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March 31, 2015

A WORD FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

In This Issue

[New Employee
Denise Feiling](#)

[Master Gardener
Classes](#)

[Easter Fun For
Kids - This
Saturday!](#)

[Walk Your
History 2015](#)

[14th Annual
Tiburon
Internatoinal
Film Festival](#)

[Community
Calendar](#)

[Council and
Committee
Meetings](#)

Quick Links

[Town of
Tiburon](#)

[Tiburon Fire
Protection
District](#)

[Get Ready
94920](#)

[Marin Transit
Rte 219 Shuttle](#)

[Bel-Tib Library](#)

[Reed School](#)



Change In The Wind

The government of the Town of Tiburon, specifically Town staff, has been very stable over the past five or so years. Some of that stability was due to the great recession. Now that those troubled times are mercifully behind us, we can look in the rear view mirror and see that everyone hunkered down when things went into seeming free fall in early 2008. Those who had been thinking of retiring put those plans on hold; those who were considering changing jobs decided to minimize risk and hang on to the job they had.

Fortunately, economic times have greatly improved, and for us this means the pent up desire of many to make a personal change is unfolding with great rapidity. We are seeing significant turn-over in staff. Retirements make up the bulk of these changes. The demographic composition of our workforce has been on the older side for a long time, so this is not surprising. Just in the past year, since things have improved, we have seen 9 retirements, and several resignations. Other cities, many of which were laying off people during the recession, are now hiring again, which means it is harder to retain staff who may seek a larger agency with more opportunity for advancement as a logical career move.

We recently reported on the departure of Police Captain Dave Hutton, who retired at the end of December. Others have followed suit in wrapping up their career with Tiburon: Building Inspector George Dailey, Building Permit Clerk Ann Heglin, Town Attorney Ann Danforth and our Town Hall receptionist, Joan Palmero, the latter two having ended their Town service last week. Ann and George very capably assisted those wending their way through the building permit process. Ann plans to retire in Florida; George is expected to continue to ply his significant skills, but now in the private sector.

Both Ann and Joan are particularly long-term employees.

[District](#)

[Belvedere-Tiburon Landmarks](#)

[Tiburon Peninsula Chamber of Commerce](#)

[The Ranch \(Recreation Department\)](#)

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

[Facts About Marin Clean Energy](#)

[Tiburon Peninsula Foundation](#)

Ann has been Town Attorney for 19 years, steering us away from (most) litigation and helping us with contracts, labor issues, land use and environmental law and more. She has been a voice of reason and a great help to me personally in my work here at the Town.

As for Joan Palmero, if any of you don't know Joan you have missed a force of nature. Joan has been the face of Town Hall for 25 years, ceaselessly tending to everyone's needs and generally making them laugh or feel embraced, sometimes literally, when they find themselves seeking our assistance. She has fielded every issue imaginable that comes our way ranging from the expected, like obtaining a business license application, to the head-scratching "need help, raccoon in wall" kind of inquiry. In addition to her problem-solving work here, Joan is also an expert in Central and South American art.

The flip side of the retirement story is that we are gaining many wonderful new employees. One is Denise Feiling, whose story is highlighted elsewhere in this newsletter. There are more of those articles to come!

Change can be hard, but it also presents opportunities we intend to seize. We may have a transitional hiccup here and there, but our goal is to keep things moving in their positive trajectory and gain some new skills along the way.

New Tourism Website

Destination: Tiburon, the recently formed tourism organization, has a new [website](#) worth checking out. The organization's mission is to promote Tiburon as a world-class destination. While it exists to increase business for the Town's two hotels, The Lodge at Tiburon and The Waters Edge, which largely fund it through a self-imposed hotel tax assessment, it is also there to market Tiburon as a whole. Improving the vibrancy of downtown is a fundamental goal - as its overall health is everyone's concern. Any hotel's success relies significantly on the vitality of the area in which it is located; it's pretty hard to attract guests, or entice them to remain longer, if there are few enjoyable places nearby to shop, eat or recreate. Our residents also benefit from a stronger downtown. It can mean expanded choices and improved quality of shops and restaurants right here on the peninsula. And certainly every business gains from greater vitality in commerce. It is, or at least can be, a "virtuous circle" that buoys all boats. That is the idea with Destination: Tiburon, and now that it is an incorporated non-profit organization here to promote Tiburon through its own annual stream of revenue, we are optimistic that we will really start seeing results that launch that upward spiral we seek.

Yellow School Bus Challenge - Almost Here

Ready for the launch of school bus pass sales on April 27? Information on the program and routes is available at the Yellow



School Bus Challenge [website](#).

As you may have read in [last month's Tib Talk](#), this is our big chance as a peninsula to reduce traffic on Tiburon Boulevard. Please help spread the word!

Sincerely,

Peggy Curran

NEWS BRIEFS

New Employee Denise Feiling

Denise Feiling is one of the Town's two Building Permit Technicians. Denise started as a contract employee with the Town early this year and became a full-time Town employee in March. She comes with 8 years of building services experience.



Denise worked with the City of Vallejo for six years where she acted as their certified permit technician and in-house trainer for CRW "Trackit" permitting software program. She came to work for the Town of Tiburon for the opportunity to perform higher-level building inspection-related duties and advanced building safety regulatory functions.

Denise has been performing all of our recent residential resale inspections and has participated in several on-site training opportunities that are intended to prepare her for performing independent building inspections in the future. She is a friendly and helpful presence at the building counter and on the phone. Please stop by to say hello to Denise the next time you visit Town Hall.

Sincerely,

Clay Salzman

Building Official

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Master Gardener Classes: Garden for Life With Adaptive Gardening

Wednesday, April 1
10 - 11 a.m.
Art & Garden Center Cottage
841 Tiburon Boulevard



A lifelong love of gardening should not have to end as mobility and other physical issues arise. In this free talk, Master Gardener Toni Gattone will share gardening activities, adaptations, tools and techniques to create fully functional, accessible gardens.

If you are a gardener who is experiencing physical limitations, yet you know you want to garden for life, attend this seminar so you can learn how to garden without injury and maintain your gratifying, lifelong passion. Examples of adaptive tools and how to use them will be demonstrated.



For more information, contact me at 435-5320.

Sincerely,

Faith Brown,
Marin Master Gardener

Kid's Easter Festivities at Belvedere Park

Saturday, April 4
11 am - 2 p.m.
Belvedere Community Park

Please join us for a Bunny Hop and Easter Egg Scramble this Saturday, April 4.

Here's the lineup of kid-friendly fun:

Easter Egg Hunt - \$5/child
4 hunts during the event
grouped by age:

10:30 AM - 2 and Under w/
parent (on the grass)

10:30 AM - 4 and 5 (on the
playground)

11:15 AM - 2 and 3 (on the
grass)

11:15 AM - 6 and up (on the
playground)



Carnival - \$1/ticket

Attractions include life sized Candyland, Easter Bunny, Magician, Carnival Games, Jump House & Face Painter.

Prize Booth

Eggs are filled with small toys and candy. Each empty egg can be turned in for a prize ticket to be used at the prize booth.

Win prize tickets at the carnival games to be used at the prize table.

Pre-Sale Packages

Buy your event package before the event and pick up your package at Dairy Knoll or at will call!

* Bunny Hop Package: \$10/child. Includes wristband for age appropriate egg hunt and 10 carnival tickets.

* Eggstravaganza Package: \$15/child. Includes wristband for age appropriate hunt and 20 carnival tickets.

Extra tickets will be available to purchase at the event. Tickets are non-refundable.

For more information, please contact [The Ranch](#) (415-435-4355).

Walk Your History 2015

Saturday, April 25 - 9 a.m.

Meet at Boardwalk Shopping Center

1550 Tiburon Boulevard

FREE Family Event

Walk Your History Into the Open Space

Saturday, April 25th
9 to 12:00

Walks Starting from the Boardwalk
and head up to the Open Space
Bring the kids... Bring the dog...Enjoy the day!

Proud Sponsors



--History comes alive along the path into Old St. Hilary's Open Space

--Entire community is invited to Walk Their History!

Walk Your History 2015 - Into the Open Space is a FREE event to educate the community about the fascinating history of Belvedere and Tiburon while hiking into the Old St. Hilary's Open Space.

This year's event will feature over 50 Living History docents that will bring history to life on a two-mile walking loop.

Walkers will enter historic homes and gardens and enjoy astounding views of the Bay. Live music, plain aire artists and naturalists will dot the path in the hills of the Old St. Hilary's Open Space.

The self-guided walking loop will begin and end at Boardwalk Shopping Center. For your convenience, there will be shuttles to and from the Boardwalk to the Open Space trail heads will

run during the event.

Local community groups will offer drinks and snacks along the route. Put on your walking shoes and save the date! Bring the kids! Bring the dog!

Walk Your History sponsors include the City of Belvedere, Town of Tiburon, Tiburon Peninsula Foundation, Belvedere Community Foundation, Belvedere-Tiburon Landmarks Society, and The Ranch.

For more information, please contact [me](#) at 415-847-4209.

Sincerely,

Leslie Doyle
Belvedere-Tiburon Landmarks Society

14th Annual Tiburon International Film Festival: April 9 - 17, 2015

The Tiburon International Film Festival (TIFF) kicks off its 14th year on April 9. TIFF has supported independent films for over a decade. *Via* magazine says, "this festival is a true United Nations of cinema showcasing film from around the entire world".

In addition, TIFF will be showing a collection of films by Marin County filmmakers.

Showtime: Monday, April 13, 2015 @ 08:15 PM
Venue: Tiburon Playhouse Theater (40 Main Street)

The films that will be featured are:

Swimming: Mind, Body, Spirit
Silver Tsunami
Baby
Hans
All Sales Final
American Standard
Science of Character

The directors or subjects of these films will be present for the Question & Answer period before or after the screenings.

For more information, visit our [website](#) or contact us via [email](#).

Community Calendar

For the scoop on events and meetings sponsored

by local nonprofit 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. - April 1 and April 15.

Design Review Board: First and third Thursdays at 7 p.m. - April 2 and April 16.

Planning Commission: Second and fourth Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. - April 8 and April 22.

Heritage & Arts Commission: Fourth Tuesday at 7 p.m. (Town Hall Conference Room) - April 28.

Parks, Open Space and Trails Commission: Third Tuesday every other month - Next meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. on May 19.

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings are held in the Town Council Chambers located at 1505 Tiburon Boulevard, Tiburon CA 94920.

Tiburon Talk
c/o Town of Tiburon
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Tiburon, CA 94920

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