family Fun and a Benefit for the Library



**TEDDY BEAR TEA
Saturday/Sunday,
December 11 & 12
Location: Belvedere-
Tiburon Library**

Cost: \$25/person
Seatings: 9:30, 10:30, and 11:30 a.m.
Reserve Online: www.teddybearteainfo.com

Piping hot cocoa, savory eats and festive treats greet you as you step into our holiday-themed Teddy Bear Tea. Delight your children with this wonderful, age-old tradition. Afterwards, enjoy a holiday sing along with a special elf. Holiday stories will be read by your favorite librarian.

Teddy Bear Tea is hosted by Bookmarks, a volunteer organization that funds, in its entirety, the Child and Youth division of the Belvedere-Tiburon Library.

Funds raised by Bookmarks are used to procure new books and to operate an array of programs offered to children of all ages within the community.



**WREATH SILENT
AUCTION
November 15 through
December 1
Location: Corner Books
at the Boardwalk
Shopping Center**

Brighten the holidays with a special wreath that not only looks beautiful but also benefits the Belvedere-Tiburon Library.

A large variety of local artisans will create this year's wreaths so there will be an array of styles and sizes. Sign up on a silent auction bid sheet or meet the minimum price and take home your wreath today!

The Wreath Silent Auction is also hosted by Bookmarks. For more information on Bookmarks programs, go to www.bel-tib-lib.org and click on "Kids".

Artist Laureate Program - upcoming events at Town Hall



On Saturday, October 16, a lively group of artists met for the fourth in a series of Artist Laureate Workshops. The

guest artist, Cristina Marcu, led a 2-1/2 hour journey of self-expression through painting.

Come and be a part of this free program! And mark your calendars for these upcoming dates:

Tuesday, January 18, 2011

7 p.m.

"Art Talk"--Come join the conversation about art!

Location: Town Hall Lobby

Saturday, February, 19, 2011

10:30 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Artist Laureate Workshop

Guest artist Roger Felton will give a drawing class.

Location: Town Hall Community Room (2nd Floor)

Contact Artist Laureate, Mary Musalo, at mmusalo@aol.com for more information.

Bel-Tib Library Community Calendar

For the scoop on events and meetings sponsored by local not-for-profit community and government organizations on the Tiburon Peninsula, visit the Belvedere-Tiburon Library's excellent [community calendar](#).



Council and Commission Meetings



Town Council: First and third Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. - (November 3 cancelled; November 17).

Design Review Board: First and third Thursdays at 7 p.m. - (November 4 and November 18).

Planning Commission: Second and fourth Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. - (November 10 and November 24).

Heritage & Arts Commission: Fourth Tuesday at 7 p.m. (November 23) in the Town Hall Conference Room.

Parks, Open Space and Trails Commission: Third Tuesday every other month at 6 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room (November 16)

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings listed above are in the Council Chambers at Tiburon Town Hall, 1505 Tiburon

Boulevard.

Sincerely,

Town Staff
Town of Tiburon
435-7373

Editor: Diane Crane Iacopi

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