



MAYOR FRANK DOYLE - VICE MAYOR ERIN TOLLINI - COUNCILMEMBER JIM FRASER -
COUNCILMEMBER ALICE FREDERICKS - COUNCILMEMBER EMMETT O'DONNELL

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October 30, 2015

A WORD FROM THE TOWN MANAGER



It has been my pleasure and honor to serve as Tiburon's Town Manager since 2006. As many of you know, I will retire from this wonderful job come December 30. Shortly after I arrived, in 2007, we inaugurated this electronic newsletter, and I have enjoyed writing a monthly article about Town issues (save our dark December) ever since. Now that I confront my last two articles, for October and November, I find myself wanting to reflect on things as well as share some personal thoughts about this experience. I'll do the first in this issue, and tackle the second topic in November.

So how does the Town differ from when I arrived in 2006? Perhaps one way to start that conversation is by noting what is unchanged: there was a strong and effective Council then and continuously since; the Town had and retains a deeply conservative approach to finance; there was an excellent staff when I arrived, and our current crew, some long-serving and others relatively new, are equally up to the task; perhaps most importantly, we had and still have tremendous citizen engagement and volunteerism serving the Town at every level. Tiburon was, and remains, an amazing place to live, work and visit.

Much has changed too, though, thanks to visionary and industrious Councils, dedicated and capable staff and those highly-engaged residents I mentioned. Many things were accomplished, some concepts and projects remain works in progress, and a few ideas flickered and faded away for one reason or another. So how to net this out? There are far too many large and small things to mention them all, but I can offer some highlights of civic accomplishment:

The Town built Dairy Knoll, the recreation center on Ned's Way, which now serves Tiburon and Belvedere as a great venue for classes and programs for all ages. Despite great controversy at the time, we installed security cameras on Tiburon Boulevard and Paradise Drive, and crime

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has since dropped by one-third, at least in part as a result. The Lyford Parking Lot was built along what was a dirt shoulder of Tiburon Boulevard. Concrete medians - 1,170 linear feet of them - were reborn as a welcoming avenue of green. The gnarly beast of traffic has been somewhat tamed, most notably during the morning peak, through the yellow school bus program. Our "pavement condition index", the yardstick of road quality, has risen substantially and is now the second highest in Marin (here I nod to Belvedere for being in first place). Two busy Tiburon Boulevard crosswalks at Stewart Drive and Ned's Way have been made safer through lighting and signage. Downtown streetlights were modified to minimize light pollution, and Shoreline Park lights were replaced with LEDs. The Old Rail Trail was twice improved with the addition of decomposed granite shoulders in various locations. Some major storm drain segments were improved. We weathered the great recession through reductions across the board, but also used the opportunity to make significant changes to our financial structure, including how pensions are funded, to enhance our resiliency and reduce liabilities going forward. We have the best pension profile (that is, lowest per capita liability) of any city in Marin. New building and planning permit software is up and running - much more useful and modern! Our new website is similarly far more functional than its predecessor, and beautiful to boot. Two large utility undergrounding projects were installed and another, by Mar West, is nearing completion. Blackie's Pasture is sprouting a "picnic meadow" as I write, and the park's highly visible frontage along Tiburon Boulevard is being spruced up with new low-maintenance, low-water plants. The Town was instrumental in launching the very successful Marin Clean Energy. Our state-mandated General Plan, a tremendously important and complex document, is up-to-date. Council adopted an Open Space Resource Management Plan to help us manage our 250-acre holdings more wisely. The Parks, Open Space and Trails Commission was formed, and the Heritage and Arts Commission was expanded to better serve the community. We have deepened our partnership with Belvedere in several areas, finding new efficiencies in sharing services wherever we can. Last on my long (sorry!) list but not least: the Town threw one heck of a 50th anniversary party last year!

Increasing downtown vibrancy is an ongoing challenge, but I believe the area is stronger now than in some time; Friday Nights on Main is thriving thanks to the Chamber of Commerce and enthusiastic local participation, and the newly launched Summertime on Main series is expected to gather steam in the coming years. There is now a dedicated source of funding for destination marketing of Tiburon through a revamped hotel tax (which the hotels self-assess, costing residents nothing).

In sum, the leadership from every Town Council - the body that sets the tone, sets the priorities and makes the important decisions - has kept our little Town headed in the right direction, improved its infrastructure and made it more financially resilient. The Town has no debt and strong rainy day reserves. I believe we can confidently assert that the Town is prettier, safer, cleaner, stronger and more community-oriented than ever before. The Council also sets a critically important tone of civility that

makes us the envy of many neighboring communities.

Of course, there remains a very long "to-do" list, including more utility undergrounding and needed storm drain improvements over the next decade. Traffic reduction will be an ongoing concern, and we will soon face the challenge of fashioning a permanent source of funding for the yellow school bus program to lock in those traffic benefits. There will be big and little opportunities along the way, too: maybe a kayak put-in somewhere downtown for water access, perhaps a traffic round-about at Mar West, completing the middle ridge trail, more events to enliven downtown and perhaps some refashioning of our park infrastructure, including McKegney Green. There are perennial challenges, too: invasive broom and weeds to pull, open space to care-take, financial liabilities to manage. There's so much we can do, together, to keep polishing our little gem of a town.

While there is no shortage of challenge ahead, we are well-positioned to successfully tackle it: we have resources and resourcefulness, civic leadership and civic pride, talent and creativity. We also have deep enthusiasm - love, even - for this little corner of the world.

Next month - perhaps you'll allow me to wax a little more personally about a few things.

Meanwhile, thanks for being a Tiburon Talk reader. I wish you a wondrous Thanksgiving (my very favorite holiday - all about gratitude, fellowship, family and shared bounty). Despite the great "bounty" part of the holiday I love, right now my focus is on gratitude.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peggy Curran". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Peggy Curran

NEWS BRIEFS

TREE REMOVAL ON OLD RAIL TRAIL NEXT WEEK

The Town will be removing nine dead trees on the Old Rail Trail on **Monday, November 2, 2015**, between San Rafael Avenue and Tom Price Park.

In order to safely perform the work, we will be closing the pathway and providing a detour for pedestrians and cyclists down Lagoon Road to Tom

Price Park. This arrangement is similar to the detour used in the recent undergrounding project that occurred in the same area.

Notifications will be posted along the path to alert pedestrians and cyclists to the coming project.

We apologize for the inconvenience and thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Patrick Barnes
Director of Public Works/Town Engineer

LET'S GET READY FOR "EL NINO"



The Town Has Started to Prepare for El Nino Winter

There has been a lot of talk about El Nino lately. The speculation is over-- El Nino has arrived. The question is how it will affect our North Bay area. The best guesses are for heavier than normal rainfall, especially later in the season. How this rain will express itself is not known and we are advised to frequently consult 10-day weather forecasts.

The Town's Public Works Department is preparing for a wet winter. We are currently removing a number of dead trees and vegetation that were lost due to old age or the drought. We have also begun inspecting drainage channels. By the end of the month, we will have inspected and cleaned out over 600 storm drain inlets, as well as a number of culverts and ditches.

When this initial preparation is complete, we will begin monitoring culverts, streets and areas that have had drainage problems in the past. Sweeping is done monthly on each street in the Town, but additional sweeping is done on an as-needed basis. Certain culverts are cleaned prior to and following each significant storm event. Slopes adjacent to roadways are also checked during and after each storm event.

During a storm event, we in the Department of Public Works spend most of our time responding to our residents, maintaining clear channels and culverts, and monitoring areas prone to flooding. We also coordinate with

the City of Belvedere.

How You Can Prepare Your Property

Public Works asks for your assistance preparing for the upcoming rainy season. Inspecting, cleaning, and maintaining the drainage structures on and around your property can greatly benefit everyone. Please collect leaves and yard debris and place them in your yard waste container. Many drainage systems (pipes, open channels, etc.) in Town are actually privately owned and are the property owners' responsibility to maintain.

In addition to maintaining drainage structures, please inspect the vegetation around your property. Keep vegetation along the roadway trimmed back to the curb line so the street sweeper can reach the gutters and keep them clean. It is also a good idea to remove dead trees and vegetation before they are threatened by high winds.

Sand Bags

A sandbag filling station will be located downtown in the tennis court parking lot adjacent to Teather Park (at Marsh Road, off Beach Road). Public Works staff will monitor the station throughout the season and replenish as necessary.

Pre-filled sandbags are available for purchase at many local retailers including but not limited to: Goodman Building Supply, Martin Brothers Supply (both in Mill Valley) Water Components & Building Supply and Shamrock Materials (both in San Rafael).

Please call us with any concerns or questions you may have about drainage issues or storm preparation. If you have any areas of concern on your property and are unsure what to do, please contact the Department of Public Works as we may be able to offer assistance in referring you to the proper specialist for your specific issue.

Stay Tuned

For updates during storm events, check out the new Department of Public Works [web page](#) or tune to SNAP radio 840 AM.

Sincerely,

Patrick Barnes
Director of Public Works/Town Engineer

**ENERGY-SAVINGS FINANCING PROGRAMS
NOW AVAILABLE FOR HOMES AND
BUSINESSES**

Property owners in Tiburon now have more options available to them to participate in PACE financing programs!

The PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) program provides opportunities for residential and non-residential property owners to join a program of their choice that helps save money on environmental improvements to their home and/or business. Some examples of improvements include, but are not limited to:

- Solar Panels
- HVAC systems
- Windows
- Doors
- Artificial Turf
- Pool Equipment
- Cool Roof
- Irrigation
- Dishwashers

The Town Council recently adopted resolutions that allow residents to participate in even more financing programs.

If you would like to find out more about these programs (listed below), please visit the listed website.

Each individual provider administers their own program, so you will need to sign up on their website and they will process the application for you.

As of September 2015, the following programs are now available for property owners in Tiburon:

1. California Home Energy Renovation Opportunity (HERO) program: www.heroprogram.com
2. Figtree: www.figtreefinancing.com
3. CSCDA Open PACE: cscda.org/Open-PACE
4. CaliforniaFIRST: www.CaliforniaFIRST.org
5. AllianceNRG: www.allianceng.com/retail/
6. Ygrene Works: www.ygreneworks.com

Sincerely,

Kyra O'Malley, Associate Planner
Tiburon Representative to Marin Climate Energy Partnership

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

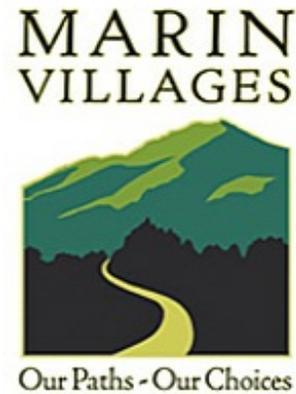
Drivers Needed

Tiburon Peninsula Village is looking for volunteers to drive seniors to shopping and medical appointments. We have insurance for your full protection and your commitment is extremely flexible.

Visit our [website](#), or call our Village office at 415-457-4633, to learn about membership services and volunteer opportunities.

Sincerely,

Allan Bortel
Local Steering Committee Co-Chair
415-435-3988



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Upcoming Meeting at Town Hall



Thursday, November 12 -

10 a.m.

Tiburon Town Hall

1505 Tiburon Blvd.

Tiburon CA 94920

You're invited to our next meeting, held right here in Tiburon, at Tiburon Town Hall!

The first topic on our agenda is **HICAP - Medicare Changes for 2016**. HICAP (Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy Program) provides free and objective information and counseling about Medicare. This forum will help you understand your health care options and learn about:

- 2016 updates for Medicare Advantage and Prescription Plans
- Low-income assistance programs and how to access them
- Volunteering in Marin for HICAP

Our speaker, Betti Conder, is the Outreach Coordinator for HICAP.

This presentation will be followed by a report from the **California Senior Legislature**, from 10:45 - 11 a.m., featuring speakers Allan Bortel, Senior

Senator, and Ellie Bloch, Assembly member.

Finally, the Commission business meeting will start at 11:15 a.m. You are welcome at all portions of the meeting.

For more information, or to find out more about the Marin County Commission on Aging, call 415-473-7118, or visit the [website](#).

Sincerely,

Fran Wilson, Tiburon representative to the
Marin County Commission on Aging



Citizen of the Year Award and Luncheon



Joan Palmero receives the Spirit of Marin award on September 30, 2015. From left is Brian Sobel, Chairman, Bank of Marin, Joan Palmero, Steve Sears, and Russ Columbo, President of the Bank of Marin. Photo courtesy of the Chamber.

Thursday, November 18 11:30 a.m.

San Francisco Yacht Club

98 Beach Road, Belvedere CA 94920

Tiburon's Citizen of the Year, Joan Palmero, will be honored for her many contributions to the community at the annual Chamber of Commerce/Rotary Club luncheon on Wednesday, November 18, at 11:30

(lunch at noon), at the San Francisco Yacht Club.

Tickets are \$32.50 and advance reservations are required.

Contact the Chamber for information and reservations at 415-435-5633, or [email](#).

Sincerely,

Melanie Haddad, Director
Tiburon Peninsula Chamber of Commerce

ARTIST LAUREATE WORKSHOP: Altered Book or Book Art Workshop

Saturday, November 7
11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Library
Founder's Room 1501
Tiburon Boulevard



RSVP below

"Heart and Soul...AB #7"

Please mark your calendars for another exciting and rewarding Altered Book workshop. This is the third workshop I will be doing at the Library, which generously donates their old books to us.

Please bring any memorabilia or other materials that you would like to use. I will also provide materials, as well as gesso.

If you have attended past workshops, please bring your altered book, finished or unfinished, to show and talk about.

RSVPs are necessary. You can contact me by [email](#), or telephone, at 415-233-2699.

Sincerely,

Jaleh Etemad
Tiburon Artist Laureate
President, Society of Layerists in Multi-Media

www.jalehetemad.com

www.mixedmediacollage.com

www.slmm.org

ART ANGELS FAIR AT ST. STEPHENS CHURCH

Saturday, November 7

10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

St. Stephens Church

3 Bayview Avenue, Belvedere



Preview Party: Bubbles & Bach (by Reservation only)

Friday, November 6

Tickets are \$50 and \$75

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church hosts its 11th biennial Art Angels Fair and fundraiser on Friday, November 6, and Saturday, November 7, 2015.

The weekend's activities start on Friday with Bubbles & Bach, a concert and champagne celebration from 5 to 6 p.m., featuring the American Bach Soloists and the opening of a memorial art exhibit showcasing the work of Kathleen Bleecker Hamlin, Boris Ilyin, Ruth McCarty, Suzanne Rogers and Roger Pease.

The Premiere Party, from 6 to 9:30 p.m., gives guests an opportunity to enjoy wine, hors d'oeuvres and music, make purchases at a boutique that includes the products and designs of 30 Bay Area artists and artisans and bid on items in a silent auction.

Tickets are \$75 per person for Bubbles & Bach and the party, \$50 for the party only. To make reservations, or for more information, visit our [website](#), or call 415-435-4501.

On Saturday, the artisans' fair welcomes the public to view the memorial art exhibit and visit the artists' boutique, which will feature items such as jewelry, handbags, women's clothing, men's accessories, children's items, home décor, stationery, photographs, paintings and plants. Student musicians will perform during the day.

Artists donate 25 percent of all sales to support the outreach programs of St. Stephen's Church, including Ritter House, Homeward Bound, Mill Street Center and Camp Create, a summer arts camp for children from San Rafael's Canal neighborhood, Marin City and the Tiburon Peninsula.

Sincerely,

Judith Telli

CONCERTS AT OLD ST. HILARY'S: Divisa Ensemble



Sunday, November 22, 4 p.m.

Old St. Hilary Landmark

201 Esperanza, Tiburon

Park at Boardwalk Shopping Center and take the shuttle 30 minutes before the concert.

The string and winds quintet of ***Divisa Ensemble*** is recognized for its engaging performances and eclectic programming. In each program, the quintet showcases its diverse repertoire of the Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and Contemporary genres.

Tickets are available online at Brown Paper Bags, the Landmarks' office (415-435-1853), and Tiburon Town Hall. Prices are \$20, \$15 for seniors and those under 18; limited tickets are available at the door.

Presented by the Landmarks Society and the Tiburon Heritage & Arts Commission, with generous support from Bank of Marin.

And mark your calendars for our last concert of the year - Musae, on Sunday, December 13.

Sincerely,

Dave Gotz

Belvedere-Tiburon Landmarks Society

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. - November 4 and November 18.

Design Review Board: First and third Thursdays at 7 p.m. - November 5 (cancelled); November 19.

Planning Commission: Second and fourth Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. - November 11; November 25 meeting cancelled for Thanksgiving Holiday.

Heritage & Arts Commission: Fourth Tuesday at 7 p.m. (Town Hall Conference Room) - November 24.

Parks, Open Space and Trails Commission: Third Tuesday every other month at 6 p.m. - next meeting is November 17.

Disaster Advisory Council: meets Quarterly at 4 p.m. - next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 19, 2016.

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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