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September 29, 2011

A WORD FROM THE TOWN MANAGER



Five-Year Mark

October 6 marks five years for me as Tiburon's Town Manager. All that business you've heard about time flying, well, I'm here to say it's entirely ... true! The years have indeed rushed by.

A few reflections: Tiburon continues to be uncommonly blessed. Even in this economy (so changed since I arrived in 2006), the Town has maintained a balanced, if somewhat leaner, budget and continues to fare far better than most of its municipal counterparts. Civility remains the hallmark of public discourse; there is certainly no lack of interest or passion in civic affairs, but our local political culture, in stark contrast to Washington or even Sacramento, is generally one of respecting each person in the discussion and seeking win-win outcomes. The level of volunteerism for public benefit organizations remains impressively high. Civic engagement of one sort or another is the norm rather than the exception for many residents, with the whole peninsula being the beneficiary of these many individual and collective gestures of good will.

The sound and sensible policies of the Town are a direct reflection of the leadership at the top: our elected Town Council. Even though there has been substantial turnover in the past five years (come December only one member of the Council that hired me, Alice Fredericks, will remain on that body), the thread of common sense and civic purpose remains unbroken. One need not look far (this week, one need only look as far as Sausalito!) for examples of local elected bodies that struggle to find sufficient unity to govern. Tiburon is an oasis of civility by almost any municipal standard, a testament to a healthy community and a reality for which I am endlessly grateful. It means that the community, Town Council, Town staff and I can focus on Town services, public improvements and public safety rather than being caught up with infighting. So much more productive!

[Department](#)

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**DID YOU
KNOW?**



**Walk & Roll to
School Day**

Did you know
that
October 5 is Walk
& Roll to School
Day in Tiburon?

The Safe Routes
to School
program will hold
its annual Walk &
Roll to School
Day on
Wednesday,
October 5.

Children and their
parents are
encouraged to
walk, ride a
scooter,
rollerblade, and
cycle to school
that day--
anything but
drive in the car!

Want company?
Meet between
7:45 and 8 a.m.
at the Boardwalk
Shopping Center

Since this is not a retirement reflection, just one from a milestone date, I'll stop there, but suffice it to say it has been my pleasure and honor to spend the past five years of my career here in beautiful Tiburon, and I look forward to the future with unabated enthusiasm for our possibilities. Thank you for being such a smart, engaged and supportive community; I thank our Town Council, too, for establishing such a positive context and for offering leadership that keeps the Town flourishing.

Picnic on the Green

This weekend presents the perfect opportunity for peninsula residents to come out and celebrate the warmth of our community and the beauty of our incomparable location. The Picnic on the Green is at McKegney Green from Noon to 3:30 this Saturday, October 1. It's meant to be a relaxed affair, something akin to a peninsula-wide block party. Indeed, consider coming with a contingent from your neighborhood association. Bring your own picnic fare, or a few bucks to purchase food grilled by none other than our own Tiburon Police Department. There will be beverages for kids of all ages available, too, as well as some terrific music and a few special surprises. Like kites? Bring one along with your picnic blanket or lawn chairs - or just hang out on the grass and visit with neighbors and friends. A flyer with the particulars can be found on the Town's website. I hope to see you out on the beautiful Green this Saturday!

HOA/Neighborhood Association Summit

On September 13 the Town Council held its annual "summit" with interested residents, particularly representatives of various homeowner and neighborhood associations. It was an informal gathering with summaries by Town staff of a few current local activities and lots of questions and suggestions from residents. Attendance was strong this year, and the issue that spurred the liveliest discussion was the perennial bane of traffic on Tiburon Boulevard, especially during peak hours when school is in session. While there is no magic bullet that can spare us the consequences of our peninsula geography and its one-main-road reality, the problem is such that it demands regular revisiting and development of new options to reduce congestion. As I mentioned in last month's Tib Talk, our Vice Mayor and Mayor, Jim Fraser and Jeff Slavitz, are joining forces with representatives from the Reed School District, the City of Belvedere and St. Hilary's School to examine the issue afresh. I'll let you know what develops from this collaboration.

(Tiburon Boulevard side), or at the San Rafael/Tiburon Boulevard intersection to walk to Reed Elementary School.

Sponsors of the event are "Teens Turning Green" and the Transportation Authority of Marin.

For more information on the Safe Route to Schools programs, [click here](#).

* * *

Keep your questions coming!

Send them to [Diane Crane Iacopi, Town Clerk](#).

Sincerely,



Peggy Curran

NEWS BRIEFS

The Banners are back!



The "Street Smarts Marin" program is back to educate drivers, cyclists and pedestrians about safe transportation in our community. You may have noticed these colorful banners along Tiburon Boulevard, at Town Hall, the Police Department, and at our local schools and neighborhoods, to help spread the word about safe driving, cycling and walking habits.

This public education program is sponsored by the Transportation Authority of Marin to raise awareness of roadway users and drivers. The goal is to increase safety and decrease the number of traffic-related crashes, injuries and possible deaths. The banners went up to coincide with the beginning of the school year and will be posted again in the Spring for several weeks.

If you would like to post one of these colorful banners in front of your home, in your neighborhood or at your business, please contact the Public Works Department at 435-7354. This is truly a worthwhile cause, so let's all get in the groove and drive, walk and cycle just a little more slowly and watch out for each other.

Matt Swalberg
Engineering Technician
Department of Public Works

Building Code Corner: Window Glass -- A Clear and Present Danger



Window glass has been used to provide natural light inside our homes and businesses for centuries. It is weather tight, highly versatile, and will stand the test of time. However, when broken, ordinary glass shatters into very sharp shards and edges that can result in life-changing injuries to anyone who comes in contact with them. For this reason, ways to make glass safer have evolved over the past century, including the development of wired, laminated, and heat-tempered glass products. And to best utilize the now widespread availability of these safety glass products, building codes require that windows in certain locations be glazed with safety glass.

Both the California Building Code and the California Residential Code (which is what we apply to single-family dwellings) identify hazardous locations for windows as being where people are more likely to fall through, against, or otherwise become injured by sudden impact with the glass. With a few exceptions, these locations include: glazing in all doors; in windows within two feet of a door edge when the door is in the closed position; glass panels or windows in tub and shower enclosures if the bottom edge is less than 60 inches in any direction of the bottom thread; glazing in railings and guardrails; and glazing in large windows (over nine square feet in area) where the bottom edge is less than 18 inches and the top edge is more than 36 inches above the floor surface. Of course, there are numerous exceptions and/or specific requirements that are often applied on a case-by-case basis, but the basic intent of the code is to protect human beings from being injured or killed by impact with glass in and around the built environment.

Verifying that you have safety glazing in any of the areas listed above is pretty straightforward. Just look in one of the corners of each glass panel and you should see a permanently etched label with either the words "tempered" or "safety laminated" spelled out along with the numerical standard with which it complies. As a general rule, the older the window, the less likely it is to be glazed with safety glass. However, it is usually not too difficult for a glazing contractor to change out the glass without needing to change the entire window frame. In addition to new work and remodel projects, we also check for safety glass as part of the Residential Resale Inspection process when you sell your home. If you would like to know more about this important safety concern, please contact the Building Division or your local glass shop.

Fred Lustenberger
Tiburon Building Official

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Downtown Festivities



Friday Nights on Main: OKTOBERFEST!

*Friday, September 30
6 until 9 p.m.
Main Street, Downtown*

Come to the final Friday Nights on Main and celebrate the autumn season with Oktoberfest! An Oompah band, special brews, and the usual wonderful shopping and dining al fresco will be happening on Main Street from 6 until 9 p.m.

For more information, contact the Tiburon Peninsula [Chamber of Commerce](#) (435-5633).

Picnic on the Green (This Saturday!)

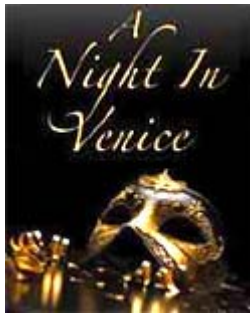
*Saturday, October 1
McKegney Green
12 - 3 p.m.*



Come join your friends and neighbors at a peninsula-wide picnic at McKegney Green. Food and beverages will be available, in addition to whatever you bring, and there will be entertainment provided by local musicians. It's a family-friendly affair for all to enjoy. [Click here](#) for more info.

A Night in Venice

*Saturday, October 8
6:30 p.m.*



Beach Road, Belvedere

This year's event, a benefit for the Landmarks Society, reaches back into local history. A Night in Venice is based upon a magical celebration of song and lights that first took place in Belvedere in 1894.

For one night only, Landmarks invites you to visit Venice along Beach Road with music, food (a seated dinner), dancing, and a Royal Procession on the Beach Road Canal.

For tickets, click [here](#), or call the Landmarks office at 435-1853.

More Fall Events



Kids' Fright Night: Terror at the Toy Store

Saturday, October 22

Belvedere Community Center (see times below)

The 2011 Halloween Haunt returns to the Belvedere Community Center on October 22. Bel-Tib Recreation presents "Terror at the Toy Store!" The "no scare" version (for smaller children) will be from 5 to 6:30 p.m. The "scary version" follows from 7 until 8:30 p.m. Bring the kids for for music, food, a jump house, face painting, and more!

Visit the Recreation website for more details at www.btrecreation.org.

Discovery Day at Romberg Center

Sunday, October 30, 2011

Romberg Tiburon Center

3150 Paradise Drive

11 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Romberg Tiburon Center presents its 22nd annual Discovery Day Open House.



This event is part of The Bay Area Science Festival, a showcase of Bay Area science resources.

[Click here](#), or call 338-3757 for more information.

Tiburon Artist Laureate Workshop



*Matisse & Modernism
(Hands On)
Saturday, October 15
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Town Hall Community Room*

Guest artist: Marilyn Spoja

This class is inspired by Matisse's decorative cut shapes--the association of color and curve, simple modes of expression but equal partners in the composition. With scissors we will make cutouts of colored paper, chromatic improvisations creating vivid images. We will explore color by saturating paper with our own chosen colors. We will practice simplifying shapes with line drawings. Then we shall cut paper shapes all in one piece.

To complete, we will create compositions exploring contrasts and balance using our colored and cut shapes.

For a materials list, and for information on this and other upcoming artist laureate programs, feel free to [contact me](#).

Sincerely,

Mary Musalo
Tiburon Artist Laureate

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. (Please note the **October 5 meeting is a special meeting which will start at 6:30 p.m. at Del Mar School Auditorium**; the next regular meeting is October 19).



Design Review Board: First and third Thursdays at 7 p.m. (October 6 and October 20).

Planning Commission: Second and fourth Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. (October 12 and October 26).

Heritage & Arts Commission: Fourth Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room (October 24).

Parks, Open Space and Trails Commission: Third Tuesday every other month at 6 p.m., Town Hall Conference Room (next meeting is November 15).

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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